



OHIO QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION ALL AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE CONGRESS

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2026 All American Quarter Horse Congress Photography & Videography Policy

This AAQHC Photography and Videography Policy ("Policy") applies to the 2026 All American Quarter Horse Congress ("Congress"), held September 26 – October 24, 2026 in Columbus, Ohio at the Ohio Expo Center and produced by the Ohio Quarter Horse Association ("OQHA").

Congress may issue Media Credentials to approved members of media outlets or commercial media contractors for the purpose of news coverage of the event or work for private clients. Media credentials are issued at the sole discretion of Congress and OQHA. Submission of an application does not guarantee approval, and approval in a previous year does not guarantee approval for the current event.

1. Media Classifications

Congress recognizes separate credential categories for Media Outlets and Commercial Media. Approval for one category does not guarantee approval for the other, and each category is subject to separate review and approval.

Media Outlet: Media outlets are defined as journalists/photographers/videographers on assignment by a recognized magazine, newspaper, website, television or radio network, publications (equine and other), and other approved news source. These outlets are present at the Congress with the intent to publicize the event for their benefit and the benefit of the Congress. The Media Outlet Policy is set forth in Section 4.

Commercial Media: Commercial media is defined as a videographer working the event for commercial use by supplying reels/videos to a customer/client that is not OQHA/Congress, or anyone using professional-grade equipment for compensation by clients other than OQHA/Congress. The reels/videos are intended for use in advertising, promotion, social media, or other personal use. **Commercial media may only shoot video content, no still images.** The Commercial Media Policy is set forth in Section 5.

Professional-grade equipment is defined as cameras with interchangeable lens; video equipment such as gimbals, tripods or monopods; drones; and other equipment as defined by show management.

Note on Drones: Usage of drones is prohibited without advance written authorization from OQHA/Ohio Expo Center and compliance with applicable FAA requirements.

2. Visitor Policy

Other than what is provided in this Policy, OQHA/Congress prohibits competitors, spectators, and visitors at the Congress from taking photography or videography with professional-grade equipment (as defined in Section 1)

intended for commercial distribution and use through publications, websites, social media, or any other similar media. **Any such prohibited use is expressly forbidden without prior written consent from show management.** Anyone, other than credentialed individuals, who provides or intends to use photos or video footage in violation of this Policy may be ejected from the event and/or indefinitely banned from the Congress.

3. General Guidelines Applicable to All Media (Media Outlets & Commercial Media)

Requests for credentials must be made online at www.quarterhorsecongress.com/media.

Any person who receives a media credential must be a current AQHA member and able to provide their AQHA ID number.

Approved media of any sort are **not permitted** to take still images OR video of any awards presentation, provide photoshoots or posed sessions, or take still image screenshots/screengrabs from video content. No media personnel are permitted inside show arenas or warm up pens and may not shoot over official show photographer's shoulder.

Media personnel are expected to present themselves appropriately with clothing suitable for a show arena including long pants or jeans, closed-toe shoes, and a modest top. Media personnel are expected to conduct themselves in a way that does not interfere with or disturb show management, official show photographer or videographer, or exhibitors. Media personnel are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner at all times and follow the instructions of show management, including but not limited to paddock judges, gate crew, arena managers, and ring stewards.

Violation of the above can be grounds for immediate removal from the show grounds and/or an indefinite ban from future events.

By signing the application for credentials, media and freelancers agree to the terms contained herein and to promote the All American Quarter Horse Congress and American Quarter Horse breed and industry in a positive way.

All applicants must be 18 years of age or older.

OQHA reserves the right in its sole discretion to review, accept, or reject any media credential request.

4. Media Outlet Policy

Media outlets are defined as journalists/photographers/videographers on assignment by a recognized magazine, newspaper, website, television or radio network, publications (equine or other), and other approved news source. Freelance journalists must provide written proof of assignment outlining the details of

assignment, where coverage will appear from a well-established and approved outlet to be considered for accreditation. If credentials are granted, they also must confirm that the images/video taken will only be used for that specific publication detailed in the assignment outline.

Approved media outlets **MAY**:

- Shoot VIDEO content of show arenas from stands during the course of the class
- Capture still images as exhibitors exit arenas, for the purpose of publishing results
- Shoot video or take candid, still images of warm up pens from outside of the pen
- Shoot video or take candid, still images in the barns
- Shoot video or take candid, still images around the grounds

Approved media outlets **MAY NOT**:

- Capture still images of exhibitors as they compete
- Shoot video OR still images of awards presentations
- Cross the media line in the alleyways of arenas
- Shoot over the official photographers shoulder
- Take still image screenshots from videos
- Provide photo shoots or posed sessions, even when taking photos for a news article

By signing the credential request application, media outlets and their freelancers agree to provide OQHA with free, high-resolution versions of photos or video footage, free of watermarks, upon request for the Association's editorial, promotional, archival, and social media purposes. OQHA will credit the media outlet when photos are used, and photos will not be resold by OQHA.

5. Commercial Media Policy

Commercial media is defined as a videographer working the event for commercial use by supplying reels/videos to a customer/client that is not OQHA/Congress, or anyone using professional-grade equipment for compensation by clients other than OQHA/Congress.

Commercial Media must meet the following criteria in order to obtain credentials at the Congress:

- Be a current AQHA member in good standing
- Have a signed media application on file with OQHA
- Provide a copy of their business tax ID

Approved commercial media **MAY**:

- Shoot VIDEO content of show arenas from stands during the course of the class
- Shoot video of warm up pens from outside of the pen
- Shoot video in the barns
- Shoot video around the grounds

Approved commercial media **MAY NOT**:

- Capture still images of exhibitors as they compete
- Shoot video OR still images of awards presentations
- Cross the media line in the alleyways of arenas
- Shoot over the official photographers shoulder
- Take still image screenshots from videos
- Provide photo shoots or posed sessions, even when taking photos for a news article
- Provide any still image photography at any time on the grounds of the event

By signing the credential request application, commercial media personnel agree to provide OQHA with free, high-resolution versions of video footage, free of watermarks, upon request for the Association's media purposes with unlimited rights for use. Content will not be resold.

6. Content Standards

All Media Credential holders are responsible for reviewing all photos, videos, captions, posts, stories, reels, livestreams, articles, and other content before publication or distribution.

By accepting a credential, the credential holder agrees not to publish, post, sell, distribute, or otherwise use any photo, video, or content that, in Congress and OQHA's sole discretion, portrays Congress, the performance and horse show industry, competitors, horses, owners, sponsors, vendors, staff, attendees, venue, or the sport in a negative, misleading, embarrassing, unsafe, or unfavorable light.

This includes, but is not limited to, content where the primary subject may appear acceptable, but another person, horse, sponsor display, staff member, attendee, or background element appears unsafe, unflattering, inappropriate, misleading, or damaging to Congress or the industry.

Congress reserves the right to request the removal of any content that violates this policy. Failure to remove such content upon request may result in revocation of credentials, removal from the event, and denial of future applications.

7. **Media Credentials**

Media outlets will receive 1 parking pass per credential requested. Applicants must complete a media request form by **September 5** in order to receive a parking pass in the mail ahead of the event. All requests submitted after this date may still be approved, but parking passes must be picked up in the press office after the start of the event.

Commercial Media have the option to pre-purchase parking passes with their credential request and have them mailed to them ahead of the event. All commercial media request forms must be submitted no later than **September 5**.

The media request form can be found at www.quarterhorsecongress.com/media

Approved applicants must check in at the press office (located in the main foyer of the Celeste Center) before beginning coverage at the show to receive media credentials. Credentials are non-transferable and must be worn in plain view at all times while working at the Congress.

Anyone who wishes to apply for media outlet credentials while the event is underway may do so by completing the media request form. No commercial passes will be approved after the start of the event. Form submitted after the start of the event may take up to 24 hours to be reviewed.

Media Policy guidelines must be followed by all media personnel. If found in violation of any part of the media policy, media personnel may be removed from the premises and potentially banned from covering the Congress in the future.

OQHA reserves the right to refuse applications or revoke credentials and retain fees paid if any violations occur.

OQHA reserves the right to change fee structures, rules, or guidelines at any time.

Please direct all media credential inquiries to the OQHA Communications Department at media@oqha.com. OQHA corporate partners and alliance members may also inquire about passes.