

**NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP  
STROBE LIGHT POLICIES**

A maximum of three sets of strobe lights may be installed for media agencies requiring immediate news coverage. The placement of the units must be approved in advance by the NCAA.

The purpose of this policy is to provide high-quality still photographic coverage for media agencies in deadline situations, without seriously affecting the quality of ESPN's telecasts of the games.

1. For strobe use, the following priority order has been adopted:
  - a. Sports Illustrated.
  - b. The Sporting News and NCAA Photos. These media agencies shall pool one set of strobe lights unless Priority "a" or "c" is not enacted.
  - c. A single pool unit for all other media agencies may be installed pending the approval by the NCAA.

Should Sports Illustrated, The Sporting News or NCAA Photos elect not to install strobe units, the unused priority may be transferred to another agency, provided the policies in No. 2 are observed. The Associated Press, Reuters and USA Today can request to join the strobe pool at individual sites, and their placement on a pool set will be determined by the number of requests received.

The host media coordinator will coordinate the installation of strobe units at each site and identify those photographers who will use the strobes. A fee may be assessed by the host media coordinator to cover installation, power, facility fees and equipment costs on a shared basis among users.

No single agency may install more than one set of strobes, regardless of the number of units that will be utilized.

2. The following procedures govern the placement of strobe units:
  - a. Strobe tests will not be conducted unless requested by an ESPN producer assigned to the site. A request for a strobe light test must be made by ESPN at the sports information contacts meeting. If requested, the test will be conducted 15 minutes following the last team practice on first practice day to test the placement of the strobes and determine if the strobes have a negative impact on the telecast. The women's basketball committee representative has the final authority to determine if adjustments in the placement or angle of the units must be altered. After approval of the strobes, photographers and technicians shall not make changes to the strobes' power output or locations.
  - b. Strobes may be used, if approved by the women's basketball committee representative after the foregoing test. Only representatives of the NCAA or the women's basketball committee can give the order that the strobes be turned off.
  - c. All hanging or installed strobes must be placed as close to the playing court as possible, depending upon the physical structure of the facility, near the corners of the playing court, but not behind the baskets. If the physical structure of an facility prevents a media agency from meeting these specifications, the agency may petition the Division I Women's Basketball Committee for an exception. If, because of the configuration of the facility and the catwalks, an

adjustment of the placement is necessary, a variation must be approved by the NCAA or Division I Women's Basketball Committee.

- d. No hand-held strobe lights will be used during the game, but can be used during the awards ceremony and postgame celebration.
  - e. No strobes may be directed toward a television lens.
  - f. The strobe lights for a conventional (non-dome) facility must not exceed 2,400 watt-seconds for each power pack, and the flash duration should be less than 1/1,000 second. A typical approved installation would consist of four power packs with four-tube heads on each pack. In the instance of unusually high-ceilinged buildings or domes, additional power packs and strobe heads may be used, as long as they are producing an equivalent amount of light on the court and the flash duration meets the specified criteria.
3. Strobe use is intended for the coverage of game action by media involved in news coverage of the championship. Strobe use is not permitted by photographers who have been assigned feature profiles for current or future publication, such as books or preview magazines (e.g., photograph(s) of individual players, coaches or fans); or who are shooting for campus media, facilities or host committees.