

# **WORLD MASTERS ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024**

## **MEDIA GUIDELINES**

### **OVERVIEW**

All media representatives attending the World Masters Athletics Championships must be registered and accredited. Media representatives can register via the official championship website, [2024wmac.com](http://2024wmac.com), on the Press & Media Registration Form. Registrations will be reviewed by LOC and WMA and approved for accreditation.

The media accreditation pass will provide access to spectator and dedicated media zones within the venues. Media zones include media viewing and work areas at competition and event venues, as well as the Media Centre.

### **ACCREDITATION**

Accreditation is a process designed to ensure that all participants at a WMA championship are provided with the appropriate level of physical access to competition venues and adjoining areas.

All registered media personnel will receive an event accreditation pass upon registering at the TIC. To collect their accreditation pass, media personnel must present a passport or other government-issued identification (with picture included).

The accreditation pass is valid only for the person to whom it is issued and cannot be transferred or sold. The accreditation pass should be displayed at all times within the designated championship venues/areas. The colour coding on the accreditation pass determines the access privileges provided to that person.

If the accreditation pass is lost or damaged, a replacement accreditation pass can be purchased from the sales area at the TIC upon presentation of a valid passport or identity card. Lost accreditation cards must be reported immediately, and access will be denied in accredited areas until replaced. Provision of a new accreditation pass on the same day is not guaranteed.

Please note, that if the rules are not respected, accreditation could be removed at any time by the organizing committee.

For any question or assistance on accreditation please contact the LOC Media Accreditation Coordinator via email, [media@2024wmac.com](mailto:media@2024wmac.com).

## **PHOTOGRAPHERS AND TV PERSONNEL**

In addition to the accreditation pass, photographers and TV personnel may be required to wear a colored bib to enter the competition venues or dedicated spaces.

The bib vests are available at the Media Centre. There are two options:

- **Permanent Use:** Some individuals are allowed to use the vests permanently, and they are assigned distinctive numbers. These vests can be picked up on the first day of the championship and returned on the last day.
- **Daily Use:** Others will use the vests daily. These vests must be picked up in the morning and returned at the end of each day.

The judges/officials (or the competition director and his assistant) reserve the right to exclude photographers who prevent the smooth running of the competition.

In addition to the photographers appointed by the organization, WMA and the LOC will set the maximum number of photographers who will be granted access to the competition arena at any time.

WMA and the LOC will also set the maximum number of TV personnel who will be granted access to the competition arena at the same time as the photographers.

Photographers and TV personnel will be able to schedule their specific requirements with the media staff, but no space can be reserved or held.

## **MEDIA ZONES**

Subject to agreed rights, all accredited media will have access to the dedicated media zones.

- Media Centre
- Mixed Zone
- Media Stand

## **MEDIA CENTER**

All accredited media will be granted access to the dedicated media facilities within the Media Centre. Presentation of their accreditation pass is required for access.

The Media Centre is located within the main stadium, close to the finish line and main secretariat. It is the primary work zone for accredited media including photographers, film teams and written press and should have a working area suitable in size for the accredited number of media personnel.

The Opening Hours for Media Centre is included in the Competitor's Handbook and in the Media Kit.

## **EQUIPMENT**

The following equipment is available in the Media Centre and free of charge to accredited media personnel:

- High-speed Wi-Fi Internet
- Electrical outlet (220V or local voltage)
- Refreshments during the day (water/coffee and tea making facilities)

Media personnel will be advised to take all the belongings with them when leaving the media center. The organizers are not responsible for the loss or damage of any belongings or equipment.

Seats in the Media Centre and in the Press Stand will be on “first come first serve” basis and will not be assigned. Shared limited wireless Internet will be available free of charge in the entire press zone. This is a shared connection.

Any updates scheduled changes, results or any important information concerning the event will be published on the championship website.

## **MIXED ZONE**

In consultation with the Competition Manager, a mixed-use zone should be allocated trackside.

At the end of an event, athletes can be invited to depart the competition arena via the mixed-use zone. Media will only be allowed to conduct interviews within this area. Interviews should in general be kept short and should take place immediately after athletes have competed.

In case of special requests journalists should contact the LOC Media Coordinator.

## **MEDIA STAND IN MAIN STADIUM**

A media area will be provided to accredited media in the main stadium with specified times of use.

Working desks (with an electrical outlet and a Wi-Fi connection) will be supplied for use by accredited Media. Priority will be given to radio and written press (photographers will have access to the media center during opening hours). Seating will be based on “first come first serve” basis.

## **MEDIA OPERATING RULES**

The work of media in the athletes’ area will be carefully supervised and monitored by competition management from WMA and LOC. The broadcasting team or photographers are required to cooperate with these rules and must understand Championship concerns and requirements regarding intrusion into the competition area.

All media personnel must adhere to the directions of the event management group, ie the LOC and designated WMA officials.

The broadcasting team must follow exactly all WMA instructions to ensure that:

- placement of cameras and operators on or around the track do not interfere with the event
- there is minimal impact on the preparation of the athlete in the event

## **RULES AND CONSEQUENCES WHERE THERE IS A LACK OF RESPECT OF WMA AND LOC RULES**

All media personnel must be aware of the following consequences for non-compliance with rules which form part of their accreditation.

1. Inappropriate behavior toward a volunteer, a referee or an LOC or WMA member will not be tolerated. *Consequence: the accreditation will be withdrawn immediately, and the holder will be excluded from the competition site.*
2. The media accreditation entitles access only to specific areas. *Consequence: first offence for incorrect access: a warning, second offence: the accreditation will be withdrawn, and the holder will be excluded from the competition site.*
3. Inappropriate behavior between colleagues will not be tolerated. *Consequence: the accreditation will be withdrawn immediately, and the holder will be excluded from the competition site.*
4. Photographers must respect the rules for access to the competition area. *Consequence: the accreditation will be withdrawn immediately, and the holder will be excluded from the competition site.*

## **COMPETITION FIELD SECURITY**

Access to all championship zones will be monitored. It is always a requirement that media wear accreditation in the competition venue. To access the field of play, accredited media may also be required to wear a media bib (sourced from the Media Centre) and be escorted by a media volunteer.

Control points will be managed by contracted security, volunteers or staff. Access to the competition areas at each venue will be restricted to those with a valid reason and appropriate accreditation pass.

If a person violates the access control rules, the contracted security personnel will hold that person until a resolution is determined (e.g. revocation of accreditation).

In conjunction with the Competition Director, the LOC will have the right to control access to the competition field for all media personnel.