



World Water Safety

## INTERNATIONAL LIFE SAVING FEDERATION

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### ILS POLICY – POL 18

#### TRANSGENDER ATHLETE POLICY

Amongst its constitutional objects, the ILS seeks to act, at all times, in the interests of the Member Organisations, athletes and lifesaving in general; and formulate or adopt and implement appropriate policies, including in relation to sexual harassment, equal opportunity, equity, drugs in sport, health, safety, youth, open and master programmes, infectious diseases and such other matters as arise from time to time as issues to be addressed in lifesaving.

The ILS also has an interest in encouraging participation and ensuring competitive lifesaving activities are conducted on a fair and equal basis.

In addition, the ILS considers that to meet these objects a policy is required regarding the treatment by Member Organisations of transgender athletes wishing to compete and has developed this Policy in response.

Therefore, the ILS will adopt the Trans Gender Guidelines from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as follows:

#### IOC Transgender guidelines

- A. Since the 2003 Stockholm Consensus on Sex Reassignment in Sports, there has been a growing recognition of the importance of autonomy of gender identity in society, as reflected in the laws of many jurisdictions worldwide.
- B. There are also, however, jurisdictions where autonomy of gender identity is not recognised in law at all.
- C. It is necessary to ensure insofar as possible that trans athletes are not excluded from the opportunity to participate in sporting competition.
- D. The overriding sporting objective is and remains the guarantee of fair competition. Restrictions on participation are appropriate to the extent that they are necessary and proportionate to the achievement of that objective.
- E. To require surgical anatomical changes as a pre-condition to participation is not necessary to preserve fair competition and may be inconsistent with developing legislation and notions of human rights.
- F. Nothing in these guidelines is intended to undermine in any way the requirement to comply with the World Anti-Doping Code and the WADA International Standards.
- G. These guidelines are a living document and will be subject to review in light of any scientific or medical developments.

## Guidelines

The IOC agreed the following guidelines to be taken into account by International Sport Federations when determining eligibility to compete in male and female competition:

1. Those who transition from female to male are eligible to compete in the male category without restriction.
2. Those who transition from male to female are eligible to compete in the female category under the following conditions:
  - 2.1. The athlete has declared that her gender identity is female. The declaration cannot be changed, for sporting purposes, for a minimum of four years.
  - 2.2. The athlete must demonstrate that her total testosterone level in serum has been below 10 nmol/L for at least 12 months prior to her first competition (with the requirement for any longer period to be based on a confidential case-by-case evaluation, considering whether or not 12 months is a sufficient length of time to minimize any advantage in women's competition).
  - 2.3. The athlete's total testosterone level in serum must remain below 10 nmol/L throughout the period of desired eligibility to compete in the female category.
  - 2.4. Compliance with these conditions may be monitored by testing. In the event of non-compliance, the athlete's eligibility for female competition will be suspended for 12 months.

Policy approved by the ILS Board of Directors on 07/10/2019 and on 24/09/2022.