

2021 LITTLE LEAGUE® BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

REGION TOURNAMENT MEDIA GUIDELINES



Questions: wsmmedia@LittleLeague.org

General Overview

Thank you for your interest in covering the 2021 Little League® Baseball and Softball Region Tournaments! Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we unfortunately are not able to offer the typical accommodations to members of the media, but our team is here to provide you the support and resources you need to provide the same great coverage we see year after year. While each location will have some specific guidelines that will be communicated to those media permitted on site, below are the general guidelines for covering the 2021 Little League Region Tournaments. If you have any questions, please be sure to email wsmmedia@LittleLeague.org and we will do our best to get back to you and provide you with the answers, information, and resources you need.

NOTE: Media are encouraged to cover the events virtually. On-site media will be limited only to select media from the market in which the event is held as well as national media outlets on a case-by-case basis. Those requesting to be on-site are required to prove they are fully vaccinated as of two weeks prior to their first day of on-site coverage. No exceptions apply.

Media Credentials

Due to the restrictions in place from the coronavirus pandemic, Little League International must limit the amount of on-site media that are permitted at its events, and **encourages media members to cover them remotely**, where possible. Members of the media looking to provide remote coverage of the 2021 LLBWS are asked to email wsmmedia@LittleLeague.org with the team and/or event they are looking to cover in order to be added to any relevant media distribution lists. Media who request to be on site are required to prove they are fully vaccinated as of two weeks prior to their first day of on-site coverage and are not guaranteed that they will be permitted on site. Those media looking to attend the LLBWS in person are required to submit a media credential application on LittleLeague.org/WSMedia and agree to submission of a background check. If approved, members of the media will be

contacted by Little League International via email with specific direction on arrival information, how to pick up their credential, health and safety protocols, and more. **REMINDER:** On-site media will be limited only to select media from the market in which the event is held as well as national media outlets on a case-by-case basis.

Hotels/Accommodations

Little League does not provide media hotel rooms or reserved blocks and members of the media are required to find their own accommodations for covering the events.

Arrival

Specific instructions for those members of the media permitted on site will be provided in an email stating they are approved. When arriving to pick up your media credential, you will be

required to produce documentation to show that you are a member of the working media as well as a photo ID.

Facility Rules and Regulations

While each location may have additional rules and regulations specific to the complex, no members of the media are permitted in any of the dormitories, umpire areas, or ESPN facilities at any Region location. In addition, no member of the media is permitted on the field or in the dugouts at any time, including after games, without permission from a Little League employee. There are to be no microphones or cameras in the dugouts for any reason.

Photographers Access

Photographers are permitted to take photos from any of the general admission areas on the complex, including inside the stadium seating area, but may not store any of their equipment in the stadium. **Photographers near the field of play that are beyond the general admission/spectator areas will be required to wear a mask/face covering at all times for the safety of the participants.** At no time may any photographer take photos into the dugouts of the losing team following the game. Additional information will be provided to photographers upon picking up their credential. **NOTE:** Only the Official Little League International Photographer will be permitted on the field, as well as within any of the player-only access areas, unless instructed otherwise by a member of the Little League International Communications Staff.

Post-Game Press Conferences

Unless otherwise noted, no postgame press conferences will be held with teams/players at the Little League Baseball and Softball Region Tournaments. If a press conference is determined to be held, the information will be distributed to those media who are credentialed on site and those who have reached out to wsmmedia@LittleLeague.org to be added to the media distribution list. **Media looking to conduct an interview with a manager, coach, or player may submit a request to wsmmedia@LittleLeague.org with their phone number and/or Zoom information, or other virtual interview calendar invite information, to be passed along to the team's manager/coaches.** No one-on-one interviews with players or coaches are permitted until one hour after the end of the game in which a player participates. **NOTE:** All umpires, coaches, and managers are volunteers and not paid professionals, and interview requests may be declined at any time.

Additional Interview Requests

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, any additional on-site interview requests should be submitted in advance to the

respective Region Tournament staff in order to coordinate an interview in a safe, socially-distant location. Where possible, and for those media covering the event remotely, these interviews should be conducted virtually, and members of the media are encouraged to send their phone number and/or Zoom information, or other virtual calendar invite interview information, to be passed along to the manager/coaches. No one-on-one interviews with players or coaches are permitted until one hour after the end of the game in which a player participates. When interviewing a player or any other minor, a manager, coach, or Little League staff member must be present throughout the entirety of the interview. **Members of the media performing in-person interviews must wear a face covering/mask and remain socially distant from all players, coaches, volunteers, or staff at all times. Interviews should be limited to 15 minutes or less.** **NOTE:** Umpires, coaches, and managers are volunteers, not paid professionals, and may decline interview requests at any time.

Pool Photo Requests

Photo requests of game action and/or special events may be made upon advanced request, courtesy of Little League International by emailing wsmmedia@LittleLeague.org. **Note:** Individual requests must be made for each event/game and cannot be made for the entirety of the tournament. These requests should be made in advance of the game or event, where possible.

Radio Broadcasts

Reporters from radio stations and networks are welcome to cover the event. Radio reporters may cover the games through five or fewer reports, each of one minute or less in duration, per game. The reports must not contain descriptions of action currently taking place. Stations interested in broadcasting full region tournament games are required to complete a contract with Little League International and should contact Chris Downs at cdowns@LittleLeague.org.

Lineups and Game Statistics

Members of the media may access game lineups and play-by-play coverage, as well as in-game and full-tournament statistics, through [GameChanger](#) for each game of the tournament.

Team Practices

Team practice schedules will only be distributed to team coaches and managers who may, or may not, wish to share those schedules with the media. **NOTE:** Members of the media are not permitted within the yellow fences of the practice

fields/batting cages and must obey the wishes of the manager of the team practicing at all times.

Media Resources

Additional resources, including links to tournament schedules and other media assets can be found at LittleLeague.org/WSMedia. If there are specific resources or information you are looking for, feel free to email wsmmedia@LittleLeague.org.

TV and Video Filming Restrictions

Any on-site media credentialed looking to capture video (B-Roll and/or Live Reports) must adhere to the TV and Video Filming Restrictions found in the "Additional Media Resources" section of LittleLeague.org/WSMedia. Game footage requests must be requested through ESPN/ABC.

Drone Usage

Please note that the use of drones at any of Little League's Region Facilities is strictly forbidden unless provided with written consent from the Little League International Communications Staff. Requests for drone usage must be sent in writing at least one month in advance to media@LittleLeague.org. Unauthorized operation of a drone on the facility may result in permanent removal from the grounds and future denial of media credentials.

Video Recording and Streaming

The use of video recording technology to capture, stream, or distribute Little League Region or World Series game footage in any medium is strictly prohibited and is considered copyright infringement, punishable to the fullest extent under applicable federal and state laws. All video recording must adhere to guidelines set within Little League International's media restrictions and is limited to credentialed television outlets only. **Live streaming of game footage on any Internet site, including social media, is strictly prohibited.**

Media Decorum

Members of the media are to refrain from cheering of any kind and should conduct themselves professionally at all times. Members of the media are not to communicate in any manner with managers, coaches, players, or umpires while a game is being played.

Distribution of Promotional Items or Other Literature

It is Little League International's policy that no organization, group, company, media entity, etc., be permitted to sell or distribute leaflets, placards, posters, promotional material, or any other items at the Little League Region facilities without written permission from Little League International. Media outlets are also prohibited from distributing promotional or co-branded materials for other businesses, organizations, or entities. Media Outlets looking to create "commemorative" newspapers, magazines, or other publications celebrating the event must receive written approval from Little League International. For more information, contact a member of the Little League Marketing Staff, marketing@LittleLeague.org.

Trademark Protection

The use of the Little League Trademarks by any person, organization, or business entity in an unauthorized fashion is strictly prohibited, as it is classified and defined as a misuse of Little League's trademark rights. More information on Little League's trademarks and permitted usage can be found at LittleLeague.org/partnerships/licensing/trademarks/.

Violation of Guidelines

Any organization or person in violation of these guidelines (or others subsequently published by Little League International), whether or not such violations occur on Little League property, will be subject to revocation of World Series and/or Region credentials for current and/or future events.