

2017 BAHAMAS BOWL MEDIA INFORMATION

BAHAMAS BOWL COMMUNICATIONS STAFF: Your media hosts for the 2017 Bahamas Bowl are:

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE (Atlantis - Minos/Neptune Room): 242-445-1724

Chris Pika, Director of Communications
(US Cell: 678-908-4853)

Marcus Dittmer, Communications Staff

Jay Garneau, Communications Staff

Tim Glon, Communications Staff

Dan Goldberger, Communications Staff

Ben Solomon, ESPN Events Photographer

Kevin Kemp, Videographer - Bahamas Ministry of Tourism



THOMAS A. ROBINSON NATIONAL STADIUM PRESS TRIBUNE GAMEDAY PHONE: 242-326-7674

We are committed to help you have a great experience at the 2017 Bahamas Bowl. To that end, we will provide the following to the media.

MEDIA SITE: All press releases, media guides/postseason guides and releases for the participating institutions and the bowl are available in PDF format at www.bahamasbowl.com/media. Media are encouraged to download digital copies to reduce paper use. The bowl also has a Dropbox account with additional team info.

MEDIA GUIDES/RELEASES: Media guides/postseason guides & releases for the participating institutions and the bowl will be available at both the Atlantis Media Information Center & gameday at Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium.

QUOTES: Quotes of all media availabilities during bowl week will be distributed in the Media Information Center and online at www.bahamasbowl.com/media.

PRESS CONFERENCE VIDEO: Video of the **December 1** team announcement press conference, the pre-bowl press conference **December 21** and both postgame press conferences will be available via www.bahamasbowl.com/media and the bowl's **YouTube** channel for media back in the United States unable to make the trip to the Bahamas.

MEDIA CREDENTIALS: All media attending the Popeyes Bahamas Bowl must apply for MEDIA/PHOTO credentials through the following web site: sportssystem.com/bahamasbowl. No exceptions.

Once the credential request is processed, **Chris Pika**, the Bowl's Communications Director (chris.pika@bahamasbowl.com), will forward a confirmation if the request is approved. Conference and/or individual school media badges will not be accepted as valid credentials.

MEDIA/PHOTO credentials will not be mailed in advance, but will be available for pickup at the Bahamas Bowl Media Center located at the Atlantis Bahamas beginning **Monday, Dec. 18, 2017**. Working media members who have not picked up their credentials by **Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017** at 5:00 p.m. may do so on game day at the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium Media Will-Call located just inside the Media Center in the Southwest corner of the stadium.

LOCKER ROOM/PRACTICE INTERVIEW POLICY: Throughout bowl week, working press must adhere to the policies established by each school regarding access to student-athletes and coaches. Please contact a member of each institution's media relations/athletic communications staff for team policies.

2017 BAHAMAS BOWL MEDIA INFORMATION

MEDIA CREDENTIAL DISTRIBUTION & WORKROOM: The Bahamas Bowl Media Information Center will be located at Atlantis – Minos/Neptune (located in the Convention Center). Hours of operation are as follows:

- **Monday, Dec. 18.....9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Lite fare/snacks available Noon-2 p.m.)**
- **Tuesday, Dec. 199:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Lite fare/snacks available Noon-2 p.m.)**
- **Wednesday, Dec. 209:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Lite fare/snacks available Noon-2 p.m.)**
- **Thursday, Dec. 21.....2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Lite fare/snacks available 2:30-4:30 p.m.)**

(NOTE: Credentials will also be available for pickup at the December 21 Press Conference at Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium from 10:00-11 :00 a.m. prior to the start of the press conference)

Both press and photo credentials and other information must be picked up at the Bahamas Bowl Media Center during hours of operation.

In order to serve the media in an efficient manner, the Media Information Center is equipped with a copier. Drinks and snacks will be available. There will be workstations available and ample electrical power for computers and other electrical equipment. Internet service will be available. **Snacks & refreshments will be available each afternoon at times listed above.**

MEDIA HOSPITALITY SUITE: Media hospitality will be located at Atlantis (**Coral Towers 8-237**). Drinks & snacks will be provided for credentialed media. Hours of operation are **9 p.m.-Midnight from Dec. 18-22.**

MEDIA HOTEL/TRANSPORTATION: The Atlantis Bahamas is the official media hotel of the Bahamas Bowl. All media must make their requests for rooms through the online media credentialing process. There are an extremely limited number of media rooms at the Atlantis, and beat writers who staff their team’s games during the 2017 season will have priority in the Atlantis media block.

The Bahamas Bowl recommends using taxis or tour companies to travel throughout Nassau. All driving in the Bahamas is done from the left-hand side of the road.

The Bahamas Bowl will provide transportation for traveling U.S. media representatives to key events: the **Ranfurly Homes for Children** visit and the **Youth Football Clinic** on **December 20** (leave for Ranfurly at 1:00 p.m. and return from the clinic to Atlantis at 4:30 p.m.), the **Bahamas Bowl Press Conference** on **December 21** at Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium (leave for stadium at 9:45 a.m. and return to Atlantis at 1:00 p.m.) and the **2017 Bahamas Bowl** on **December 22** (leave for stadium at 8:30 a.m. and return to Atlantis 3 hours after the conclusion of the game - approximately 7:00 p.m.). **Media buses will be staged at the Atlantis (Coral Towers lobby).** All media members must show their credentials in order to use the transportation service.

GAMEDAY MEDIA TRIBUNE/MEDIA BOOTHS/MEDIA CENTER: Entrance into the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium Media Tribune and Media Center is by credential only for the news media and communications staff. A limited number of telephones (restricted long distance) and email/copy service will be available to the working press.

The media tribune, press booths and media center will be open to the media at 9:00 a.m. Press releases, statistics, media guides and flip cards will be available. A pregame meal will be served only to accredited media approximately two hours prior to kickoff (10:30 a.m.) in the Media Center, located in the Southwest corner of the stadium below the media tribune. Beverages and snacks will be available throughout the game.

2017 BAHAMAS BOWL MEDIA INFORMATION

The Media Tribune at Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium is outside and under cover (similar to auxiliary press setups at Super Bowls and other major sporting events). Power, wireless and wired internet will be available to each individual seated in the media tribune. Booths for coaches, ESPN, radio networks and instant replay are located at the top of the Western Grandstand in the Media Booths. Seat and booth assignments will be assigned by the bowl.

The media workroom at Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium will remain open until **three hours** after the conclusion of the game. The media bus will leave the stadium heading back to Atlantis Coral Towers at **approximately 7:00 p.m.**

GAMEDAY MEDIA SERVICES: Flip cards, stats and game notes will be available prior to the start of the Bahamas Bowl in the main press areas. Complete box scores and play-by-play will be distributed to the media at the end of each quarter. Coaches and student-athlete quotes will be distributed shortly after the conclusion of the press conferences. If you need a box score emailed to your news organization, make your request to a member of the Communications staff.

INTERNET ACCESS: Wireless and wired access will be available to the media in Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium. The wireless access network and password will be distributed to the media on gameday at the stadium.

LIVE STATISTICS: The Bahamas Bowl has contracted with StatBroadcast to provide instant stats information during the bowl to media in attendance in Nassau and back in the United States. To access the stat feed, point your browser to **bahamas.statbroadcast.com**.

PHOTOGRAPHERS/VIDEO: Bahamas Bowl photo credentials must be visible at all times. Bowl organizers will adhere to the NCAA's sideline control policy, which states that:

Sideline photographers are restricted outside the 25-yard lines in the areas designated and are reminded to stay behind the dotted restraining line around the field. No media personnel, including journalists, radio and television personnel or their equipment, shall be in the team area or coaching box.

POSTGAME INTERVIEW POLICY: Following a 10-minute cooling-off period, postgame interviews will take place in the Media Center in the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium. Only individuals displaying proper credentials will be permitted in the interview area. Security will be posted in these locations and will not allow anyone to obstruct entrances. The runner-up head coach and two student-athletes will go first, followed by the winning institution's head coach and three student-athletes. The game's Offensive and Defensive Players of the Game are required to attend as part of their team's student-athlete contingent. The Prime Minister's Trophy will be presented to the championship team along with awards to the offensive and defensive players of the game on field immediately following the game.

The cooling-off period for the runner-up team begins when the head coach enters the locker room immediately after the game. The winning head coach and student-athletes must proceed directly from the field to the interview room after the postgame trophy presentation unless requested for a short interview (not to exceed four minutes) by ESPN. Both teams' locker rooms are closed to the media.

Regardless of any personal regular-season radio or television contracts, the coach is first obligated to the entire media staffing the Bahamas Bowl and must report to the interview room immediately after the 10-minute cooling off period. The coach cannot delay a postgame interview with the covering media to conduct a program for a single radio, newspaper, or television reporter unless requested to grant a short interview (not to exceed four minutes) by ESPN. After fulfilling the commitment to the entire media covering the game, the coach and student-athletes may participate in special interviews.

2017 BAHAMAS BOWL MEDIA SCHEDULE

Members of the media with Bahamas Bowl credentials will be invited and encouraged to cover the following events:

Bahamas Bowl Team Announcement Press Conference

Friday, Dec. 1 Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Bahamas Bowl Team Welcome Reception

Monday, Dec. 18 Atlantis – Royal Towers Lower Main Lobby 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
(Cafe at the Great Hall of Waters)

(Limited number of media will be permitted to attend for a short period - **NOTE:** there is **no food** available for media at this event. Please contact Chris Pika for access.)

Bahamas Bowl Player Beach Bash and Dinner

Tuesday, Dec. 19..... Atlantis – Lagoon & West Beach 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

(Limited number of media will be permitted to attend for a short period - **NOTE:** there is **no food** available for media at this event. Please contact Chris Pika for access.)

Community Relations Visit

Wednesday, Dec. 20 Ranfurly Homes for Children..... 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Bus for U.S. Media leaves Atlantis Coral Towers lobby at 1:00 p.m.

(Media encouraged to attend. Please contact Chris Pika at 678-908-4853 for access.)

Youth Football Clinic

Wednesday, Dec. 20 Robinson Stadium Practice Field 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Bus for U.S. Media leaves from Robinson Stadium Practice Field to Atlantis Coral Towers lobby at 4:30 p.m.

(Media encouraged to attend. Please contact Chris Pika at 678-908-4853 for access.)

Bahamas Bowl Press Conference

Thursday, Dec. 21 Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium Media Center 11:00 a.m. – Noon

All Bahamas Bowl credentialed media encouraged to attend. Ohio's head coach and two student-athletes will be available to the media from 11:00-11:30 a.m. and UAB's head coach and two student-athletes will be available to the media from 11:30 a.m.-Noon. A photo opportunity with the two head coaches and the championship trophy will take place at 11:30 a.m. Contact Chris Pika at 678-908-4853 for info.

Bus for U.S. Media leaves Atlantis Coral Towers lobby at 9:45 a.m. and leaves from TARNs to Atlantis Coral Towers lobby at 1 p.m.

2017 Bahamas Bowl

Friday, Dec. 22 Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium 12:30 p.m.

Only Bahamas Bowl credentialed media may attend the game/postgame press conferences. The Prime Minister's Trophy & the Offensive & Defensive Player of the Game awards will be presented immediately following the game.

Bus for U.S. Media leaves Atlantis Coral Towers lobby at 8:30 a.m. and leaves from TARNs to Atlantis Coral Towers lobby at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Bahamas Bowl Postgame Press Conference

Friday, Dec. 22 Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium Media Center Following Game

Postgame press conferences will begin approximately 10 minutes after the conclusion of the game. The runner-up head coach and two student-athletes will go first, followed by winning team's head coach and three student-athletes. The game's Offensive and Defensive Players of the Game are required to attend as part of their team's contingent.

Note: A complete list of team activities will be available at the Bahamas Bowl Media Center. While every activity will not be open to the media, every effort will be made to assist media in covering the teams during bowl week and on game day. For all event information listed above, please contact Chris Pika, Director of Communications at 678-908-4853 or chris.pika@bahamasbowl.com.

2017 BAHAMAS BOWL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Schedule correct as of **December 15, 2017 (Schedule subject to change)**

MONDAY, DEC. 18

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Media Center, Credentials & HospitalityAtlantis – Minos/Neptune
 11:00 a.m.-Noon Ohio Airport Arrival Lynden Pindling International Airport
 3:00-4:00 p.m..... UAB Airport Arrival Lynden Pindling International Airport
 Noon Ohio Hotel Arrival Atlantis - Royal Towers
 4:00 p.m. UAB Airport Arrival Atlantis - Royal Towers
 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Team Welcome ReceptionAtlantis – Royal Towers Lower Main Lobby
 (Café at Great Hall of Waters)
(Limited media availabilty - contact Chris Pika to cover event)

9:00 p.m.-Midnight..... Media Hospitality Atlantis - Coral Towers (8-237)

TUESDAY, DEC. 19

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Media Center, Credentials & HospitalityAtlantis – Minos/Neptune
 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. Ohio Practice..... Roscow A.L. Davies Field
 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. UAB PracticeRobinson Stadium Practice Field
 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Player Beach Bash & Dinner..... Atlantis – Lagoon & West Beach
(Limited media availabilty - contact Chris Pika to cover event)

9:00 p.m.-Midnight..... Media Hospitality Atlantis - Coral Towers (8-237)

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Media Center, Credentials & HospitalityAtlantis – Minos/Neptune
 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. UAB PracticeRobnson Stadium Practice Field
 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. Ohio Practice..... Roscow A.L. Davies Field
 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Community Relations Visit Ranfurly Homes for Children
(Media encouraged to cover with privacy restrictions - contact Chris Pika to cover event)
 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Youth Football ClinicRobinson Stadium Practice Field
(Media encouraged to cover - contact Chris Pika to cover event)

9:00 p.m.-Midnight..... Media Hospitality Atlantis - Coral Towers (8-237)

THURSDAY, DEC. 21

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Ohio Walk-Thru Practice..... Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium
 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. ... Media Credential Pickup Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium
 11:00 a.m. – Noon Bahamas Bowl Press Conferences Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium Media Center
(Ohio 11:00-11:30 am; Coaches photo opportunity with Prime Minister’s Trophy; UAB 11:30-Noon)
(Credentials can also be picked up at TARNs prior to the press conference from 10-11 a.m.)

Noon – 1:00 p.m. UAB Walk-Thru Practice Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Media Center, Credentials & HospitalityAtlantis – Minos/Neptune

5:00 – 5:30 p.m. Joint Team Pep Rally (subject to change) Atlantis - Royal Deck

9:00 p.m.-Midnight..... Media Hospitality Atlantis - Coral Towers (8-237)

FRIDAY, DEC. 22

9:00 a.m. Parking Gates Open Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

9:00 a.m. Media Areas Open Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Media Credential Will-Call Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium Media Center

10:00 a.m. Stadium Gates Open Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. . Tailgate Extravaganza Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium East Parking Lot

12:30 p.m. Bahamas Bowl Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

Immediately Following Game. Postgame Trophy/Awards Presentation .. Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium – Midfield

Immediately Following Game. Postgame Press Conferences Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium Media Center

Postgame + 3 Hours Media Postgame Workroom.....Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium Media Workroom

9:00 p.m.-Midnight..... Media Hospitality Atlantis - Coral Towers (8-237)

NOTE: Media availability to observe practices is subject to the rules of the participating institutions

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE MEDIA

PASSPORTS: The Bahamas Bowl reminds all media that all U.S. citizens coming to the Bowl must have a valid United States Passport for the time of travel. It is possible to secure passports on short notice, but costs will be much higher for the individuals involved and delays in receiving passports are possible during the holiday season. For information on how to obtain a U.S. Passport, visit passports.state.gov. For obtaining an expedited passport in a hurry, visit <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/passports/services/expedited.html>.

UNITED STATES EMBASSY: The United States Embassy in the Bahamas is located at **42 Queen Street** in Nassau. The American Citizen Services Unit stands ready to help American citizens in The Bahamas – and their loved ones – in emergency situations. American citizens overseas, of course, remain subject to the laws of the country they are in. The American Citizens Services Unit can assist in areas, including: illness/injury, lost/stolen U.S. Passport, arrest/detention, victims of crime, etc.

In case of emergencies involving the death, injury, welfare, or arrest of an American citizen in The Bahamas, please call **242-322-1181**, ext. 4406, 4547 or 4584 during business hours, or **242-322-1181 x 9** or **242-357-7004** at all other times. (Please note that the Duty Officer who answers this number will not be able to assist with visa or routine passport matters.) The U.S. Embassy website is nassau.usembassy.gov.

CELL PHONES/INTERNET: The Bahamas Bowl staff reminds media that cell phone roaming rates for voice and data usage in the Bahamas can be extremely high per minute. All participants should check with their cell-phone service provider for pertinent information on current roaming rates. Phones can be used in “Airplane Mode” in the Bahamas (no data usage) in order to use phone cameras, etc. Atlantis Bahamas has wireless internet capability in rooms (free)/some public areas (daily fee if not staying at Atlantis). Calling cards for public phones located in the resort can be purchased at the Atlantis.

CURRENCY: The legal tender is the Bahamian dollar, which is equivalent to the U.S. dollar. U.S. currency is accepted throughout the Bahamas, as are most major credit cards and traveler’s checks. ATMs are located at both Paradise Island and Cable Beach casinos, Rawson Square, major banks and in most hotels.

ELECTRICITY: With standard North American 120-volt/60-cycle AC electrical current, you will be able to operate American laptops, electronics, hairdryers, shavers and other small electrical appliances without adapters.

GETTING AROUND: Taxi service is available from the Atlantis to take you into Nassau to visit tourist areas, restaurants, etc. Shared van rides into Nassau from the Atlantis run \$4 per person, and you will be dropped off in downtown Nassau near the Government House. Unshared rides from downtown Nassau back to the Atlantis are \$15 per person (not including the \$3 bridge toll for taxis to get back to Paradise Island).

Ferry boats (water taxis) can take you between Nassau and Paradise Island while at the same time giving you a waterfront view of Nassau Harbour. Tickets can be purchased at the tour desk at Festival Place and at Woodes Rogers Wharf right next door. Tickets cost \$4 per person (plus a suggested \$1 tip for the storyteller who usually accompanies the ride) and the trip is approximately 10 minutes each way. Ferries leave every half hour on the hour from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

City buses, known locally as “jitneys”, run in downtown Nassau and Cable Beach several times a day. The cost for a one-way ride is \$1.25 per person, and exact change is required. Pay as you exit the bus.

TIPPING: Restaurants and hotels **automatically add 15%** to all food and beverage checks in lieu of gratuity. For exceptional service you may wish to leave something extra. Bellboys, doormen and porters usually receive \$2 per bag. Taxi drivers should be tipped about 15% of the fare.

CUSTOMS: U.S. citizens out of the country for 48 hours are allowed up to \$800 worth of duty-free merchandise. Less than 48 hours, the duty-free exemption is \$200. Limitations include 32 ounces of tobacco for those over 21 and no more than two liters of alcohol. To make traveling easier, consider packing things you’re going to declare separately and keep all your sales receipts.

MEDICAL FACILITIES: Internationally trained doctors are available at the hotels and throughout the Nassau Paradise Island. Two hospitals are fully equipped to respond to emergency medical situations. Princess Margaret Hospital (public) and Doctor’s Hospital (private) are both located in Nassau.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Driving Directions From Lynden Pindling International Airport to the Atlantis Bahamas (11.8 miles):

Go north on US Departures Rd. (0.2 miles), at the roundabout, take first exit onto Windsor Field Rd. (0.4 miles), go through one roundabout (0.4 miles) and stay on Windsor Field Rd., at the next roundabout (0.7 miles), take the first exit to John F. Kennedy Drive and go through two roundabouts, at the third roundabout (4.3 miles), take the first exit onto Prospect Ridge Rd., at the next roundabout (0.8 miles), take the first exit onto West Bay St., continue on West Bay St. (1.9 miles), at the next roundabout, continue on West Bay St. (1.1 miles), turn left onto Marlborough St. (0.1 miles), road becomes Navy Lion Rd. (213 feet), turn right onto Bay St. (1.2 miles), turn left and cross the Sir Sidney Poitier Bridge (0.5 miles), take first right onto Paradise Beach Rd., at the roundabout (0.1 miles), take the first exit and continue (0.2 miles), Atlantis Resort will be on the left.

**Driving Directions From Atlantis Bahamas to Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium/
Robinson Stadium Practice Field (4.6 miles):**

Head east toward Casino Drive (0.2 miles), at the roundabout, take second exit onto Paradise Island Bridge – Southbound Rd., cross bridge (0.5 miles) – road becomes Mackey St., continue on Mackey St. (1.2 miles), turn right on Wulff Rd., continue on Wulff Rd. (1.3 miles), Wulff Rd. becomes Poinciana Dr., continue on Poinciana Dr. (0.5 miles), at the roundabout, take first exit onto Thompson Blvd., continue on Thompson Blvd. (0.7 miles), turn left on Bahamas Games Blvd., continue on Bahamas Games Blvd. (0.2 miles), Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium will be on the left. Robinson Stadium Practice Field is located behind the National Stadium. **NOTE: If taking cab/tour company to National Stadium, have them drop you at Western Grandstand entrance (side of stadium with spires on top of the grandstand). If going to the Practice Field, have them drop you at the Eastern Grandstand entrance of the stadium.**

Driving Directions From Atlantis Bahamas to Roscow A.L. Davies Field (5.2 miles)

Head east toward Casino Drive (0.2 miles), at the roundabout, take second exit onto Paradise Island Bridge – Southbound Rd., cross bridge (0.4 miles) – road becomes Mackey St., continue on Mackey St. (1.2 miles), turn right on Wulff Rd., continue on Wulff Rd. (1.3 miles), Wulff Rd. becomes Poinciana Dr. Continue on Poinciana Dr.(0.5 miles), at the roundabout, take first exit onto Thompson Blvd., continue on Thompson Blvd. (0.4 miles), turn left on Moss St., stay on Moss St. (0.1 miles), turn right and follow road (0.7 miles), at roundabout, take first exit onto Celery Dr., stay on Celery Dr. (0.3 miles), Roscow A.L. Davies Field will be on the left.