

### **Forney ISD Media Sideline Pass Information**

It is the goal of Forney ISD to provide the media with comprehensive, hospitable services during athletic events. We appreciate the positive publicity our teams and athletes receive as a result of your work.

Our media policy is formulated to address the needs of the media at large while protecting the integrity of our events, the interests of our district, and most importantly the safety of our students. In order to obtain media credentials and access to player areas at FISD events, certain protocols must be followed.

**Forney ISD requires that all individuals requesting media sideline passes meet the following criteria:**

1. Complete and process a Forney ISD media sideline pass application. The application is attached to this document.
2. Complete and pass a criminal background check conducted by the Forney ISD.
3. Act on behalf of media outlet and for media purposes only.

**Please note the following requirements for sideline, court access:**

- Individuals must have a Forney ISD issued sideline pass to be on sideline or courtside.
- Sideline passes are applicable for all home athletic events.
- Photographers must remain at least 3-5 yards from the sideline or court during play, and may not be in team areas, dugouts, or near player benches at any time.
- Number and location of media personnel is subject to change or limitation by Forney ISD or game officials.
- There shall be no interaction with players, coaches, or officials before or during play.
- Forney ISD does not issue media sideline credentials to commercial photographers.
- Forney ISD prohibits the sale of photographs and recordings of FISD athletic events taken for media purposes and will not credential any individual whose photos or recordings will be used for any purpose other than media coverage.
- Requests must be received by the deadline for each sport listed on the application. Late requests will not be considered.
- Acceptance of the media sideline credentials constitutes an agreement by the individual to abide by all media regulations of Forney ISD.
- Forney ISD reserves the right to refuse admittance to the sideline or courtside to anyone at any athletic event.
- Failure to comply with these requirements may result in forfeiture of credentials and sideline access at all Forney ISD athletic events.

**I have read, understand, and agree to comply with all requirements stated above:**

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Media Outlet: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Forney ISD Media Sideline Pass Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Media Outlet Requesting Sideline Access: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Nature of Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Personal Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that all information provided on this form is correct and that I am a paid employee in good standing with the media outlet indicated.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By my signature, I verify that the applicant on this form is a current, paid employee with the media outlet listed on this form.

Signature of Media Outlet Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Athletic Office Purposes Only:**

Application Received On: \_\_\_\_\_

Background Check Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pass Approved On: \_\_\_\_\_

Pass Expires On: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Approval:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Neal Weaver, Director of Athletics, Forney ISD

Purpose for Denial of Application if Applicable:

**Application Deadlines:**

Football and Volleyball: Date of First Scrimmage

All Other Fall Sports: First Day of School

Spring Sports: First Day of Spring Semester

**Photography Locations:**

Baseball and Softball: In accordance with National Federation rules, photographers may shoot on the field ONLY from designated areas. These areas must be marked as dead ball areas. If no areas have been marked, photographers will not be allowed on the playing area. Media photographers are not allowed in the dugout at any time.

Basketball: Photos may be shot from the ends of the court if room is available. Photographers should be positioned off the playing court to allow both officials and players enough room to maneuver. Photographers may not impede the view of spectators and may not shoot from the stands.

Cross Country: Photos may be taken at any point during the race. At no time may photographers cause any sort of distraction or otherwise impede the progress of contestants.

Football: Media photographers may shoot from any point on the sidelines with the exception of the team boxes (approximately 30 yard line to 30 yard line). Media photographers must remain 5 yards off the sideline in order to allow officials and players to maneuver.

Golf: Photographers should observe the etiquette of golf and remain quiet during all shots. Shooting photos from the side is allowed and photographers may shoot putting shots as long as they remain off the green.

Soccer: See Football Restrictions

Swimming: Photographers may shoot from the corners of the bulkhead or behind the officials' lines.

Tennis: Photographers may shoot on the court at either side of the net. They may not move from that position until the players change sides. Photographers may also shoot from the corners of the court.

Track & Field: Photographers may shoot all events, giving consideration to the safety of both participants and officials. During sprints and hurdles, photographers may shoot the finish as long as they provide a minimum of 50 meters cushion. During field events, at no time will photographers be

allowed in the shot or discus area. Photographers should give reasonable cushion to all competitors to ensure safety.

Volleyball: See Basketball Restrictions