



GEORGIA TECH CLEAR BAG POLICY - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why did Georgia Tech Athletic Association adopt this policy?

The Georgia Tech Athletic Association and Georgia Tech Police Department meet regularly to evaluate existing policies, practices and procedures to determine their level of compliance with industry-recognized best practices. This review resulted in a determination that a realignment of the policy was in order to continue to provide for the best fan experience.

This proactive measure will both enhance safety inside and outside of the athletic venues and expedite the security screening process for all fans. The public deserves to be in a safe, secure environment. This is about both safety and improving the overall fan experience.

Are other venues adopting similar policies to limit or restrict bags?

Yes. All National Football League (NFL) stadiums and many NCAA stadiums have adopted a very similar policy in order to provide an additional level of safety for spectators and fans. In addition, many universities have a policy that prohibits bags of any size. These limitations on bag size and style are an enhancement for convenience and safety of our fans.

How does the new policy improve public safety?

Any prohibited bag at the gate will be highly visible and more quickly resolved. Prohibited bags will be turned away. Clear bags are easily and quickly searched and greatly reduce faulty bag searches. It also supports the Department of Homeland Security's "If You See Something, Say Something" campaign.

How does this make it more convenient for patrons?

This will enable us to move patrons through our gates much faster. Staff will be more efficient and effective in checking bags that are brought into athletic venues. There will be less time spent standing in lines at the gates and fans will have more time to get to their seats prior to the event. Shorter lines mean quicker entry and fewer hassles. Fans will also enjoy an improved sense of safety.

How many bags can each person bring into athletic venues?

Each ticketed attendee (including children) is limited to one large clear bag - either a one-gallon clear plastic storage bag or the approximate 12" by 6" by 12" clear bag - plus a small clutch (no larger than 4.5" x 6.5"). The one-gallon clear storage bag is readily available, inexpensive and enables a quick and efficient entry procedure into the stadium. The small clutch allows privacy for small personal items and also is easily searched.

Can fans carry cameras, binoculars, smart phones, tablets, seat cushions, seat backs separately from what they put in a clear bag?

Yes. All of these items can be carried into the athletic venue, either on their own or in a clear plastic storage bag. This is not a restriction on items that fans have been able to bring into the athletic venue previously. It is only a restriction on the type of container used to carry the items.

Are umbrellas allowed to be carried into Bobby Dodd Stadium?

Items such as umbrellas have been prohibited from the stadium and therefore will continue to be prohibited under the revised procedures.

What about bringing blankets and extra jackets/clothing in cold weather?

Fans will be able to bring these items into the athletic venues by tossing them over a shoulder or arm. Items that are folded up will have to be opened up in order to gain entry into the athletic venue.

Are all purses prohibited?

No. Unlike some athletic venues, we are not banning all bags. Small clutch bags (no larger than 4.5" x 6.5"), with or without a handle or strap, are permitted along with either the approximate 12" by 6" by 12" clear tote bag or the one-gallon clear plastic storage bag.

Do I have to put everything I'm carrying into the permissible bags?

No. We are limiting only the type of bags carried into the venue. Therefore, you can carry in your pockets or jacket (keys, makeup, feminine products, comb, phone, wallet, credit cards, etc.) if you choose not to put them in a clear bag or clutch. And you can carry a blanket over your arms, and binoculars and/or camera around your neck or in your hands without the case. You can use the clear bag and clutch to carry other items. You will continue to have the flexibility to bring a wide variety of approved items into the venue. Every member of your family may carry in a permissible bag.

What about diaper bags?

For the safety and security of our fans, we are requesting all items, including baby supplies to be carried in approved clear bags. If there are medical necessities for an alternative bag, fans will be directed to the respective gate supervisor.

If I have special medical equipment I need to have with me at all times, where do I put that?

An exception will be made for medically necessary items after proper inspection by the respective gate supervisor.

Will this policy affect the ability of fans to tailgate? Are there limitations on tailgating items?

No. Fans will be able to enjoy tailgating activities in the parking lots and do so with greater safety and knowledge that entry into the stadium will be smoother and faster.

Where can the one-gallon clear plastic storage bag or the 12" by 6" by 12" clear bag be purchased?

The one-gallon clear plastic storage bag (i.e. Ziploc bag) can be found at any local grocery store. The 12" by 6" by 12" clear tote bag can be purchased at various game day and non-game day Georgia Tech Bookstore locations. Please contact 1-888-TECHTIX or Email: tickets@athletics.gatech.edu for questions.

If I don't have time to take impermissible items to my car, is there a place I can store them?

Yes. For the 2018 football season, the Georgia Tech Athletic Association will provide a complimentary bag check on the exterior of the Bobby Dodd Stadium.

I am a season ticket holder who has a clear bag and was previously allowed to bring in food, drinks and snacks. Is this still possible?

You are still able to utilize your season ticket holder clear bag. However, you are no longer permitted to bring in outside food and drinks. The GTAA will provide you with a reusable water bottle and have water stations for fans to take advantage of throughout the stadium. Season ticket holders will also receive concession discounts in Bobby Dodd Stadium.