

Information for Photographers

The following information is provided to assist still photographers plan their coverage of the 2018 USA Games. Further details will be available in the Media Guide during the Games.

The Photo Chief for the Games will be responsible for all photo operations and photographers in conjunction with the Media Operations Manager and the Venue Media Managers. The Photo Chief will be based in the Media Operations Office in the IMA Building at the University of Washington.

Photo Bibs

Accredited photographers will receive a photo bib that allows access to designated Photo Positions in the venues. Photo bibs must be worn at all times while working in a venue. Bibs are numbered and are not transferable.

Photographer Undertaking

All photographers must sign the Photographer Undertaking in which they agree to abide by the 2018 USA Games rules for the use of photographic images. Signing the undertaking is mandatory and no photo bib will be issued if it is not signed.

Photo Positions

Designated areas for photographers to shoot will be available in every competition venue. Photo Positions have been chosen to give the best possible views of the competitions.

Photo Positions are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Only accredited photographers can work in Photo Positions.

In many venues, Photo Positions are co-located with Non-Rightsholder Filming Positions.

In some venues, photographers will be able to access Photo Positions only at designated times during competition. Please work with the Venue Media Manager to understand each sport's access requirements and abide by any "no-go zones."





Under no circumstances, are photographers allowed to access back-of-house athlete areas such as locker rooms, warm-up areas or dormitories.

Photographer Dress Code

Because photographers work in and around the Field of Play and are often in the line of sight of broadcast cameras, they should maintain a suitable and respectable standard of appearance.

Some examples are:

- Shoulders covered
- No sleeveless shirts or vests; no bare chests
- No cut-offs or gym shorts
- No flip flops or open-toed shoes
- No shirts or hats displaying offensive or inappropriate language

Flash or Strobe Photography

The use of flash or strobe photography is strictly prohibited during competition.

Spectator Seats and Public Areas

Photographers are permitted to photograph from empty spectator seats but they must not disturb any spectators in these areas. Photographers can also shoot from common areas such as spectator lobbies, concourses, etc.

Photographers should be courteous to athletes, coaches, spectators and volunteers at all times.

Award Ceremonies

A restricted number of photographers will be allowed in Photo Positions for award ceremonies. Access to these positions will be determined by the Venue Media Manager.

I-Zone

Each competition venue will have an I-Zone, or interview zone, located near the athlete exit from the Field of Play. Photographers are welcome to take pictures or interview athletes in the I-Zone. To request an athlete for an I-Zone interview, please contact the Venue Media Manager.





Venue Media Centers

Most venues will have a Venue Media Center (VMC) where photographers can work and file via Wi-Fi. Competition schedules, start lists and limited results information will be available from the Media Help Desk. Photographers are encouraged to visit the VMC and get the most current information available for that location from the venue media staff.

Specialty Equipment

Photographers wanting to use wireless devices such as wireless camera triggers or remote cameras should notify the Media Operations Department for approval in advance. Remote cameras must be placed well in advance of the start of competition in any given session and removed at the end of that session.

Remote cameras cannot interfere with the course of play, athletes, coaches, officials or ESPN camera positions.

Journalist Use of Photo Bibs

Press who are working as both a journalist and a photographer during the Games will be issued a photo bib when they collect their accreditation. If someone shows up at a venue without a bib, the Venue Media Manager can provide a temporary bib.

Special Olympics Programs Use of Photo Bibs

Communications staff from a Special Olympics Program will be issued a photo bib if they are working as a photographer during the Games.

Corporate Partner Use of Photo Bibs

Communications staff from a Games partner will be issued a photo bib if they are working as a photographer during the Games.

Photo Gallery

The USA Games photo team will capture images at all the venues and post online in the Games Photo Gallery for free use.

