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**MEDIA ACCESS TO PARLIAMENTARY PRECINCT AND THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER**

This document outlines the conditions upon which the Speaker, who has the responsibility for the Parliamentary Precinct and maintains order in the Legislative Assembly, grants access by the media to the Parliamentary Precinct and the Legislative Assembly Chamber.

This document has been approved by the Speaker after consultation with the Queensland Parliamentary Media Gallery ("the Gallery").

A copy of this document will be tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Speaker for the information of all Members.

It is the responsibility of the President of the Gallery to ensure that this document is provided to accredited members.

**Accreditation**

1. Parliamentary Access cards will be issued to accredited members of the Queensland Parliamentary Media Gallery.
2. It is the responsibility of the Secretary of the Gallery to provide the Office of the Speaker current list of accredited members.
3. Media who are not accredited members must obtain the permission of the Speaker to photograph or video record in the Legislative Assembly Chamber.

**Photography and video recording on the Parliamentary Precinct**

1. Door stop interviews, press conferences etc may take place in the following areas of the Parliamentary precinct by accredited members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery:
  - (a) Speaker's Green – except where a function is in progress where approval of Speaker (after consultation with host) has been obtained.
  - (b) Dandair Room (previously called the Media Room), level 5, Parliamentary Annexe.
  - (c) Colonnade, level 5, Parliamentary Annexe – from double glass doors near media rooms to double glass doors near Belle Vue Room. (Note press conferences etc should generally not be held between double glass doors near media rooms to double doors at Parliament House as this impedes pedestrian access between Parliament House and the Parliamentary Annexe. However, if a function is being held on the colonnade and it is wet weather, preventing use of the Speaker's Green, then press conferences etc may be held in this area.)
  - (d) Western end foyer, level 5, Parliamentary Annexe between glass doors and media rooms.
  - (e) Front of Parliament House (outside).
  - (f) Front of Parliamentary Annexe (outside).

2. Filming may take place in other areas of the Parliamentary precinct only after approval of the Speaker or his delegate. This prohibition without approval includes:
  - (a) In and outside the Speaker's Office.
  - (b) Ministers' offices or corridors adjacent to Ministerial offices (also with the consent of the Minister).
  - (c) In or near the Legislative Council Chamber or outside the Members' Reading Room, Level B, Parliament House to observe members entering and leaving the Legislative Assembly Chamber.
  - (d) Level B Colonnade of Parliament House.
  - (e) Cafeteria, dining rooms or areas immediately adjacent these areas (also with the consent of Members).
  - (f) Function Rooms (ie. Premiers' Hall and Speakers' Hall) – unless approved by the Speaker and/or the Host of the function.
  - (g) Level 7, Parliamentary Annexe, recreation areas.
  - (h) Members bedroom areas.
  - (i) Entry or exits to car parks.
  
3. In relation to caucus meetings or party meetings – the press may record members arrival, shall not obstruct access but will withdraw from vicinity once meetings have commenced.
  
4. In relation to Parliamentary committee meetings or hearings, the press will follow the direction of the committee or its chair.
  
5. No photography or tape recording is permitted in and nor are the media permitted to attempt to interview or seek comment from Members in areas that are designated "Members' Only" areas (eg. outside the Chamber on Level B on sitting days).

## **CONDITIONS FOR BROADCASTERS OF PROCEEDINGS**

### **Authority to Broadcast**

The Speaker authorises live recording, broadcast and rebroadcast of the proceedings and excerpts of proceedings of the Queensland Parliament on radio and television on the conditions below.

### **Conditions**

Access to the proceedings of the Queensland Parliament for the broadcasting and televising of proceedings is subject to an undertaking to observe, and to comply with, the following conditions –

#### **1. Fair and Accurate Reporting –**

Televising shall be used only for the purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings, and shall not be used for –

- (i) political party advertising or election campaigns;
- (ii) satire or ridicule;
- (iii) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising.

**2. Balanced Reporting**

Reports of proceedings shall be such as to provide a balanced presentation of differing views.

**3. Context**

Excerpts of proceedings are to be placed in context.

**4. Deletions from Hansard**

If the Speaker orders that a remark be deleted from Hansard, either at the time the remark was made or at a later time, the remark, the Speaker's direction and the proceedings relating to the matter, are not to be rebroadcast. (Note this restriction only applies to formal deletions from Hansard, not in circumstances where the Speaker has ordered that comments be withdrawn.)

**5. Technical Restrictions**

Footage must be broadcast at normal speed, with synchronised sound and vision.

**6. Acknowledgements**

Events in the galleries are not a part of the proceedings and should not generally be covered. However, acknowledgement may be made of distinguished visitors in the Gallery if the Speaker, or their delegate, makes such a reference.

**7. Speaker's Instructions**

The instructions of the Speaker of the Queensland Parliament, or the Speaker's delegate, in respect of broadcasting, shall be observed.

**8.. Guidelines for camera operators in the Legislative Assembly Chamber**

The guidelines for camera operators below are to be followed at all times.

**GUIDELINES FOR CAMERA OPERATORS IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER**

1. Cameras will only begin to film when the Speaker (or delegate) enters the Chamber and takes the Chair and will cease filming when the Speaker (or delegate) leaves the Chair. If access is required at other times during debate, the Speaker is to be notified.
2. Cameras should only focus on the Member with the call. Shots should be no closer than "head and shoulders".
3. Fine tuning or variations to depths of field at the discretion of the operator is acceptable.

4. Wide-angle shots of the Chamber may be used during Divisions and Question Time. Sparing use of the wide-angle shot may be used at other times. No prolonged focus should be on particular members who do not have the call.
5. Conversations or interjections between Members during Divisions should not be recorded, broadcasted or rebroadcasted either with or without sound.
6. During Divisions cameras are required to employ only wider group shots, tellers recording and the Speaker.
7. Reaction shots of a Member are permitted –  
  
when the Member has sought information which is being supplied by a Member having the call; or  
  
when the Member is referred to in debate at the time they are being referred to; and  
  
if the Member is in their designated seat.
8. If an exchange between Members is too fast to permit normal camera switching, then a wider camera shot incorporating those involved in the exchange, including the Chair, is permitted.
9. Coverage of the Galleries and the advisers' seats is not generally permitted except when distinguished visitors are referred to by the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker. In this case, the camera may focus briefly on that section of the Gallery where the distinguished visitors are located.
10. In the event of unparliamentary behaviour or disturbance by strangers in the Gallery, the camera is to focus on the Chair or a slightly wider angle shot of the Chamber which incorporates the Chair but which does not show the offending incident.
11. No split-screen shots shall be permitted or broadcast.
12. No close-up shots of Members' papers shall be permitted.
13. Instructions from the Speaker, or the Speaker's delegate, in relation to the operation of the sound and vision equipment in the Queensland Parliament, shall be observed.

**PENALTIES**

Breaches of any of the guidelines in this document shall be considered and determined by the Speaker.

Penalties for breaches will also be determined by the Speaker.

The following are examples of penalties that may be instituted against the individual media outlet/s for non-compliance with any matter in this document –

- (i) first breach – access to the broadcast service withdrawn for three sitting days;
- (ii) second breach – access to the broadcast service withdrawn for six sitting days;
- (iii) such other penalty as is agreed by the Speaker.

