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**CROATIA NATIONAL TEAM @ FIFA WORLD CUP 2026**

# MEDIA GUIDE

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## KEY DATES

- 18. 5. Announcement of the preliminary squad list for the FIFA World Cup 2026
- 25. 5. National team gathering in Zagreb and departure to Rijeka for the training camp
- 25. 5. – 6. 6. Training camp in Rijeka
- 1. 6. u 23:59 Deadline for announcing the final squad list for the FIFA World Cup 2026
- 6. 6. Departure to Zagreb (overnight stay ahead of the match in Varaždin)
- 9. 6. Charter flight from Zagreb to Washington and transfer to the base camp in Alexandria

## MATCH SCHEDULE

- 2. 6. Friendly Match: Croatia vs Belgium (Rijeka)
- 7. 6. Friendly Match: Croatia vs Slovenia (Varaždin)
- 17. 6. FIFA World Cup 2026: England vs Croatia (Dallas)
- 23. 6. FIFA World Cup 2026: Panama vs Croatia (Toronto)
- 27. 6. FIFA World Cup 2026: Croatia vs Ghana (Philadelphia)

## IMPORTANT LOCATIONS

- Rijeka Team hotel: Hilton Rijeka Costabella  
Training camp and media activities: HNK Rijeka Stadium
- Zagreb Team hotel: Sheraton
- Alexandria Team hotel: AKA Alexandria  
Training camp and media activities: Episcopal High School





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## ACCREDITATION PASSES

### Friendly matches

Accreditation deadlines: Croatia vs Belgium (by 22 May at 12:00)  
Croatia vs Slovenia (by 22 May at 12:00)

Additional information: <https://hns.family/en/media/information/>

### Training camp in Rijeka

Accreditation deadline: By 20 May at 12:00

Media activities of the Croatian national team during the training camp in Rijeka will take place at the HNK Rijeka Stadium (Rujevica). Access to press conferences and training sessions will be granted exclusively to persons holding a valid training camp accreditation, which can be requested by sending an email to [marko.cvijanovic@hns.family](mailto:marko.cvijanovic@hns.family) by 20 May at 12:00.

After this deadline, no applications will be accepted. All applications, submitted either from the official media outlet email address or on official company letterhead, must include:

1. Full name (identical to the passport)
2. Contact email address
3. Role within the media organisation (journalist, photographer, cameraman...)
4. Copy of press card and examples of recently published work related to the FIFA World Cup 2026\*

\* Required for international media representatives who have not previously covered the Croatian national team.

Notifications regarding approved or rejected applications, together with accreditation pick-up details, will be sent by 22 May at 20:00. The training camp accreditation is NOT valid for friendly matches or access to the team hotel.

### World Cup 2026 and Access to the Training Camp

Accreditation deadline for HNS accreditations: By 22 May at 12:00

Media activities of the Croatian national team before and during the FIFA World Cup 2026 will take place at the training camp located at Episcopal High School, where the HNS media centre will also be based. Access to the media centre and training grounds will be granted exclusively to persons holding one of the following two types of accreditation pass:

1. Official FIFA accreditation for the FIFA World Cup 2026, or
2. Accreditation issued by HNS





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## The application deadline for FIFA accreditations expired on 30 March 2026.

All media representatives without FIFA accreditation may apply for HNS accreditation by sending an email to [tomislav.pacak@hns.family](mailto:tomislav.pacak@hns.family) no later than 22 May at 12:00. After this deadline, no applications will be accepted.

***Note:** Media representatives with approved FIFA accreditation who will not be able to collect their FIFA accreditation before their first arrival at the base camp must also apply for HNS accreditation in order to gain access to the training centre.*

All applications must include:

1. Full name (identical to the passport)
2. Passport-style photograph
3. Contact email address
4. Role within the media organisation (journalist, photographer, cameraman, technician)
5. Copy of press card and examples of recently published work related to the FIFA World Cup 2026\*

\* Required for international media representatives who have not previously covered the Croatian national team.

HNS accreditation is **NOT** an accreditation for the FIFA World Cup 2026 and therefore does NOT grant access to:

1. Official MD-1 training sessions (unless such a training session takes place in Alexandria)
2. FIFA media centres and fan zones
3. Match stadiums

Neither FIFA nor HNS accreditations grant access to:

1. Closed training sessions or parts of training sessions closed to the media
2. The team hotel in Alexandria or in host cities

HNS reserves the right to revoke a media representative's HNS accreditation pass if they fail to comply with HNS rules and guidelines. Media representatives are required to wear their accreditation, issued either by FIFA or HNS, visibly at all times while present at the training ground and media centre and, if requested, present an identification document to HNS, FIFA or security personnel.

Notifications regarding approved or rejected applications will be sent by 3 June at 20:00 CET, while accreditations will be issued from 10 June at the Episcopal High School training centre.





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## **MEDIA OPERATIONS**

Participation in media activities at Croatia's camp in Alexandria will be granted only to media representatives holding valid FIFA or HNS accreditations.

The Croatian national team will organise daily press conferences featuring players, the head coach and/or members of the coaching staff. Press conferences will be organised exclusively in the traditional in-person format, without the possibility of virtual participation.

Players and coaching staff members will answer all questions exclusively in Croatian, while questions from international media representatives may be asked in English. Answers given by players/head coach to questions from international media representatives will be translated into English by the team spokesperson. The HNS media centre will open two hours before the start of training sessions and close one hour after the end of training sessions. Croatia national team training sessions will be open to media representatives for the first 15 minutes, unless otherwise specified in the schedule or communicated through official communication channels. All official MD-1 and matchday press conferences are organised by FIFA.

### **WhatsApp Community for the FIFA World Cup 2026**

For the purposes of the FIFA World Cup 2026, HNS has created a WhatsApp community for media representatives through which we will communicate all important information regarding media activities and key team updates.

We invite all interested media representatives, both Croatian and international, to join the community by clicking the following link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/H0nBK3bj3b59QXaVupAOeo>

Or by scanning the following QR code:





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Within the main group, "Announcements", only the group administrators will post messages, exclusively in English. Through this group, we will share all important information regarding the national team and its media activity schedule during the team's stay at the FIFA World Cup.

Within the group "Pripreme / Training Camp Rijeka", we will share updates and media activities related to the team's training camp in Rijeka. Please join this group if such information is relevant to you. Communication within this group will be conducted in Croatian.

A separate group will also be organised exclusively for Croatian media representatives covering the national team on-site in the USA, Canada and potentially Mexico.

We invite all journalists, photographers and editors to join this community, as it will serve as the main communication channel during the FIFA World Cup.

### One-on-One Interviews

Requests for one-on-one interviews may be sent to: [tomislav.pacak@hns.family](mailto:tomislav.pacak@hns.family)

Acceptance of interview requests is solely at the discretion of the player or staff member concerned. Interviews may be conducted in person, by telephone or in written form.

When submitting an interview request, please request no more than two players and provide the approximate interview topics, planned publication date, name of the author and the intended media placement:

**Print and online media:** placement within the newspaper/website and approximate article length

**TV and radio:** programme in which the interview would be broadcast and the expected duration of the segment

All interviews intended for print or online media must go through the approval process of the HNS Communications Department.

**Please note that opportunities for one-on-one interviews will be rare and very limited due to a high number of media obligations during the tournament and the players' daily availability through official media activities.**

### FIFA WORLD CUP 2026

FIFA will inform all accredited media representatives about the detailed organisation of official media activities during the FIFA World Cup 2026 (MD-1 and matchday activities).

On MD-1, the Croatian national team will hold traditional press conferences featuring the head coach and one player at the match venue stadium.





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## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **Photo and video content**

The use of photographs or video content belonging to the Croatian Football Federation (HNS) from the official website or HNS social media channels is not permitted. Exceptions apply to photographs and/or video materials distributed directly by HNS via the mailing list, primarily in relation to events where access for other camera crews is not permitted.

### **Social Media**

Content published on HNS social media channels may not be downloaded, screenshotted or otherwise used without authorisation. However, embedding such content within websites is permitted.

### **Articles**

Articles published on the HNS website may be republished provided that HNS is credited as the source, with a direct link to the original content on hns.family (or hns.team), while respecting the integrity of the original content.

### **Commercial Use**

No HNS material may be used for any commercial purposes, such as placing advertisements before, during or after video broadcasts, producing posters and similar materials. This also includes the prohibition of placing individual media outlet logos on HNS material.

The same applies to all content recorded during national team media activities (press conferences, training sessions), which may not be used for any commercial purposes.

Live broadcasting of media activities at the national team camp is permitted, including press conferences and open training sessions.

HNS reserves the right to amend these terms of use, of which you will be informed through the HNS mailing list.

### **FIFA Content**

Through the "Media Hub", FIFA will make audio-visual materials available to media representatives with access to the platform, subject to the Rules and Terms of Use specified therein.





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## **MEDIA SCHEDULE**

During May, the Croatian Football Federation will publish the schedule of national team media activities, which will be shared with media representatives through the WhatsApp community and the HNS mailing list.

The media activity schedule is subject to change, and you will be informed of any updates in a timely manner via the WhatsApp community and the HNS website (Media – Documents section).

