



## 2018-2019 Outback Bowl “Bowl Week” Media Itinerary (As of 11-13-18)

Following is a preliminary Media Itinerary for bowl week. We will update this by December 21st with more detailed team practice schedules and availability. Itineraries will also be available, along with directions to each activity, in the Media Center at the **Holiday Inn Westshore Hotel** when you pick up your credentials and on the **Outback Bowl Media App**. Any updates to itinerary will also be posted daily in Media Center. You may also sign up for text alerts when you apply for credentials so you will receive notifications of schedule changes during bowl week. **NOTE: ALL PRACTICES CLOSED TO PUBLIC**

### Wednesday, December 26

**SEC TEAM ARRIVAL – TBD, *Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay*.** Photo Opportunity of team arriving by bus at the hotel.

**BIG TEN TEAM ARRIVAL – TBD, *Westin Tampa Waterside Harbour Island Hotel*.** Photo Opportunity of team arriving by bus at hotel.

**BIG TEN TEAM PRACTICE – TBD - *University of Tampa*.** Photo/video and interview opportunities to be set by teams.

**SEC TEAM PRACTICE – TBD. – *Tampa Jesuit High School*.** Photo/video and interview opportunities to be set by teams.

**CREDENTIAL PICKUP BEGINS - 3:00 P.M., *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel- King Palm Room*.** Media may pickup game day credentials in the Media Center from 3:00 -5:30 PM today or 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM Dec. 27 – 31.

**MEDIA HOSPITALITY ROOM OPENS - 6:00 P.M. *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel*.**  
The hospitality room will be open each afternoon and evening throughout bowl week. For hours each day see final page of itinerary.

## Thursday, December 27

**CREDENTIAL PICKUP 8:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.,** *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel- King Palm Room.*

**MEDIA HOSPITALITY ROOM – Noon - Midnight** *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel – Grand Palm Room.*

**BIG TEN TEAM PRACTICE – TBD -** *University of Tampa. Photo/video and interview opportunities to be set by teams.*

**SEC TEAM PRACTICE – TBD –** *Tampa Jesuit High School. Photo/video and interview opportunities to be set by teams.*

**BONEFISH GRILL LADIES LUNCHEON - 12:00 - 2:00 P.M.** *Bonefish Grill Restaurant.*  
Wives and guests of school coaches and administrators will be treated to a special lunch at Bonefish Grill in Carrollwood. **(Photo Opportunity only)**

### **TEAM NIGHT AT TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING – 7:30 P.M.**

Both teams will be guests of the 2004 Stanley Cup Champions and 2015 finalists at the Amalie Arena in downtown Tampa. Some selected players from each team will participate in a special activity between periods. Media wanting credentials should contact the Bill Wickett in the Lightning PR office directly.

## Friday, December 28

**CREDENTIAL PICKUP 8:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.,** *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel- King Palm Room.*

**MEDIA HOSPITALITY ROOM – Noon - Midnight** *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel – Grand Palm Room.*

**BIG TEN TEAM PRACTICE – TBD -** *University of Tampa. Photo/video and interview opportunities to be set by teams.*

**SEC TEAM PRACTICE - TBD. –** *Tampa Jesuit High School. Photo/video and interview opportunities to be set by teams.*

**TEAM HOSPITAL VISIT – 2:00-3:00 P.M. –** *Tampa General Hospital.* Players from both college teams will visit Children’s wing of Tampa General Hospital. **Photo Opportunity only.**

As you take small bridge onto Davis Island bear left to Tampa General Hospital. You can either park in Visitors parking garage, or bear left at fork and then take a sharp left at first street. You will see “Main Entrance” on your right. A limited number of spaces will be coned off for media along the road and in the drop-off circle. If these are filled ask security for directions to the closest alternate parking. Meet just outside entrance.

(December 28<sup>th</sup> Continued)

**TEAM NIGHT AT SPLITSVILLE – 6:00 – 8:30 P.M.** Players from both teams and media will enjoy food & bowling and other games at Splitsville at Sparkman Wharf. Media invited. **Photo opportunity.**

## Saturday, December 29

**CREDENTIAL PICKUP 8:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.,** *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel- King Palm Room.*

**MEDIA HOSPITALITY ROOM – 11:30 A.M. - Midnight** *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel – Grand Palm Room.*

**BIG TEN TEAM PRACTICE – TBD** - University of Tampa. *Photo/video and interview opportunities to be set by teams.*

**SEC TEAM PRACTICE – TBD – Tampa Jesuit High School.** *Photo/video and interview opportunities to be set by teams.*

**HEAD COACHES JOINT NEWS CONFERENCE – 12:00 Noon – Holiday Inn Westshore (ballroom).** No players available. Joint news conference with both head coaches. Lunch will be available for attending media beginning at 11:30 A.M..

**BUSCH GARDENS TEAM OUTING PHOTO OPPORTUNITY - 3:00 -4:30 P.M. - Great Photo/video and interview opportunities** at the theme park. Media requests **must** be cleared through the Bowl PR Director (Mike Schulze) or Busch Gardens PR Dept. (Contact Bowl PR Office for details).

**Media Deadlines:** Contact Nick Fusco [nick.fusco@BuschGardens.com](mailto:nick.fusco@BuschGardens.com) by **December 22nd** for all Busch Gardens special media requests such as live remotes.

**Comp Ticket Policy:** To request comp tickets, requests must include a scanned image of a current business card or station ID and should be e-mailed to [BGTPublic.Relations@buschgardens.com](mailto:BGTPublic.Relations@buschgardens.com) no later than **December 19th**. If approved, Busch Gardens will extend the courtesy of two (2) complimentary tickets. Qualifying news media must accompany party to the park.

**Day of Event:** Complimentary parking will be provided to the media who submitted an RSVP to cover the team outing. Media in attendance will need to use the **Drop off/Bus/Taxi entrance** off of McKinley Blvd. and park representatives will direct you to parking when you present your Outback Bowl Bowl Week Media Badge or own media credentials. After parking, media will need to enter the park through the “**Nairobi Gate**” which is to the right of the main ticket booths and tram drop off. *Note: media will not be able to cover anything prior to 3:00 p.m.* At that time, park staff will escort media to photo and interview opportunities as players interact with some of the park’s exotic animals and ride a coaster. At the conclusion of the Photo Op activity, TV crews will be escorted in groups to shoot players enjoying other areas of the park, while reporters and still photographers will be allowed to cover fans and players on their own. Please note however: unescorted print reporters and photographers must stay in normal guest/visitor areas and will not have special access to closed areas.

## Sunday, December 30

**CREDENTIAL PICKUP 8:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.**, *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel- King Palm Room.*

**MEDIA HOSPITALITY ROOM – Noon - Midnight** *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel – Grand Palm Room.*

**BIG TEN TEAM PRACTICE – TBD – University of Tampa.**  
*Photo/video opportunities to be set by teams. No interviews (see Beach Day)*

**SEC TEAM PRACTICE – TBD – Tampa Jesuit High School.** *Photo/video and interview opportunities to be set by teams. No interviews (see Beach Day)*

**CLEARWATER BEACH DAY - 11:00 - 4:00 P.M.** *Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort.*  
**Great photo opportunities of fans, players & coaches enjoying gulf beaches.** *(Visuals include the college marching bands & cheerleaders performing on the beach, skydivers, volleyball, cheerleader tug-o-war, and key lime pie eating contest among fans).* **Note: parking is somewhat limited. Plan on getting there well in advance. Teams usually arrive about 1:00 PM. (A separate media info packet on this event is available at the media hotel or by request)**

**METLIFE / AUDI GRIDIRON GALA – 7:00 – 10:00 PM**  
*Marriott Waterside Hotel.* A VIP reception/party for the school administrators, coaches and bowl supporters. About 1,600 people expected. **Photo opportunities only.**

## Monday, December 31

**CREDENTIAL PICKUP 8:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.**, *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel- King Palm Room.*

**MEDIA HOSPITALITY ROOM – Noon – 1:00 A.M.** *Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore Hotel – Grand Palm Room.*

**TEAM WALKTHRUS AT STADIUM – TBD; (Closed to Media)**

**BATTLE OF THE BANDS – TBD; Busch Gardens.**  
Both college bands will perform at Busch Gardens. **Photo opportunity only of performance.** Contact Busch Gardens PR office for credentials.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARADE 5:30 - 8:00 P.M.** in *Ybor City.* **Great photo and entertainment opportunity** in Tampa's Historic Latin district. A parade including both college bands, about 15 high school bands and a number of floats, followed by a pep rally. *(Parade 5:30 P.M. down 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. from 20<sup>th</sup> St. to 14<sup>th</sup> St.; Pep Rally 7:00 P.M. at intersection of 16<sup>th</sup> St. and 7<sup>th</sup> Ave.)* TV crews doing live remotes can contact Bowl PR director Mike Schulze in advance for best TV truck parking options.

**Tuesday, January 1, 2019**

**PUBLIC PRE-GAME BOWL BASH 9:00AM - 11:30AM**

Just south of stadium, between Gates C & D along Tampa Bay Blvd. *Good photo opportunity of fans tailgating.* Visuals include appearances by college bands & cheerleaders, live band on stage, numerous interactive displays by bowl sponsors.

**OUTBACK BOWL 2019 -12:00 PM.** Credentials arranged in advance through the Outback Bowl PR Director (Mike Schulze).

**Shuttle van** from the media hotel will be available leaving hotel at 8AM, 9AM and 10 AM. Media must sign up in advance for shuttle (*No later than noon on Dec. 31*).

*Lunch will be available to working media at stadium beginning at 11:00 AM until kickoff.*

*Credentials not picked up in advance of game day will be waiting at the press gate beginning at 8:00 AM at southwest corner of stadium in-between gate D and TV compound.* Post game interviews will be held in designated media interview rooms in tunnel D near press gate.

**Locker rooms will be closed to media.** Bowl and School PR directors will be located in press box during game.

**POST-GAME MEDIA PARTY - 7:00 PM - midnight.** *Holiday Inn Media Hospitality Suite (1st floor).* Suite opens at 6:30 PM; Food, open bar and snacks provided as you watch the other bowl games. Open til midnight.

## **Media Hospitality Suite**

The Outback Bowl will operate a staffed Media Hospitality Suite for working media (and spouses traveling with you), offering refreshments (full bar, beer, soda, bottled water, juice) & snacks daily in the Holiday Inn Hotel **Grand Palm Room** (first floor behind registration desk) during the following days & times:

<i>Wednesday,</i>	<i>December 26</i>	<i>6:00 P.M. – 11:00 P.M.</i>
<i>Thursday,</i>	<i>December 27</i>	<i>noon - 11:00 P.M.</i>
<i>Friday,</i>	<i>December 28</i>	<i>noon. – midnight (Hors D 'Oeuvres @7:00 p.m.)</i>
<i>Saturday,</i>	<i>December 29</i>	<i>11:30 AM - midnight (Hors D 'Oeuvres @7:00 p.m.)</i>
<i>Sunday,</i>	<i>December 30</i>	<i>noon - midnight (Hors D 'Oeuvres @7:00 p.m.)</i>
<i>Monday,</i>	<i>December 31</i>	<i>noon - 1:00 A.M. (Hors D 'Oeuvres @7:00 p.m.)</i>
<i>Tuesday,</i>	<i>January 1</i>	<i>6:30 P.M. – midnight (Post-Game Party @7:00p.m.)</i>

The hospitality room also offers hot & cold hors d'oeuvres most nights and is a great place to gather during your down time and watch the other bowl games or NFL games on our large TVs. Our host, *John James*, is in his 33rd year hosting our media and will also help you with directions, recommendations on where to eat, etc. Visitor guides will also be available.