



INTERVIEW POLICIES
2021-22
DIVISION I MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Press conferences will be conducted on the day before each game and immediately after each game. The host media coordinator will have the authority to request any student-athlete to attend any press conference, but should work with the participating institution's head coach and SID, as well as a designated pool reporter representing the United States Basketball Writers Association (USBWA) to select postgame press conference participants. Each participating institution shall make student-athletes available at all scheduled press conferences and breakout sessions. All interviews at the facility shall occur in the designated media interview space.

Cameras, Recorders. All electronic media desiring to record the proceedings in the interview room will be required to use the connecting devices supplied by the NCAA. No individual filming of the interviews will be permitted, unless authorization is granted by the NCAA (i.e. team videographers, Turner/CBS All-Access crew).

Telephone Interviews. Coaches and student-athletes not participating in the postgame press conference may conduct phone interviews as soon as the cooling off period expires. All requests should be coordinated and approved by the team's SID.

Uplink. The NCAA/Hammond Communications will uplink all formal press conferences.

Locker Rooms.

Locker rooms are always off limits to the media.

Press Conferences Day Prior To Games.

Day Before First Four, First Round, Second Round and Regional Semifinal Games. Each coach and a minimum of two student-athletes will participate in each press conference.

Day Before Regional Finals. The head coach and each of the five starters representing the teams advancing to the regional championship games will participate in the scheduled press conferences. The first 20 minutes will be devoted to a group interview of the coach and student-athletes; after which the coach will remain on the dais for 20 additional minutes while the student-athletes go to individual breakout rooms for 15 minutes.

Thursday Before National Semifinals. The head coach and selected student-athletes shall grant interviews to Turner/CBS, Westwood One, NCAA Productions and Van Wagner Sports and Entertainment (VWSE). The head coach and six players shall participate in a press conference with credentialed members of the media.

Day Before National Semifinals. Student-athletes will be required to participate in a scheduled press conference (minimum of two, jointly with the head coaches) and breakout sessions (five in separate locations). The head coach shall participate in a press conference as well. The head coach shall conduct a brief interview with CNN following the conclusion of their team's practice.

Day Before National Championship Game. The head coach shall conduct interviews with Turner/CBS, Westwood One, NCAA Productions and ESPN, and have a joint press conference with a minimum of two players. Five student-athletes will also be required to

participate in breakout sessions, and selected players shall participate in interviews with Turner/CBS and Westwood One.

Postgame Press Conferences.

Cooling Off Period. The cooling-off period for all rounds of the championship is five minutes for the winning team and 15 minutes for the losing team. At his discretion, a coach may shorten the cooling-off period, but may not extend it. The cooling-off period begins when the head coach enters the locker room after the game.

First Four, First Round, Second Round, Regional Semifinals. The winning team will appear in the news conference first, after a five-minute cooling-off period. After the cooling-off period expires, the head coach and a minimum of two student-athletes shall be escorted to the interview room for a postgame press conference not to exceed 12 minutes. The losing team will have a 15-minute cooling-off period before the head coach and select players go to the interview room/holding area. If requested, the losing team's coach shall grant an interview with Turner/CBS as soon as the cooling-off period expires. At his discretion, the coach may conduct the Turner/CBS interview during the cooling-off period. However, no other interviews may take place during this time. After the winning team's coach and players have left the interview room area, the losing team's coach and players shall go on the dais for a postgame press conference not to exceed 10 minutes.

Regional Championship Games. The losing team will appear in the news conference first, after a 15-minute cooling-off period. After the cooling-off period expires, the head coach and a minimum of two student-athletes shall be escorted to the interview room for a postgame press conference not to exceed 12 minutes. If requested, the losing team's coach shall grant an interview with Turner/CBS as soon as the cooling-off period expires. At his discretion, the coach may conduct the Turner/CBS interview during the cooling-off period. However, no other interviews may take place during this time. The winning team shall have a five-minute cooling-off period that begins when its coach enters the locker room after on-court media obligations and the regional championship trophy presentation. Upon conclusion of the cooling-off period, the head coach and a minimum of two student-athletes shall be escorted to the interview room for a press conference not to exceed 15 minutes.

National Semifinals. The winning team will appear in the news conference first, after a five-minute cooling-off period. After the cooling-off period expires, the head coach and a minimum of two student-athletes shall be escorted to the interview room for a postgame press conference not to exceed 12 minutes. The losing team will have a 15-minute cooling-off period before the head coach and select players go to the interview room/holding area. If requested, the losing team's coach shall grant an interview with Turner/CBS and then with Westwood One as soon as the cooling-off period expires. At his discretion, the coach may conduct the Turner/CBS and/or the Westwood One interview during the cooling-off period. However, no other interviews may take place during this time. After the winning team's coach

and players have left the interview room area, the losing team's coach and players shall go on the dais for a postgame press conference not to exceed 10 minutes.

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Press Conference Format. The following schedule should be used as a guideline for press conferences. The coach shall make an opening statement that should last for a maximum of two minutes. Once completed, the moderator shall open the press conference for questions to all individuals seated on the dais. The moderator should advise media members that student-athletes will be dismissed from the dais if all the questions are directed towards the coach.

Obligation of Coach. Regardless of any personal regular-season radio or television contracts, the coach is first obligated to the entire media staffing the tournament and must report to the interview room immediately after the cooling off period ends. After fulfilling this commitment to the media staffing the tournament, the coach and players may participate in other interviews.

Participating Student-Athletes. The sports information director, working with the head coach and a designated pool reporter representing the USBWA, shall designate a minimum of two student-athletes to participate in the postgame press conference. Primary consideration will be given to student-athletes who had the biggest impact on the game.

Turner/CBS Television and Radio Rightsholders, Postgame. If requested, the winning coach, losing coach and winning student-athletes shall grant postgame interviews, not to exceed four minutes, to Turner/CBS television and/or Westwood One provided the networks are still providing live coverage from the facility. The media coordinator will be responsible for terminating the four-minute interview period. The winning coach and players shall conduct these interviews immediately following the conclusion of each game. These will take place on the court but must not interfere with teams warming up for the next game.

Coaches and student-athletes who are not being interviewed by Turner/CBS television or Westwood One may conduct interviews with the institution's radio network during the four-minute period.

Turner/CBS television will have the first choice of individuals to interview, then Westwood One, then the institution's network.

Additionally, the head coach has the option of conducting an interview with the institution's radio network (at the network's courtside seating location) during a two-minute period after the conclusion of the initial four-minute period.

The losing coach's interview will take place in a designated area inside or near the team locker room and shall take place after the cooling off period and prior to the coach being escorted to the postgame press conference.

The networks cannot inordinately delay the coaches' and players' return to the locker room. If the networks are not prepared to conduct live interviews immediately, it will be necessary for the interviews to be recorded.