



MEDIA POLICY

Last updated: Monday, August 22, 2011

RESPECT OF THE POLICY

Any organization which does not comply with the media policy, whether totally or partially shall be fined. The amount of these fines may increase should repeat incidents occur or depending on the seriousness of the incident.

ACCREDITATION

Sports journalists accredited by the CHL or who have been issued a pass by the local organization shall be admitted to regular season and playoff games.

At pre-season games, if the new CHL passes are not yet available, those issued the previous year shall be honoured.

Journalists can obtain their pass from the CHL at the beginning of the season by sending to the team or the QMJHL the appropriate forms, duly signed by the sports director of their media outlet.

Cameramen and photographers shall need specific passes in order to be admitted. Appropriate forms are available through the teams or the QMJHL.

Passes specifically issued by local organizations shall be valid only for home games. Upon request, each club shall send to the administrative offices a list of its media and include for each of them the name of the journalists as well as the address and phone number of the media outlet.

The Canadian Hockey League pass must only be used for editorial purposes. A licence must be obtained from the Canadian Hockey League or the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League in order for a photographer or a journalist to use his pass for commercial purposes. The cost of the licence is determined by the QMJHL. The licence is valid for one season, including the pre-season, the regular season and the playoffs. It does not include CHL events.

SPECIAL EVENTS

To attend QMJHL special events such as the Subway Super Series, annual draft session and Memorial Cup, journalists shall need to obtain specific passes to these events unless otherwise underlined by the QMJHL.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THE PRESS

The home team shall ensure that all members of the media (home and away) benefit from the tools and utilities necessary to help them adequately cover games.

The media shall have access to the required equipment in order to communicate and transmit their texts. The Commissioner can decide to have the required equipment installed at the expense of the home team should these requirements not be met.

Seats

Each team shall provide members of the media with a section in the arena or a press box suited for their work.

Telephones

It is mandatory that each team provide members of the media with a minimum of two telephones with independent "touch tone" lines located in the press box or near the section reserved for the media. Journalists shall use calling cards for their long distance calls.

During the playoffs, the League reserves the right to order teams to add, at their own expense, one or more additional lines in order to adequately meet the demand.

Working press room

If possible, teams shall provide members of the media with a working press room. The access to the room shall be reserved for duly accredited members of the media. The room shall be available during the teams' practices and games. The room shall be made available at least 90 minutes before the beginning of the game.

System put at the disposal of the public address announcer

The home team and building administration shall ensure that a speaker system enables members of the media to clearly and distinctly hear all information shared by the public address announcer.

Press notes and statistics

Before the games, the home team shall provide the media with notes and statistics pertaining to the upcoming game at least sixty (60) minutes before puck drop.

Internet

The home team and building administration are responsible for providing free high-speed wireless Internet access to members of the media.

PRESS RELEASES

Distribution

Each team is responsible for establishing a good relationship with its local media. Teams shall ensure that press releases issued by the League will be forwarded to the local media upon receipt.

Injured players

When a player is injured during a game, the home public relations contact shall inform the journalists on the condition of the player, the nature of the injury and the potential date of return to play.

Distribution of press releases issued by a team

The League must be kept informed of any development regarding its teams. Therefore, teams must send to the League all press releases and notices of upcoming press conferences.

TRANSPORTATION

The decision to allow journalists to travel on the team bus is left entirely to the team. Should a team grant such permission, journalists shall make the necessary arrangements with the team at least 48 hours ahead of the departure time.

Teams should inform the media of their policy at the beginning of the season.

GAME RESULTS

The Commissioner establishes at all times the rules and procedures which regulate the distribution of the results to the administrative offices as well as to the media.

Summary of the period and game

By no later than thirty (30) minutes following the conclusion of each game, teams must send the game summary to the administrative offices.

Distribution of the results

At the end of each period and game, the home team shall make copies of the game report and distribute them to the media.

Moreover, at the end of each period, the public address announcer must share the results of all ongoing games in the QMJHL.

ACCESS TO THE DRESSING ROOM

Before the game

Head coaches or general managers can decide to refuse access to the dressing room to the media prior to the game.

However, journalists who wish to interview one or several players can make a request to the team before the game. The team is obligated to assist journalists with their requests two hours prior to the game. Of course, the team can satisfy requests made less than two hours prior to the game. The time and location of the interview shall be agreed upon by the journalists and the team.

During the game

Players' dressing rooms are not accessible to the media between periods. However, for radio or TV broadcasts, coaches or general managers are obligated to accommodate the media to coordinate interviews between periods.

After the game

Win or lose, no player, coach or general manager may refuse access to the room or refuse to answer questions from the media.

The team must identify a public relations resource that will help coordinate the availabilities of players and team staff. Interviews may be conducted inside or outside the team's dressing room at the team's discretion no later than ten minutes after the game.

No team or staff member may discriminate against a journalist assigned to cover a game based on race, language, sex, age, religion, sexual orientation or handicap under any circumstances.

DISPUTE

Any complaint or dispute must be brought to the attention of the Commissioner. If he deems it appropriate, he may request the help of a Committee to settle any situation.