



# 2020 HOUSTON TEXANS

## TRAINING CAMP MEDIA POLICY



In accordance with the NFL guidelines for media access to training camp, the Houston Texans have implemented the below rules and regulations to accommodate media access while keeping the health and safety of coaches, players, staff and media a priority. If you have any questions about the policy outlined below, please contact a member of the Houston Texans communications staff.

### NFL TIER SYSTEM:

- Media permitted to attend practice will be distanced in two groups - **Tier 2M** and **Tier 3-OA**.
- **Tier 2 Media (T2M)** – A predetermined list of 10 media members, which includes local media and all league broadcast partners. T2M must undergo and adhere to all screening and testing protocols set by the NFL and NFLPA. T2M are permitted to attend indoor practice sessions and utilize the Texans Media Trailer but may not access locker rooms, meeting rooms or any restricted area at NRG Park. T2M must receive two consecutive negative virus tests from the on-site testing center prior to the date he or she wishes to attend practice.
- **Tier 3 Outdoor Access (T3-OA)** – A limited number of media who may attend the team's outdoor practices but will not be tested. T3-OA are not permitted to access any areas in the club facility, including the Texans Media Trailer, locker rooms, meeting rooms and the indoor practice field. T3-OA may not come in contact with T2M.

### INTERVIEWS / AVAILABILITY:

- In-person interviews and interactions with players are prohibited per the NFL and NFLPA's guidelines. Media access to club personnel, including players, coaches and staff, will be held via Zoom until further notice.
- The Texans communications staff will work with Tier 2M to determine which players and coaches will be made available to the media following each practice and send each day's media availability schedule via email.
- Participants can access the Zoom press conferences up to 15 minutes in advance of the scheduled start time to test audio and video, but we ask that you please fill in your first and last name before entering the meeting and have your camera on when asking questions.
- Players who did not participate in practice will not be available for interviews.

### POOL SERVICES:

- Tier 2M and Tier 3-OA are permitted to shoot video and still photography of practice during designated shooting portions, which will be announced by a member of the Texans communications staff.
- Tweeting is also permitted during the designated shooting portions of practice but all media must follow the reporting / social media rules listed below.
- The Texans will provide pool photos, videos and press conference footage within a reasonable timeframe.
- Contact Nathan Edwards ([nathan.edwards@houstontexans.com](mailto:nathan.edwards@houstontexans.com)) to be added to the distribution lists. Requests for specific videos or photos should also be made to Nathan Edwards ([nathan.edwards@houstontexans.com](mailto:nathan.edwards@houstontexans.com)) by 5 p.m. CT on the evening prior to the day of the request.
- A pool report of practice will be compiled by a member of the PFWA and distributed by the Texans communications staff within a reasonable timeframe. The pool report will focus on a general description of the daily work schedule and adhere to reporting guidelines set by the NFL, including the following:
  - » No reference to game strategy or the specific plays run.
  - » No reporting if players are practicing with individual units (first-team, second-team, goal line, nickel, etc.).
  - » No blogging, texting, tweeting or reporting of comments overheard between players, coaches and staff while on-site. This information may also not be included in reporting at a later date.
  - » The pool report may note which players are practicing as well as those who are not.
  - » The pool report may include non-strategy and non-game plan observations.
  - » Clubs and media must abide by the privacy and confidentiality obligations related to COVID-19 as outlined in the Screening and Testing Protocol.





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### ACCESS TO NRG PARK:

- Properly worn masks will be required at all times while on the NRG Park property.
- Tier 2 Media (T2M) will need to wear a KINEXON device while on the NRG Park property. A member of the Texans communications staff will assign a device before media enter the facility and collect them at the end of each day. These devices ensure each tier is following the social distancing rules put in place by the NFL and NFLPA by sounding an alarm if members of different tiers are closer than six feet apart.
- The Texans communications staff will notify approved media of scheduled practice days and times. Approved media will also receive an email from the Texans communications staff confirming their clearance to attend practice the following day.
- Attending media will receive a COVID-19 Questionnaire each day before attending practice and must pass successfully before arriving at NRG Park.
- If you don't get a passing message on the questionnaire or your temperature is 100.4 or above, you will not be granted access to NRG Park. You should return home immediately and contact a member of the Texans communications staff.
- Media will park next to the Texans Media Trailer, which is located at an alternate entrance of the Teal Lot on the intersection of Kirby Drive and McNee Road. Upon arrival, a member of the Texans communications staff will take your temperature and ask to see confirmation of a "pass" on the daily questionnaire.
- The Texans Media Trailer will be located at an alternate entrance of the Teal Lot on the intersection of Kirby Drive and McNee Road. It will have available bathrooms and WiFi internet for Tier 2 Media in attendance.
- It is strongly recommended that media attending practice bring their own drinks as the club is restricted from providing coolers for water or other beverages.

### REPORTING / SOCIAL MEDIA:

- Tier 2M and Tier 3-OA are permitted to shoot video and still photography of practice during designated shooting portions, which will be announced by a member of the Texans communications staff.
- Tweeting is also permitted during the designated shooting portions of practice but all media must follow the reporting / social media rules set forth by the team.
- There will be designated areas where Tier 2M and Tier 3-OA media members will be allowed to watch practice. These areas will follow the social distancing rules set forth by the NFL and NFLPA.
- Tier 2M will have access to the Texans Media Trailer with available bathrooms and WiFi internet before and after practices to allow media members to partake in the Zoom media availability sessions following the conclusion of practice.
- Broadcasting live, including social media (Facebook Live, Instagram Live, etc.), is not permitted at any time during or after practice.
- Media members may only report on what is being viewed on the designated practice fields.
- Clubs and media must abide by the privacy and confidentiality obligations related to COVID-19 as outlined in the Screening and Testing Protocol.
- A member of the Texans communications staff will be in your designated area to help answer any questions.

### TOPICS TO AVOID:

- Potential severity of an injury until it's addressed by Head Coach Bill O'Brien.
- Game strategy – formations, plays, substitution packages, game plan, etc.
- Which players are practicing with individual units (first-team, second-team, goal line, nickel, etc.).
- Conversations that take place on field between players, coaches and/or staff.
- Players who line up in positions different from the one listed on the current roster.

