

Interps & Guidelines 1.1.4: TRANSGENDER PARTICIPATION

This policy addresses eligibility determinations for students who have a gender identity that is different from the gender listed on their official birth certificates.

For the protection of competitive balance and the integrity of women's sports, the UHSAA will review athletic eligibility decisions based on gender assignment of transgender student athletes in accordance with its approved policies and appeals procedures.

If a sport is offered for both boys and girls, girls must play on the girls team and boys must play on the boys team.

If a school sponsors only a single team in a sport:

- a. Girls are eligible to play on boys teams.*
- b. Boys are not eligible to play on girls teams.*

With the consent of parents or a legal guardian, a student shall be permitted to participate on a gender specific sports team that is consistent with the public gender identity of that student for all other purposes. In making a determination of eligibility, the UHSAA will first refer to the confirmation of the student and his or her local school regarding gender identification. The UHSAA will require that member school districts and schools make a determination of a student's eligibility to participate in gender specific sports team for a particular season based on the gender identification of that student (1) in current school records, and, (2) daily life activities in the school and community at the time that sports eligibility is determined.

A female to male transgender student athlete who is taking a medically prescribed hormone treatment under a physician's care for the purpose of gender transition is eligible only for participation on a boys team.

A male to female transgender student athlete who is not taking hormone treatment related to gender transition may participate only on a boys team.

A male to female transgender student athlete who is taking a medically prescribed hormone treatment under a physician's care for the purpose of gender transition may participate on a boys team at any time, but must complete one year of hormone treatment related to the gender transition before competing on a girls team.

In addition to the hormone requirements set out above, decisions regarding eligibility of transgender student athletes should also be based upon the following types of evidence and submitted in writing to the UHSAA:

- a. A complete list of all the student's prescribed, non-prescribed or over the counter, treatments or medications;*
- b. Written verification from an appropriate health-care professional (doctor, psychiatrist, or psychologist) of the student's consistent gender identification and expression; and*
- c. Any other pertinent documentation or information which the student or parent(s)/legal guardian(s) appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction believe relevant and appropriate.*

It will be the responsibility of the member school and the principal to verify they have followed this policy when a school district submits a roster to the UHSAA. The UHSAA will rely on such a verification to acknowledge that the school and the principal have determined that the students listed on a gender specific sports team are eligible for participation because of their gender identity and compliance with the

requirements set out herein, and that the school district has determined that the expression of the student's gender identity is bona fide and not for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage in competitive athletics.

Students who may be affected by this policy should address the gender identification issue well in advance of the deadline for athletic eligibility determinations for a current sports season. Students shall not participate in practices or try out for gender specific sports teams for which they are ineligible under the standards set out herein.

Nothing in this policy shall be read to entitle a student to selection to any particular team or to permit a student to transfer from one gender specific team to a team of a different gender during a sports season.

After the issue of gender identity has been addressed by the student and the school district, the determination shall remain consistent for the remainder of the student's high school sports eligibility.