

Media Covid-19 protocols for international and HBL PSL matches

The media protocols have been designed to ensure the health and safety of all respected members of the media as well as their families, colleagues and friends, who will be involved in the coverage of the upcoming international cricket and the HBL PSL matches in the 2020-21 season.

These are overarching guidelines, which may change and amend as Covid-19 is an evolving situation.

Accreditation

The PCB will provide media accreditation **strictly** for the matches to the local media only. No visiting media will be accredited in the 2020-21 season.

Match and non-match day accreditation

While accrediting media, allocating seats and to ensure maximum representation, the PCB will try to accommodate one reporter and one photographer per news agency/newspaper and one reporter and one cameraperson per Non-Rights Holding TV news channels as per the following pecking order.

However, due to PCB Media Rights Policy, camerapersons of the TV News Channels will not be allowed access inside the venues on match days.

The final accredited media numbers will be decided depending on the space availability:

- i. International news agency
- ii. Domestic news agency
- iii. National daily newspapers
- iv. NRH TV news channel reporters
- v. NRH Radio channel reporters
- vi. Dedicated and leading cricket websites/portals/magazines
- vii. Others (including YouTubers, depending on space and seat availability)

Movement

Print and electronic media will be given match-day accreditation depending on the available space, as per the pecking order (above).

Due to the PCB's rights protection policy, camerapersons of the Non-Right Holders will not be accredited on match days.

The movement of the reporters/correspondents will be limited **strictly** to their designated working areas.

According to the Covid-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), the field of play is out of bound for the respected members of the media. As such, the photographers and camerapersons (on non-match days) will be accommodated in public enclosures on either side of the media centers.

To prevent over-subscribing as well as to ensure health and safety of their colleagues, the photographers and camerapersons will be limited to their designated working areas inside the main venue only.

As training area outside the main National Stadium will be part of the bio-secure bubble, the TV cameraperson will not be allowed to enter or film in that area.

While performing their professional duties from the public enclosures, the photographers and camerapersons will be responsible for maintaining the two-meter social distancing.

While working from public enclosures, the photographers and electronic media will **NOT** touch or pick the cricket ball if it lands close to where they are working from.

Media will use normal entry points for coverage purposes, but further clarity will be provided closer to time.

Player Interactions

Due to a bio-secure environment, there will be no player-media interactions at team hotels, training and match venues. The PCB will try to arrange / organize all match-day and non-match-day interviews online through teams' media managers.

In this relation and at venues where there are common entry gates, the respected members of the media will only be allowed to enter or leave venue after the teams have either arrived or left the venue if they decide to stay back at the venue till after close of play.

In order to ensure health and safety of all concerned and to maintain the two-meter social distancing from teams and officials as per the Covid-19 Protocols, respected members of the media are strongly encouraged to arrive at the venue **NOT** before 30 minutes to the start of play and likewise, leave the venue as soon as match is over **OR** before the end of the match to avoid being held back at the venue.

Catering

On match and non-match days, the PCB will only provide running tea, coffee and water, and strongly encourages respected members of the media to bring their own food, drinks and cutlery

Additional Guidelines

- If you are experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms, please don't attempt to arrive at the venue to cover the match and contact your employer for guidance and support

- Upon arrival, there will be thermal temperature checking
- No media-player interaction is allowed in the team hotel, training and match venues
- Please always ensure two-meter social distancing when at the venue
- Please wear masks at all times when at the venue
- Accredited media is strongly advised to avoid gatherings when at the venue
- Only 50+ members of the media or those with special needs will be allowed to use the venue lifts and only one person at a time can use the service
- Photographers/camerapersons are prohibited from picking or touching the cricket ball when at the venue
- There will be hand sanitizers in the media working areas but the accredited media are encouraged to also bring their own sanitizers just in case these are short at match venues
- The PCB reserves the right to eject any accredited journalist or cancel his/her accreditation for rest of the season if his/her action(s) can cause health and safety issues to people around him/her.