March Madness™ Information



TO: Principal, Athletic Director and Head Coach FROM: Beth Sauser, IHSA Asst. Executive Director

DATE: March 2024

RE: State Final Information

Congratulations on qualifying for the 2024 IHSA Girls Basketball State Finals! This is a tremendous accomplishment for your school, team, and community for which you should be very proud.

Included are documents to assist you during this exciting and busy week. Your Super-Sectional Winner's packet contains other important materials including hotel and ticket information. It is imperative for you to review all of this information and contact us if you have any questions. The following items can be found in this packet:

- Ticket Information
- Special Instructions Bulletin
- ISU parking map
- "Do What's Right" Sportsmanship Expectations
- Student Media/Video Taping Instructions

We will have a <u>virtual meeting</u> for school administrators and coaches on **Tuesday**, **Feb. 27**, **at 2:00 p.m.** This will enable you to meet with Illinois State and B-NCVB personnel, and myself to get any questions answered. Please make sure that at least one member of your administrative staff and coaching staff attend.

Please direct your fans to https://www.visitbn.org/ for hotel accommodations.

Again, congratulations! Our staff and the CEFCU Arena tournament staff and volunteers are looking forward to working with your school this weekend.



TICKETS****TICKETS****TICKETS****TICKETS

Paciolan is the official digital ticketing partner of Illinois State University-CEFCU Arena, and all admission tickets will be purchased online.

To access tickets, please direct your school and community to the **Girls Basketball webpage on ihsa.org**. Click on the link "**Get Digital Tickets Here.**"

You may also obtain them through GoRedbirds.com/tickets

Tickets can be printed or saved to you phone:

	e tickets to Apple Wallet fo open this on your phone ar		or Android. gital wallet app so you can view details and enter the venue.	
LEVEL	ROW	SEAT		
L	GEN	ADM	Add to Apple Wallet G Pay Save to phone	

For assistance in purchasing and distributing large quantities of tickets for your student section, please contact Kate Heyl at the ISU ticketing office. skheyl@ilstu.edu / 309-438-3638

Please advise your fans of the following:

- Digital Tickets must be purchased online
- Tickets can be saved to your phone or printed
- Ticket price is \$11 per 2-game session
- All seats are General Admission; there is no reserved seating
- Team Fan Sections will be identified inside CEFCU Arena

For **hotel accommodations**, please direct your fans to https://www.visitbn.org/

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS BULLETIN FOR COMPETING SCHOOLS

2024 IHSA GIRLS BASKETBALL STATE FINAL TOURNAMENT

1. Tournament Inquiries and State Final Contacts:

IHSA Office – Beth Sauser, Assistant Executive Director, Administrator of Girls Basketball or LeAnna Mutchler, Administrative Assistant (309) 663-6377

ISU State Final Mgr. – Alex Cain, ISU (309) 438-5111 ajcain@ilstu.edu

Ticket Manager – Katie Heyl, CEFCU Arena Ticket Office (309) 438-3638 skheyl@ilstu.edu

Emergency Calls - during the tournament (309) 438-8266

ISU Police (309) 438-8631

ISU Parking – (309) 438-8391

Press Credential/Information – Matt Troha, Assistant Executive Director (309) 663-6377 <u>mtroha@ihsa.org</u>

Bloomington-Normal Convention & Visitors Bureau – 800-433-8226 http://www.visitbn.org/

2. Enclosed in the Super-Sectional Packet Are:

- A. Principal's Letter
- **B.** Special Instructions Bulletin for Competing Schools
- C. Basketball Terms and Conditions
- D. Sportsmanship Video Letter
- E. Housing Information Letters
- F. Ticketing Information
- G. ISU Parking Map for Fans
- H. School Media Press Credential Request Form
- I. School Information Sheet
- J. Tournament General Time Schedule
- K. ISU Information Memo
- L. Bloomington/Normal Visitor Guide

3. Hotel Accommodations:

- **A.** For each team that qualifies for the State Final Basketball Tournament, the IHSA will reserve a block of thirteen (13) rooms for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at the DoubleTree Hotel (1A & 3A) and the Holiday Inn/Normal (2A & 4A) All room charges, including taxes, phone calls, food, etc. will be at the expense of the competing school.
- **B.** In cooperation our local hotels accommodating the teams, we are asking that all team personnel check into the hotel as a group. Additionally, each team must present the name of an adult in the group who will be responsible for all personnel in the group. This responsibility will include unauthorized expenses, damage to the rooms, behavior, unnecessary noise, etc. and generally being the chaperone. We appreciate your cooperation and assure you the IHSA and our team hotels will do everything we can to make your stay in Bloomington-Normal as enjoyable as possible.

4. Administrator/Coach Meeting:

A virtual meeting for Administrators and Head Coaches Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 2:00 p.m. A link to access the meeting will be emailed to Administrators and Head Coaches.

5. Team Expenses:

In the State Final Tournament, the teams participating in the tournament shall be allowed transportation expenses at the rate of \$5.00 per mile per team for the first 50 miles and \$3.00 per mile per team for each mile over 51 miles to and from the site where the tournament will be played. I

n addition, each school will receive a reimbursement to cover some of the costs incurred by schools at the State Final. Hotel rooms at the State Final Tournament will be reserved by the IHSA. Any expenses or costs associated or charged to the rooms will be at each school's expense.

Round Trip Mileage	Flat Rate Reimbursement	
To State Final Site:		
0-150 miles	\$2,500.00	
151-300 miles	\$3,600.00	
301-over miles	\$4,400.00	

6. Player Numbers, Uniforms:

A. The list of the girls who constitute your playing squad in the tournament has already been submitted and will appear in the official program. Please be conscientious about having the players wearing the numbers that were submitted for the official program. Please note that teams may have a maximum of 22 individuals on the bench for each game. Only seventeen chairs will be provided for team use in the bench area. Do not ask for exceptions. Rostered players may change from game to game.

Note: A manager or scorekeeper may sit behind the team bench and use a Competitor pass. This person may not cheer or coach. If they do not have this pass, they must purchase a ticket to enter the arena.

B. It is especially important that each of the Competitors bring <u>two complete</u> sets of uniforms to the tournament. Both jerseys and shorts of one of these sets should be white in color and the other dark. Teams will be instructed prior to each game as to which set of uniforms to wear.

7. Fan and Team Bus Parking, Parking Permits:

A. Team Bus Parking – Team buses will unload at the Loading Dock area at the South end of the Arena. After unloading, the team buses will proceed to the designated parking area. An ISU parking official will direct you to this area. Team buses should have a sign placed in the front window indicating TEAM BUS.

Note: After each game, the home team will load their bus at the Southwest loading dock. The visiting team will load their bus at the North Circle.

- **B.** Fan Bus Unloading and Parking Fan buses will unload in the North circle drive of CEFCU Arena. It will be important that the fan buses unload quickly and proceed immediately to the designated bus parking area. An ISU parking official will be at the fan bus unloading area to give additional instructions for the fan bus parking.
- C. <u>Parking Permits</u> Three parking passes will be issued to representatives (Superintendent, Principal, and Athletic Director) of participating schools which will allow parking in the lot east of the Arena. To obtain these passes, drive to the North Circle of CEFCU Arena and go to Will Call.

Fan parking will be available in the areas designated on the enclosed map. If persons from your school park in unauthorized areas, they can expect to be ticketed and/or towed.

8. Locker Rooms:

- A. Hosts A Host will be assigned for each team. The Host will meet the team she/he is assigned to at the Pass Gate at the Southwest corner of CEFCU Arena. The Host will escort the team to its assigned locker room. This Host is a representative of tournament management and has been instructed to lend any assistance necessary to the team to which she/he has been assigned.
- B. Locks Participants are required to furnish their own locks for lockers.
- C. Towels 20 towels will be furnished by tournament management. However, a school shall be responsible to pay for any missing towels.
- D. Access Only players, coaches, and team personnel with the "Competitor" Pass" will be allowed in the team locker room. No exceptions. The Superintendent/President, Principal and Athletic Director with the "Administrative Pass" will be allowed in the team locker room, entry to the Arena and access to floor for the awards ceremony.
- E. Security Participants are responsible for their own valuables. The locker rooms will be locked whenever they are not occupied. However, neither tournament management, CEFCU Arena, nor the IHSA will assume responsibility for any losses or injuries while on the premises.

NOTE: Team locker rooms are to be vacated no later than 30 minutes after the teams' game is finished. Each team is asked to make sure the locker rooms are straightened up before leaving as they will be occupied by the next team.

- F. Teams are to remain in their assigned locker rooms until they are escorted to the playing court for their pre-game warmups by the team host and/or IHSA representative.
- G. Immediately after a game is over, please leave the team bench area and return to the team locker room. Your cooperation with this is appreciated.
- H. Players are not to go into the stands before, during or after the games from the floor.

9. **Game Day**:

A. <u>Pre-Game</u> - The Arena will be open (at Participant Pass Gate) 1 ½ hours prior to the first game each day and will remain open all day. Ice and water will be available. A school is permitted to make arrangements with a local facility for practice during the days of the tournament.

The Pass Gate is located at the Southwest lower corner of CEFCU Arena. All tournament teams must enter CEFCU Arena at the Pass Gate. A person who does not have a Competitor pass will not be permitted to enter at the Pass Gate. There will be no exceptions.

- B. <u>Home and Away Teams</u> The team listed on the top line of the playing bracket (or first) is the Home team and will wear light uniforms. The team listed on the bottom line of the playing bracket is the Visiting team and will wear dark uniforms. Team benches will be as follows: Home team shall sit on the south end; Visiting team shall sit on the North end.
- C. Please do not bring basketballs. Balls will be provided by Wilson Sporting Goods for games and warmups.
- D. The warm-up clock will start even if teams are not ready to take the court. Teams will be escorted to the playing court for their pre-game warmup for their respective game by the team host and/or IHSA representative.

10. Timeouts during the State Finals:

- **A.** A 95-second Media timeout will take place at the <u>first</u> <u>dead ball under 4 minutes</u> each quarter. This time-out is charged to the team if the stoppage of play occurs as a result of a call for a time-out.
- **B.** Each team may have three charged full (60-sec.) timeouts, and two 30-second timeouts as allowed by the NFHS Basketball Rules.

11. Introductions:

A. Semifinal Game Introductions:

- 1. Visiting team: non-starters in numerical order are introduced. Add-A-Tude will be present to wish good luck to the players.
- 2. Home team: non-starters in numerical order are introduced. Add-A-Tude will be present to wish good luck to the players.
- **NOTE:** As non-starters are introduced, they assemble in the free-throw circle in front of their team bench. They remain in the circle until all non-starters for their team have been introduced. Then all players return to team bench for the introduction of the starters. Add-A-Tude will be present to wish good luck to the players.
- 3. <u>Visitor Home: entire team starting line-ups</u> team are introduced in order by F-F-C-G-G. (do not alternate) Add-A-Tude will be present to wish good luck to the players.
- 4. <u>Visitor Home Coaches:</u> Head Coach and Assistants are introduced following their respective team introduction.

Note: Each head coach and his or her won-lost record at the school will be announced. Then, each school's varsity assistant coaches will be announced. All coaches will remain on the team bench during the introductions, but should step onto the hardwood floor when their name is announced

- 5. **Officials:** Floor officials are introduced.
- 6. After introductions, teams will line up across the free throw line extended for the National Anthem. Once the Anthem is finished, both teams will meet at half court to shake hands with opponents and wish them good luck as the announcement is read. Head Coaches will also meet at half court to shake hands. The teams will return to their respective benches for brief final instructions.

If no National Anthem, teams will line up across the free throw line extended and meet for the Sportsmanship Handshake at half court as stated above.

NOTE: National Anthem will be played for games 1, 3 and 5 on Thursday, and games 7, 9, and 11 on Friday.

B. 3rd Place and Championship Game Introductions:

Only the starting line-ups and head coaches will be introduced.

1. <u>Visitor - Home: entire team starting line-ups</u> team are introduced in order by F-F-C-G-G. (do not

<u>alternate</u>) Add-A-Tude will be present to wish "Good Luck" to the players.

- 2. <u>Visitor-Home Coaches:</u> Head Coach is introduced following his/her respective team introduction
 - 3. **Officials:** Floor officials are introduced.

NOTE: As starters are introduced, they assemble in the free throw circle in front of their team bench. They remain in the circle until the starting line-up has been completely introduced.

4. After introductions, teams will line up across the free throw line extended for the National Anthem. Once the Anthem is finished, both teams will meet at half court to shake hands with opponents and wish them good luck as the announcement is read. Head Coaches will also meet at half court to shake hands. The teams will return to their respective benches for brief final instructions.

If no National Anthem, teams will line up across the free throw line extended and meet for the Sportsmanship Handshake at half court as stated above.

NOTE: National Anthem will be played for games 13 and 15 on Saturday.

12. Post-Game Press Interview Sessions:

- **A.** A press conference involving the head coach of each of the participating teams, and players from both teams who played outstanding games and/or figured prominently in the outcome of the game, will be conducted in the Press Interview Room. Television may conduct an on-court interview following a game but print media may not.
- **B**. The head coaches and players from both teams have an obligation to "meet the press" in the Press Interview Room following each game. It is expected that even if a team loses a game, the head coach and players from that team will remain in CEFCU Arena and carry through with their time to "meet the press" in the Press Interview Room at the scheduled time.
- C. The Winning team head coach and select players will attend a post-game press conference for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Following the semifinal games, the head coach and select players will be directed to the media room for the press conference by tournament personnel. The rest of the team and coaches will be escorted back to the locker room. The same process will occur following the 3rd place/championship award ceremonies In the press conference, coaches and players will be provided drinks and official game statistics.
- **D**. The Losing team head coach and select players will attend a post-game press conference for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Following the semifinal games, the entire team

will return to the locker room to provide the coach with an opportunity to speak with their team. After approximately 10 minutes, tournament personnel will bring the head coach and select players to the media room for their press conference. The same process will occur following the 3rd place/championship award ceremonies. In the press conference, coaches and players will be provided drinks and official game statistics.

E. After the championship game, short interviews will be conducted on court prior to the awards ceremony.

13. Digital Tournament Programs:

A. Hard copy State Final programs will not be printed for sale at the tournament. Below is the link to view or purchase the Girls Basketball program. From this link or the <u>Girls Basketball webpage</u>, you can click on the cover to view the flip-book digital program or purchase hard copies following the tournament.

https://www.ihsa.org/Resources/State-Programs

14. Announcements:

Announcements to inform bus riders that they should return to the bus for the trip home will be made on the Public Address System by the Announcer. A note to that effect, signed by the school's administrator, should be presented to the Public Address Announcer at the Scorer's bench well in advance of departure time. This will allow the announcement to be made during the game.

NOTE: The microphone will not be made available for use by school personnel; the above procedure must be followed.

15. Presentation of Awards on Thurs, Fri. and Sat.:

Awards ceremonies for the 3rd Place will take place <u>after</u> the second game in the session, and Championship awards will take place immediately following each game.

- A. Coaches and players are asked to cooperate with tournament management by immediately going to the designated area on the court for the awards presentations. Coaches and players are asked to assist tournament management in seeing that fans and unauthorized persons do not come onto the playing court following a game. Only 22 team/school representatives, plus the superintendent, principal, athletic director, and athletic trainer, may participate in the awards presentation.
- **B.** All team personnel need to stay on the court immediately following the game and not go into the stands. This causes security and safety issues.

NOTE: After the championship awards ceremony is over, fans may <u>NOT</u> come on the court.

16. Passes: (Participant, School Administrator, Student Media):

NOTE: The following is a description of the passes allocated to your team, cheerleaders, and other school personnel. Please be reminded that it is the responsibility of the representatives of the competing schools to maintain possession of their passes. Replacement passes will not be issued. If passes are lost or given to others, you must buy a ticket to CEFCU Arena and contact Beth Sauser inside the Arena to be admitted to the floor area.

A. Competitor Passes (22) (Passes will be distributed at the SW Arena Dock entrance) – According to Terms and Conditions, each school advancing to the State Final Tournament will be issued up to 22 Competitor passes for use by the team members and bench personnel.

Anyone seated on the team bench must have a Competitor Pass. <u>There will be no exceptions</u>. If listed in the State Final Program Information, one certified athletic trainer will receive an Athletic Trainer pass and sit behind the team bench.

B. Please distribute the Competitor passes to your players for them to carry as they enter the Arena. If you bring more than 22 people, you must purchase additional tickets at the North ticket office of CEFCU Arena. **Team passes for players will be collected upon entry to the arena. After the team completes their game, the Team passes will be returned to the coach before leaving the arena.**

17. School Personnel Pass Seating:

- **A.** Competitor Pass When a team is not participating in a game during a session, a team should sit in the Participant seating area which is located at the South end of the playing court in **Sections 110 & 111**. A Competitor pass entitles players and personnel **only** to sit in this special seating area.
- **B.** Administrative Passes: (Passes will be available for pickup at the North entrance Will Call) Each school will be issued three Administrative Passes for use by the Superintendent/President, Principal, and Athletic Director. This pass will allow entrance to the Arena and on the floor for the awards ceremony. Each school will also be issued three Parking passes for use in the Turner Lot on the east side of the arena.

Team and School Administrator Passes are good for all Tournament Sessions. Only Competitor pass-holders are permitted in the team's locker room, in the hallway outside the team locker rooms, or in the Southwest tunnel. Players in uniform will be admitted to the playing court during their contest, but they must present their Participant Pass at all other times to be admitted to the authorized team areas of CEFCU Arena. Other bench personnel must have Competitor passes visible at all times.

- **C. Student Media Credential**: Each school has an opportunity to request three Student Media Credentials. (see document later in this packet) Students must show their student ID at the Media Pass Gate to obtain their pass for the tournament. If a school wishes to hire a yearbook company or professional photographer, then those non-students must request a Press Credential through Matt Troha.
- **D. Video Taping:** See ISU Information Memo in the Super-Sectional Packet.

18. Cheerleaders (Passes will be available at the North entrance Will Call):

- A. If a school's cheerleaders accompany the team to the State Final Tournament, the school is responsible to provide each cheerleader with a proper pass (a maximum of 12). Additional passes will be provided for one (1) Cheerleading Coach and one (1) dressed mascot. These passes may only be used by cheerleaders and mascots in proper uniform and only by the school's official cheerleaders.
- **B.** If you are bringing cheerleaders, please indicate this on the School Information form in this packet. Be certain to review the Cheer Instructions that are also included.
- C. Cheerleaders will be allowed to cheer on the North and the South endlines of the court and must stay behind the dotted lines. Cheerleaders will only be allowed on the court in proper uniforms and shoes.
 - **C.** Cheerleaders should be in uniform when they arrive. There will be no locker room provided and they are discouraged from changing in the restrooms.

19. Fan Conduct:

- **A.** Patrons using foul language or appearing to be in a drunken condition may be ejected from the arena. If someone is interfering with the enjoyment of others, please contact the CEFCU Arena security immediately.
- B. School Administrators are responsible for their fans' behavior and actions while at CEFCU Arena. ISU security and volunteers are there to assist you in making the state tournament a positive experience for your team and fans.

NOTE: Prior to arriving at ISU each Administrator should designate:

- 1. A fan bus coordinator from your school to assist all students on and off the buses.
- 2. Staff members to act as school security in the stands. Prepare them to work with students and parents in the stands before, during and after the game.

20. Merchandise:

Minerva Promotions will offer a variety State Final apparel items for purchase on both the South and North concourse.

21. Medical Arrangements:

- **A**. A doctor and ambulance service will be available "on call" at all times. A First Aid Room will be available during the tournament for other emergencies.
- **B**. An athletic trainer appointed by ISU management will be on duty courtside during the tournament to attend to players provided their coach is present during evaluation.

22. Disabled Patrons:

Handicap Parking is available in the lot east of CEFCU Arena. A state issued parking sticker is required. Seating areas are located on the concourse with entrance to the Arena through the North door. For special accommodations, call (309) 438-8000.

23. Laundry Services:

If your team is interested in uniform laundry service, please notify your host. This service will be provided to semifinal winners in remaining games. This is for team uniforms only - no undergarments, t-shirts, etc.

24. Lost and Found:

To claim or report lost items, go the arena office located behind Section 107 on the concourse level.

25. PROHIBITED Items in CEFCU Arena:

NOISEMAKERS AND OTHER IRRITANTS ALCOHOL

USE OF ANY TOBACCO PRODUCTS (INCLUDING SMOKELESS)

BACKPACKS
CONTAINERS OF ANY KIND
PERSONAL FOOD & BEVERAGE
WEAPONS OF ANY KIND
PORTABLE SEATING
STROLLERS

Tournament Programs

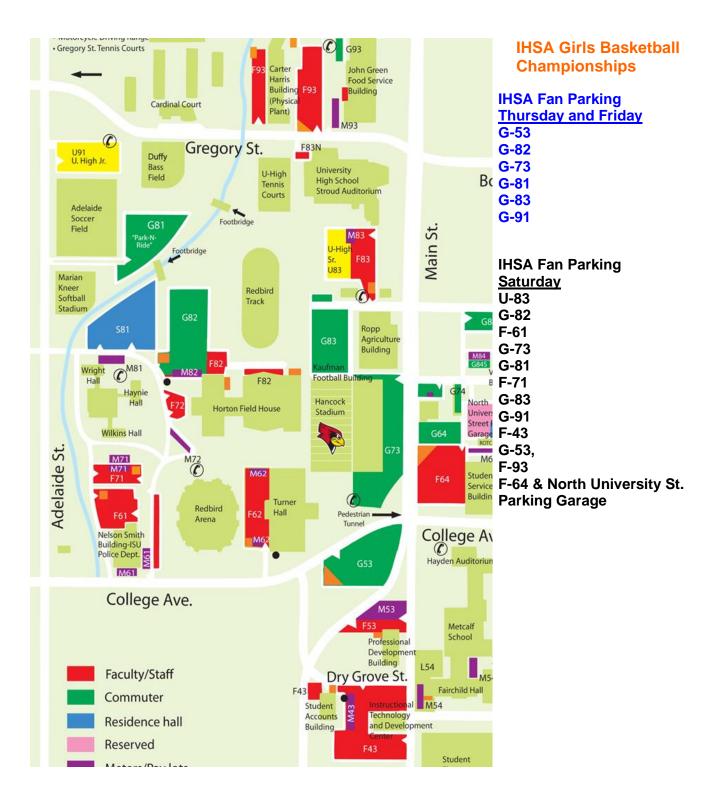
State Final programs will not be printed for sale at the State Final tournament.

Below is the link to our website to view or purchase the program. From this link, you can click on the program cover to view the flip-book digital program or click on the link to order hard copies following the State Final tournament.

https://www.ihsa.org/Resources/State-Programs.



^{*}We encourage teams/schools to place one order together for print programs as price breaks are available for larger quantities.



Do What's Right! Sportsmanship

DWR! EXPECTATIONS

- * Represents their school and community well with positive interaction with opposing fans and players.
- Uses positive yells, chants, songs or gestures.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- * Respect and acknowledge the integrity/judgment of officials.
- * Exhibit positive behavior with opponents and fans before, during and after the contest.

Acceptable Behavior...

- During the National Anthem, students, participants and fans should remove any hats, face the flag, not talk, place the right hand on the heart, and remain still until the end of the anthem.
- Applause during introduction of players, coaches and officials.
- Players shaking hands with opponents while both sets of fans recognize player's performance with applause.
- Accept all decisions of the game officials.
- Spirit Participants lead fans in positive support.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at the end of contests, regardless of the outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applause at the end of the contest for performance of all participants.
- Everyone showing concern for an injured player, regardless of the team.
- Encourage surrounding people to display sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behavior...

- Disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs or gestures.
- Booing or heckling an official's decision.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official's call.
- Yells that antagonize opponents.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances.
- Blaming the loss of the game on officials, coaches or participants.
- Laughing or name calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.
- Doing own yells instead of following the lead of spirit participants.

State Final Student Media/Video Taping



Contact: Matt Troha • mtroha@hsa.org • Phone: 309-663-6377 • Fax: 309-663-7479

STUDENT MEDIA CREDENTIALS FOR PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Congratulations on qualifying for an IHSA state final in a team sport. In order to provide the best possible coverage of this event for your school newspaper, yearbook and AV club, etc. you are entitled to have up to three students receive credentials to cover this event as official media members. In the event that you have less than three students, an adult sponsor may be included on this list. To apply for student media credentials, please have your Athletic Director or an individual involved with the aforementioned programs email Matt Troha (mtroha@ihsa.org) at the IHSA with the following information:

- 1) The names of individuals attending
- Whether they are students or adults
- 3) If the attending individuals will serve as reporters, photographers, videographers, etc.

Student media who are registering for credentials are expected to maintain a level of professionalism while covering this event. That includes no cheering while in the press box or game coverage area. Proper attire is also required. Wearing school shirts and colors is acceptable, but students wearing face paint, costumes, carrying props, etc. will be required to change before receiving credential clearance.

The individual applying for student media credentials will receive specific information on credential pickup and media regulations at the event via email in the days leading up to the state final.

Please note that student media credentials are only available for state final events in team sports. Due to the sheer volume of schools who qualify in individual sports, our press facilities would be unable to accommodate student media from all participating schools in individual sports. Student media are also welcome to cover IHSA state final activities. Credentials are not required for these events, but please have your students check-in with state final personnel upon arrival for media coverage regulations.

VIDEO TAPING STATE FINALS FOR COACH FILM BREAKDOWN

Each school will be eligible to receive a pass for an individual attending the state final event to shoot game film that is for the sole purpose of being used by the coaching staff for postgame breakdown. Passes for videographers shooting highlight videos, documentaries, etc. should be included in student media application reference above. Additional passes for videotaping purposes will need to come from the allotment of state final passes given to school/head coach at or prior to the state final event.

To apply for a credential to shoot video, please have your Athletic Director email Matt Troha (mtroha@ihsa.org) at the IHSA with the name of the individual who will be taping and whether they are an adult or a student.

Please contact Matt Troha (309-663-6377) at the IHSA for any questions related to this document.