

2026 Little League® Baseball and Softball Region Tournament Media Guidelines



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2026 Little League® Baseball and Softball Region Tournament Media Guidelines

Welcome to the 2026 Little League® Baseball and Softball Region Tournaments! On behalf of Little League, we would like to thank you for your coverage of our state champions participating in the Region Tournament and for all your support this season. Our goal is to make your experience as enjoyable as possible while providing you with a professional working atmosphere that allows you to accomplish your job in the best possible manner. Please let us know if there is anything we can assist you with to make that possible, or if you have any questions.

Additional information can be found at LittleLeague.org/WorldSeries and at LittleLeague.org/WSMedia.

As a respected media member covering our event, we do ask that you please adhere to the media guidelines that we have provided below, as well as any direction that is given from our tournament staff. ***Any violation of the rules, regulations, and policies enclosed within this Media Guide, or any rules set forth by the Region Tournament Staff, may result in the immediate revocation of credential and/or dismissal of any media personnel.***

Media Contacts

In addition to the local Region Tournament site at your respective Region Tournament location, below is contact information for the media team at Little League International:

General Little League, World Series, and Region Tournament Questions

WSMedia@LittleLeague.org

Media Credentials

Accredited members of the media in good standing are welcome to cover the event with approval from the Tournament Director as long as they display a media credential and/or other apparel that distinguishes their media outlet they are covering for at all times. No applications are required; however, members of the media must check in with the Tournament Director or Assistant Tournament Director to let them know they are covering the event on site. Members of the media who are not granted media access by Tournament Staff will not be permitted to speak with any participants of the event, including but not limited to, coaches, managers, players, and umpires. Please note that media access is subject to revocation if the rules and media guidelines set forth by the Little League Staff are not followed. Coverage should be focused solely on the event and game activity, as outlined in the media guidelines, and subject to access restrictions at each location.

Questions regarding Little League International should be directed to WSMedia@LittleLeague.org.

Media Decorum

Members of the media are to refrain from cheering of any kind in the stadium press sections, media work areas, or any interview areas and should conduct themselves professionally at all times.

Interview Requests

Credentialed members of the media wishing to do interviews with any members of the participating teams, including players, coaches, and managers, must obtain permission from the team's manager before conducting the interview. At no time shall a media member disrupt a team meeting, practice, gathering, or other team activity and media members shall never communicate in any manner with managers, coaches, players, or umpires while a game is being played. Please note, that none of the participants and/or volunteers

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(including, but not limited to, players, coaches, managers, or umpires) are required to speak to the media, and any interview request may be denied at any time.

Player Interview Requests

Credentialed members of the media wishing to conduct interviews with players must first obtain the consent of the team's manager. During the interview with a player, the team's manager or coach, player's parent or guardian, or Little League staff member must be present during the entire interview. No interviews may take place on the field at any time and interviews may not take place until at least 10 minutes after the team exits the playing field. Out of respect for our players, we ask that any member of the losing team is not interviewed until at least one hour after the conclusion of the game.

Coach/Manager Requests

Credentialed members of the media wishing to conduct an interview with a team's manager or coach should contact the team's manager directly with the request or put a request in with the Region Tournament Media Contact. No interviews may take place on the field at any time and interviews may not take place until at least 10 minutes after the team exits the playing field. Out of respect for our players, we ask that any member of the losing team is not interviewed until at least one hour after the conclusion of the game.

Additional Interview Requests

Credentialed members of the media wishing to conduct interviews with any other Little League affiliated representatives (i.e. volunteers, umpires, etc.) should contact a member of the Little League Region Staff with the request prior to conducting the interview for approval. Please note that no interviews may take place on the field at any time. Interviews regarding information about the Little League International Tournament or any Rules and Regulations should be sent to WSMedia@LittleLeague.org

Photographers

Credentialed photographers are permitted to take photos throughout all public areas of the complex, but may not obstruct walkways or the view of spectators. Photographers may take photos from outside of the playing field, provided it does not block any spectator's view. Aisles must remain clear of equipment at all times for safety purposes.

No cameras or microphones of any kind are permitted into the dugout at any time and at no time during games are photographers permitted to shoot into the dugout. Following games, photographers **are not permitted** to shoot into the dugout of the losing team. No credentialed photographers are permitted to be on the field unless directed by a Little League Region Staff member (e.g. Championship Banner Presentation). Please adhere to all instructions provided by the Little League Region staff members as each location may have its own media access policies.

Please note: Solicitations and/or sales of photographs of any kind by photographers or their agents on or off Little League property is strictly prohibited, unless approved in writing by Little League International. At no time are credentialed photographers or their agents permitted to offer, provide, or present any "courtesy" photos of Region Tournament game action or related Region Tournament events. All photographs should be used for editorial purposes and should not be transformed, distributed, or resold in any way and may never be used for promotional or commercial purposes. Such actions are grounds for revocation of media credentials.

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Radio

Reporters from radio stations and networks are welcome to cover the event, however, no live broadcasts are permitted on any station or network without written agreement from Little League International by emailing WSMedia@LittleLeague.org. Radio reporters may cover the games, however, through five (5) or fewer reports, each of a minute or less in duration, per game. The reports must not contain descriptions of action currently taking place.

Video/Television

Television and video crews are welcome to cover the event, however, it must be understood that Little League and ESPN have the right to restrict or prohibit any camera crews from operating at any game-related activity.

There is no restriction or limit by ESPN and Little League International on reports of activities not related to the games, when such activities are conducted off the playing fields in areas in which media personnel are permitted (i.e. concourse, gift shop, and other areas that are not restricted by ESPN/Little League policies).

During any game, under no circumstances, will microphones be permitted to be attached to any manager, coach, or umpire, except by ESPN.

Please note: Cameras/crews must cease operating and vacate any area immediately upon request by a Little League Region Tournament official or a member of ESPN.

Guidelines for B-Roll footage and Live Reports by video and television crews are provided below:

Broadcasted Games

B-Roll Footage

B-Roll footage may be obtained, subject to Little League approval and adherence to the following guidelines:

1. Limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes of filming per game. When the five (5) minutes is completed, the camera must be turned off and moved to another location at least 50 feet away.
2. B-roll footage may not be televised until after the game is completed. After the conclusion of ESPN or ABC's live coverage of each game, you may, for news purposes only, televise excerpts of the event, to a maximum of two (2) minutes of 2026 Little League Region Tournament highlights per day, in the aggregate. Such uses are limited to regularly-scheduled, bona fide news programs distributed within the first 48 hours after the conclusion of each telecast solely as part of:
 - (i) a linear television network or station distributed via over-the-air terrestrial broadcast, cable television, and/or direct broadcast satellite
(and)
 - (ii) within the simulcast of the applicable programming as part of that television network or station distributed, on an authenticated basis, via any audio/video means or medium now known or hereafter devised.

Other than as part of such live simulcasts, any use of excerpts during the news-access window on the Internet or other online service, wireless device/service or interactive multimedia distribution transmission, is strictly prohibited. Excerpts may only include highlight footage of the games, not interviews, features or audio material (including voices of on-air talent), and must be recorded off-air. ESPN and ABC's graphics, network logo, or scoreboard included in the off-air

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highlights may not be blocked or covered. You must provide appropriate audio and video courtesy credit to ESPN or ABC, as applicable, on any program so using event highlights;

3. Must not restrict the view of spectators.
4. Must not utilize facilities reserved for use by ESPN (i.e. camera stands)
5. No video footage may be obtained from inside the stadium seating areas.
6. Must not interfere with any ESPN camera crews, including hand-held camera crews. Please note, interference includes being visible by ESPN in any location in which ESPN cameras are operating or likely to be operating.
7. Must not be used to record any game in its entirety.

Live Reports

Brief, live reports are permitted, subject to Little League approval and adherence to the following guidelines:

1. No reports are permitted on the action taking place, except a brief update on the score or previous action that has already occurred.
2. The camera must be located at a minimum of 50 feet from the playing field.
3. The reporter must be in the shot at all times.
4. No more than four (4) live reports are permitted during one game.
5. Each report must be one (1) minutes or less.
6. Camera lights may not be used where they may be visible by players on the field (this applies to both day and night games).

Social Media Coverage and Content Creators

Accredited media outlets, content creators (e.g. influencers), and bloggers who are permitted by the Tournament Director to cover the event may do so on social media in adherence to the guidelines in this document, however no live reports are allowed on any digital websites or social media channels not affiliated with Little League International. Static images (no videos) of games or other Tournament activities may be posted on social media by members of the credentialed media, but may not display areas that are restricted only to players and participants. At no time may a member of the media ask a participant for photos and/or videos from participant-only areas. Members of the media, including content creators, are not permitted to solicit on the tournament grounds at any time, promote a corporate brand without explicit written approval by Little League International (Marketing@LittleLeague.org), or provide sponsored products while on the tournament grounds.

Game Statistics, Box Scores, and Summaries

Live play-by-play, box scores, lineups, and other game-related information will be available via GameChanger through LittleLeague.org and the GameChanger app. More information is available at LittleLeague.org/WorldSeries and LittleLeague.org/WSMedia. Any other resources or answers to questions can be requested by contacting a member of the Little League Region Staff.

Team Practice Schedules

Media members will not be granted access to team practice schedules by Little League staff members. Team practice schedules will be distributed only to team coaches and managers who may, or may not, wish to share those schedules with the media. These practices are generally open to the public, but all observers (including the media and photographers) must obey the wishes of the manager of the team practicing. At no time shall a

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media member disrupt a team meeting, practice, gathering, or other team activity. Please note, none of the participants are required to speak to the media and any interview request may be denied at any time.

Distribution of Promotional Items or 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, products, or any other items at this event, or any Little League related event, without written permission from Little League International. Media outlets are also prohibited from distributing promotional material or co-branded 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 at Marketing@LittleLeague.org.

Violation of Media Guidelines

Any organization or person in violation of these guidelines (or others subsequently published by Little League Baseball, Incorporated), whether or not such violations occur on Little League property, will be subject to revocation of media credentials. Additionally, any improper use of Little League's marks may be considered copyright infringement, punishable fully under applicable federal and state laws.

Trademark Protection

Little League Baseball, Incorporated, is a Federal Incorporation granted by way of a bill signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on July 17, 1964, and amended Sept. 24, 1974, to reflect the admission of girls. The legislation, which received unanimous approval in both the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives, is Public Law 88-378. It is the highest recognition that the federal government can accord. It provides for incorporation of Little League Baseball in all 50 states as an educational institution, endowing the program with protective integrity by the U.S. Government.

Action of the President and Congress places Little League in the same category as Red Cross, Boy Scouts, Boys Clubs of America, and a select group of others similarly chartered. However, Little League is the only youth sports organization so honored. The Federal Charter of Incorporation requires Little League to submit its annual report directly to the U.S. Congress each year.

The following are registered trademarks and service marks of Little League Baseball, Incorporated. These marks are protected both by a special Act of Congress and registrations with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. All rights in and to any and all marks of Little League Baseball, Incorporated, are reserved.

- Little League®
- Little League Baseball®
- Little League Softball®
- Little Leaguer®
- Senior League Little League Baseball®
- Little League® Baseball and Softball
- Little League Challenger Division®
- LL®
- LLB®

ONE TEAM. ONE LITTLE LEAGUE.®

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- Dugout the Mascot® and image
- Girls with Game®
- LLWS™
- Summer of Softball™

Note: Little League Baseball is listed in the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual. The words “Little League,” “Little Leaguer,” etc. should only be used in conjunction with youth baseball and softball programs chartered with Little League Baseball, Incorporated.

For more information, including additional media resources for the Little League International Tournament, visit LittleLeague.org/WSMedia.