



INDY ELEVEN 2022 SEASON MEDIA GUIDELINES

On behalf of Indy Eleven, we thank you and your media outlet for your interest in covering Indiana's Team during our 2022 USL Championship season.

While flexibility will still be required regarding potential COVID-19 guidelines, we are pleased to report plans to return "back to normal" to the extent possible when it comes to gameday procedures for media as well as gaining access to players, coaches, and staff for in-person interview requests at Carroll Stadium, our Grand Park training facility, and our downtown front office locations.

Such decisions will continue to be made with strict adherence to campus, city, and state guidelines and potential USL Championship's Return to Play protocols, and our staff will work with you on a case-by-case basis to fulfill requests in accordance with said protocols.

To help facilitate your requests, please read our updated media policies below. We will keep you abreast of updates in these guidelines via email and the [Media Guidelines page at indyeleven.com](#) as any changes in policy occur.

We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to working with you as closely as ever to provide coverage of the 2022 edition of the Boys in Blue.

Sincerely,

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2022 PRACTICE/NON-GAMEDAY PROTOCOLS (as of February 28, 2022)

INTERVIEW REQUESTS

For all in-person interview situations regardless of location, we strongly suggest media members to follow social distancing and mask-wearing best practices around players, coaches, and team staff. To minimize close contacts to the greatest possible extent, Indy Eleven training sessions at Grand Park will be open with restricted access for members of the media but closed to the general public.

While media members will be allowed access to all players and coaches at the end of each training session for in-person interviews, we strongly suggest coordinating such opportunities in advance with members of the Indy Eleven Communications Department (contact info on first page) by no later than 9:00 a.m. the day of training – and ideally at least one day in advance – to ensure your desired interview subjects are available and to confirm that day’s training time and location.

The Indy Eleven Communications Staff will also continue to encourage and coordinate interview opportunities via video call and phone as requested by media members. While times for interviews will be coordinated on a case-by-case basis, media members should expect to execute these calls, when possible, in the afternoon/early evening hours in conjunction with the team’s usual practice window between 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Grand Park.

TRAINING B-ROLL AND GAME HIGHLIGHT FOOTAGE

Indy Eleven Communications Staff is glad to accommodate requests from media members for b-roll video footage from training sessions at Grand Park and highlights from previous games for inclusion in their coverage of the team.

If you have a request for training b-roll of a specific player, please contact an Indy Eleven Communications Staff member with your request at least two (2) days in advance of when you will need the footage in order to allow for coordination and execution.

If you have a request for game highlights of a specific player, please contact an Indy Eleven Communications Staff member with your request at least 24 hours in advance of when you will need the footage in order to allow for timely execution.

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2022 GAMEDAY PROTOCOLS AT CARROLL STADIUM (as of February 28, 2022)

2022 HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN

In addition to the 2022 Media Guidelines listed in this document, media members will be expected to abide by the 2022 Health & Safety Plan for Indy Eleven games at Carroll Stadium. The Indy Eleven Communications Department will distribute this plan to media contacts via email once it is made available, and the latest version will always be posted at indyeleven.com/safety-plan.

ABUSING CREDENTIAL PRIVILEGES

When issuing media credentials, it is the expectation that recipients will actively produce written, photographic, and/or audio content on, about or pertaining to Indy Eleven in a professional manner. Unfortunately, not everyone adheres to this expectation.

Anyone caught abusing their media credential privileges by not adhering to both our 2022 Media Guidelines contained in this document and the 2022 Health & Safety Plan for Carroll Stadium will have their credentials revoked and will be ineligible for Indy Eleven media access for the remainder of the 2022 USL Championship Season – and potentially beyond.

Please note that lost full season or single-game credentials WILL NOT BE REPLACED. If you lose your credential, please contact John Koluder (via contact info on Page 1) immediately to discuss next course of action.

SINGLE-GAME CREDENTIAL & PARKING REQUEST

Single-game credential applications will be accepted until 11:00 a.m. on game days. Requests received after this time may not be considered or seen by the Indy Eleven Communications Staff.

To request a single-game credential and/or parking pass, visit indyeleven.com/single-game-cred.

For follow up on your request, please contact John Koluder at your earliest convenience (see top page of document for contact info).



MEDIA WILL CALL

(CREDENTIAL & PARKING PASS PICK-UP, MATCH DAY CHECK IN & PHOTO BIB PICK UP)

In 2022, the Media Will Call window at the Carroll Stadium Box Office located just inside Gate C (formerly known as the Northwest Gate), near the intersection of New York Street & Barnhill Drive, will be the central hub for all materials surrounding media needs on gameday, including:

- Credential & Parking Pass Pick-up (both full season & single-game materials)
- Match Day Check-in
- Photo Bib Pick-up (will be enforced and mandatory for ALL field level working media in 2022)



CREDENTIAL & PARKING PASS PICK-UP

Media members who have been approved to receive either 2022 full season or single-game credentials and/or parking passes may pick up those materials at the Media Will Call window. The Media Will Call window will open 90 minutes prior to kickoff and remain open until kickoff – at which time materials for pick up will be transferred to the Ticket Box Office at the same location.

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Anyone picking up their materials will be allowed to park temporarily in the right-most lane of traffic on the east-bound side of New York Street (reference above map) **PRIOR TO 6:00 P.M.**, when the lane will be re-opened to traffic. ***For this reason, media members who need to pick up a parking pass on gameday are strongly encouraged to arrive by 6:00 p.m.***

MEDIA CHECK-IN & ENTRANCE ACCESS

All credentialed media personnel – regardless of full season or single-game status – will need to check in at the Media Will Call window AT EVERY GAME.

Media will be allowed to enter the facility ONLY THROUGH GATE C beginning 90 minutes prior to kickoff.

DISPLAYING OF CREDENTIALS

All credentialed media must have their credentials visible and physically on them at all times. Anyone not properly displaying their credential in a restricted area will be ejected from the stadium (unless they have a ticket; they will be escorted to the appropriate seat/section).

SECURITY CHECK

Credentialed media consent to allowing Indy Eleven and/or Carroll Stadium staff to inspect bearer's person and any bags, clothing, or other articles for security purposes, whether by walk-through metal detection, handheld metal detection, bag checks or otherwise, and acknowledges and agrees that bearer may be denied entry to or ejected from any Indy Eleven event if bearer is in possession of any item or object that Indy Eleven and/or Carroll Stadium considers potentially dangerous, hazardous, inappropriate and/or injurious to other patrons or participants, and any prohibited items may be confiscated. Bearer consents to security searches and/or screening of bearer and waives any claims that bearer might have against Indy Eleven.

MEDIA PARKING

Full season AND single-game credentialed media will be allowed to access **Lots A & B** by showing their credential to parking personnel stationed at each entry location; please refer to the below map for lot access points.

Lots A & B will open a minimum of two hours prior to kickoff.

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INDY ELEVEN GAMEDAY PARKING MAP Carroll Stadium, IUPUI



MEDIA ACCESS & PRESS BOX ACCOMODATIONS

All credentialed media – including photographers and videographers working at field level – will have access to the press box in order to access materials surrounding game coverage (team match notes, starting lineups, stats) and food and beverages dedicated for media members.

Ample workspace seating is available for media members inside the West side of the press box; said seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

PRESS CREDENTIALS DO NOT ALLOW MEDIA MEMBERS TO UTILIZE SEATING AREAS AT CARROLL STADIUM AS WORKSPACE – NO EXCEPTIONS. If you need to access seating sections for a limited timeframe to capture content and/or obtain interviews with fans, you are asked to contact John Koluder (contact info at top) to coordinate in advance so that security can be notified.

ACCESS TO WORKING ACCESSORIES

The Press Box will include access to power outlets, a printer/copier and Wi-Fi access. The Wi-Fi network and key/password will be made available via signage in the press area; please contact an Indy Eleven Communications Staff member if you are having trouble accessing the network and Stadium IT personnel will be called in to assist.

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FOOD & BEVERAGE

Indy Eleven will have a limited amount of press box meals and snacks for working media members in 2022, in addition to bottled water. Because of the limited number of meals available, we suggest you plan your evening meal(s) accordingly.

PHOTOGRAPHER ON-FIELD ACCESS & DISTANCING GUIDELINES



OUT OF AN ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION, ALL MEDIA WITH FIELD ACCESS MUST REMAIN AT LEAST 15 FEET (5 YARDS) FROM ALL TEAM PERSONNEL AND REFEREES WHEN ENTERING & EXITING THE FIELD – NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED.

CREDENTIALLED MEDIA MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO REMAIN BEHIND THE FIELD BOARDS AND OFF THE FIELD TURF AREA RINGING ALL SIDES OF THE FIELD; THIS SPACE WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLY TO A LIMITED AMOUNT OF TEAM/LEAGUE STAFF MEMBERS.

NO MEDIA MEMBERS WILL BE ALLOWED INSIDE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE FIELD BOARDS AND/OR ONTO THE FIELD AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO POST-GAME MEDIA AVAILABILITY ON THE EAST ENDLINE.

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Pre-game Activities

Warmups: Photographers can station themselves anywhere in the pink and blue shaded areas on the Photo Access map above – as long as no players or other team personnel are present and social distancing guidelines are maintained. Media members are asked to be particularly cognizant of social distancing while players, coaches, team personnel, and referees are entering and exiting the field; a requested minimum of 5 yards of distance should be maintained.

Field Entry: There will be no official team/referee “proceSSIONal” entrance for games in 2022; instead referees, the away team, and the home team (in that order) will stagger their exits from the center tunnel locker room area in 1-minute intervals immediately following the playing of the National Anthem. While photographers will be allowed access to the south endline/track area during these walkouts, adherence to the 5-yard distance guideline will be strictly enforced.

Ceremonies:

- There will be no ceremonial coin toss with referee & captains on field prior to start of the match.
- Teams will gather briefly following entry on the field for a traditional Starting XI photo, to take place near the south sideline on their respective sides of the field on which they will start the match. Photographers will need to shoot these photos from behind the field boards on the south endline/track area.
- If there is a ceremonial first kick, only one official Indy Eleven team photographer will be allowed on-field access to capture this photo, which can be shared with media members upon request through the Indy Eleven Communications Department.

During the match: Again, photographers can station themselves anywhere in the pink and blue shaded access areas on the map above, which have been determined with social distancing guidelines, the greatest amount of photographer access, and fan sightlines in mind.

When shooting from the South Endline in particular, you are asked to shoot as low to the ground as possible to maintain maximum sightlines of the field for fans behind you.



DRONE PERMISSIONS & USAGE

Indy Eleven and IUPUI expressly prohibit any use of drone/Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) that has not been approved by both the club and university in advance. If you or someone from your media outlet would like to submit an application for drone usage at an Indy Eleven game at Carroll Stadium:

1. **Review both the:**
 - a. [Indy Eleven Drone/Small UAS Safety Program document](#)
 - b. [Indy Eleven Drone/Small UAS Regulations document](#)
2. [Click here to submit your application for drone usage](#) to Indy Eleven **AT LEAST 21 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE GAME(S) YOU WISH TO CAPTURE FOOTAGE AT**; requests received prior to 21 days out from gameday will not have sufficient time for approval and will not be considered.
3. Once received, Indy Eleven will work with IUPUI on submittal of your request and provide notice of approval or denial at least five days prior to gameday.

Unauthorized usage of a UAS could result in removal of operator's media credential for the remainder of that match and up through the rest of the season, engaging law enforcement and Federal Aviation Administration officials to levy fines and/or other penalties, and confiscation of the UAS by club/stadium personnel.

NEW FOR 2022: PHOTO BIBS

ALL media members credentialed for FIELD access will need to sign out a photo bib as part of the check-in procedure at the Media Will Call window at Gate C (see MEDIA CHECK-IN section for reference).

Because bibs identify you as a member of the working media AND designate access between media members and team/broadcast personnel, BIBS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHILE ON FIELD LEVEL, PER USL MEDIA GUIDELINES. Media who do not follow this stipulation will be at risk of having their credential revoked.

After the match, field level working media should return their bib either to club personnel on the field or leave at the Media Will Call window.

If you forget your bib or credential, it/they will not be replaced, and you will lose your stadium/field access; in this instance, please contact John Koluder (via contact info on Page 1) to discuss next course of action.



POST-GAME PRESS CONFERENCE & MEDIA INTERVIEW ACCESS

Indy Eleven will return to conducting all post-game coach and player interviews in-person; again, we strongly suggest media members follow social distancing and mask-wearing best practices in these close contact situations when at all possible.

Players and coaches will be made available in either an individual or “scrum” setting as requests dictate starting approximately 10 minutes after the final whistle. This availability will be coordinated through Communications Staff personnel and will be conducted at either the Northeast or Southeast corner of the field.

Media members in attendance should coordinate their requests for specific players with an Indy Eleven Communications representative either in the press box or on field level by the 90th minute of the match so that players can be notified accordingly as soon as the game ends.

Video/Phone Call Interview Access

For access to Indy Eleven players not taking part in the post-game press conference, media members are asked to coordinate video/phone calls for specific players with John Koluder via call or text to 317-919-0808 by the 90th minute. Execution of these interview requests should not be expected to occur earlier than 30 minutes after the final whistle to allow for player/coach availability.

Visiting Team Media Availability

Media members looking for post-game access to players and coaches from the opposing team are asked to coordinate their requests with each club’s respective PR Staff who, if not present to facilitate themselves, will work with Indy Eleven Communications Staff to coordinate interview opportunities.

ALCOHOL USE PROHIBITED

The consumption of any alcoholic beverage(s) is strictly prohibited by anyone actively reporting or attending Indy Eleven matches at Carroll Stadium by use of a season long or single game media credential.

Failure to comply with this standard will result in ejection from Carroll Stadium for the remainder of the match, and any issued credential will be revoked for the remainder of the 2022 season – and potentially beyond. This is a zero-tolerance policy.



NO PERSONAL USE

Credential bearers may not request autographs, take non-work-related photographs or make any other personal use of this credential or the stadium access conferred by this credential. A first-time offense of this guideline will result in revoking of credentials.

PUBLICITY

The bearer grants permission to Indy Eleven and its licensors to use the bearer's image, likeness, actions and statements, in perpetuity, in any Media Use relating to any Indy Eleven event in any context for any purpose, including commercial or promotional purposes, without further authorization from or compensation to the bearer.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

The bearer of this credential and his or her employer assume all risk and danger of personal injury and all other hazards arising from or related in any way to stadium access, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless Indy Eleven and Carroll Stadium, its member teams, other agents and employees from and against all liability, loss, damages or expense resulting from or arising out of the bearer's presence at the stadium.

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