EIDR: INTERIM BEST PRACTICE – LIVE EVENTS

This document details the interim best practice for recording and maintaining live event content records.

1 Introduction

Live Events (Sports and Non-Sports) share some similarities with traditional scripted programs – they have Producers, Distributers, etc. and an original air or release date – but they also have important differences.

- Many data points are uncertain until the point when they conclude, making advance registration more difficult and increasing the importance of record updates over time.
- Their participants are rarely actors (reporters, interview subjects, sports contestants, etc.)
- They often have group participants (sports teams, musical groups, political parties, etc.)
- They are often rescheduled, delayed, interrupted, reconvened, etc.

To accommodate these differences and facilitate discovery and deduplication, a limited number of enhancements are proposed to the Base Object Data and EIDR best practices. The Base Object Data changes will need to be incorporated into the EIDR development schedule, so in the meantime, temporary practices have been identified that will allow the immediate registration of Live Events in the EIDR Registry.

2 Creating a Live Event in EIDR

Create the EIDR content record as per standard practice with the following variations. Except as noted, all standard data validation rules apply.

2.1 Structural Type

For Live Event title records, always select "Abstraction". Edits, Clips, and Manifestations can have other Structural Types as per standard practice.
2.2 Mode

Generally, this will be "AudioVisual".1

2.3 Referent Type

Select the existing EIDR Referent Type that most closely matches the nature of the Live Event program (the audiovisual presentation of the event, not the event itself) and flag it as being a live event.

- If the live event is presented under the banner of a continuing series, then register it as an Episode of the Series.
  - If this is a recurring Series, group the iterations with Seasons as per standard practice.
  - If this is a limited duration Series, structure it as a standard Mini-Series.
- For live events initially and principally presented as broadcast programs, select TV as the Referent Type; as Internet content, select Web; etc.
- In the Referent Type element, set the "live" attribute equal to "true".
  - If the live attribute is missing or false, the record is treated as a standard, non-live event.
  - If the live attribute is present and true, then the additional Live Event data requirements apply.
- To identify a Live Event in a version of the EIDR registry that does not provide native support for this attribute, add "LE:true;" in the Registrant Extra field.

2.4 Title

Provide the name by which the program is originally and most commonly known as the Resource Name, and any other names by which the program is known as Alternate Resource Names, following established practice.

- For head-to-head sporting competitions, provide the names of the primary competitors in the title (such as "Bears vs. Broncos" or "Chicago Bears at Denver Broncos").
- Do not include the event date in the release title (it is recorded in a separate element).
- For events structured as episodic series, do not include the Series name in the Episode title (it is recorded in the Series record).

1 A pending Best Practice is in development to allow the registration of radio programs. Those would be "Audio".
• Unofficial or internal titles should be recorded with an appropriate Title Class, such as "internal" or "other".

**NOTE:** Provisional Titles are discussed in *EIDR: Interim Best Practice – Provisional Data.*

### 2.5 Language

For Primary Language (in 1.x) or Original Language (in 2.0), use the dominant language of the program, such as announcers, commentators, title cards, etc.

### 2.6 Associated Org

Enter following standard practice. Include the original and primary broadcaster, if any.

### 2.7 Release Date

Use the anticipated (or actual) first public exhibition or broadcast of the audiovisual program, not the date of the event itself. (They may be the same, but the Event Date is recorded separately.)

• If the first presentation is simultaneously in multiple time zones, use the one with the earliest date.

**NOTE:** Provisional Release Dates are discussed in *EIDR: Interim Best Practice – Provisional Data.*

### 2.8 Event Date or Date-Time

Use the anticipated (or actual) date (or date and time) when the Event starts using the time zone of the location where the event takes place, not the date of program’s presentation. (Though they may be the same.)

**NOTE:** If live="true" in the Referent Type, then Event Date is optional. Otherwise, Event Date is prohibited.

• To record an Event Date in a version of the EIDR registry that does not provide native support for this element, add "ED:<date>;" in the Registrant Extra field where <date> is either a full date or full date and time with time zone offset.
  o Dates are in the format yyyy-mm-dd: "2012-07-27"
  o Times follow the date, are introduced by a capital "T", and are in the format hh:mm:ss±hh:mm, where the "±hh:mm" specifies the time zone as an offset from UTC: "2012-07-27T09:00:00+08:00"

• If a time is specified, then the time Zone must also be specified.

**NOTE:** Provisional Event Dates are discussed in *EIDR: Interim Best Practice – Provisional Data.*
2.9 Country of Origin

Use the Country of Origin(s) of the audiovisual program, not the event itself. (Though they may be the same.)

2.10 Status

Use "valid".

2.11 Approximate Length

Enter following standard practice, using the anticipated (or actual) duration of the audiovisual program, not the event itself. (Though they may be the same.) If the duration is uncertain, flag it as Provisional and update it when the approximate length is known.

**NOTE:** Provisional Approximate Lengths are discussed in *EIDR: Interim Best Practice – Provisional Data.*

2.12 Credits

Enter the Director(s) of the audiovisual program, not the Director(s) of the event itself. (For example, for the live television broadcast of a stage play, record the Director of the TV program, not the Director of the play.)

For Actor (in 1.x/2.0) or Participant (in 2.1), record up to the four most prominent appearances within the program, including those people or groups who are seen or heard within the program.

**NOTE:** Prior to 2.1, the use of the element name "Actor" in no way implies that the identified participant is acting or working from a script, nor does it imply that the participant is an individual person – group names are also acceptable.

Recorded participants may include:

- The announcer(s) and commentator(s) presenting a sporting event.
- The subject of an interview and the reporter conducting the interview.

**NOTE:** Provisional Credits are discussed in *EIDR: Interim Best Practice – Provisional Data.*

3 Provisional Data

Due to the fluid nature of live events prior to their conclusion, certain data elements may need to be identified as "provisional" when a Live Event record is initially created, and then updated over time as the data changes or becomes more certain. These include:

- Title
- Release Date
- Event Date
- Approximate Length
The process and practices for recording provisional data elements are covered in *EIDR: Interim Best Practice – Provisional Data*.

### 4 Excluded Live Events

Certain types of Live Events can be accommodated by present EIDR data structures with proper practices and therefore do not require special treatment. These types of events are therefore excluded from the EIDR Live Events category and would not carry the `live="true"` Referent Type attribute:

- Most Live-to-Tape programs, except for those that are presented largely as recorded without significant post-production modification.
- Regularly scheduled news programs (the "11:00 News")
- Edited clip shows and programs where a live host introduces pre-packaged content (*Joe Buck Live, Entertainment Tonight*)
- Live variety programs (*Saturday Night Live, Mad TV*)
- Talk shows and their ilk (*Tonight Show, Good Morning America*)
- Scripted programs filmed before a live audience (sitcoms)
- Game shows (*Wheel of Fortune, Price is Right*)
- Pre-recorded and edited documentary / "reality" programs (*Ace of Cakes, Survivor*)
- Special live episodes of non-live programs (*30 Rock, ER*)