

SSUSA Transgender Participation Policy

9/3/2014

For all qualifier and championship tournaments leading to the National Championships and the World Championships:

A. Participation in Sex-Separated Sport Teams for Qualifying, US National and World Championships

A transgender SSUSA player in any qualifying championship, National Championship or World championship should be allowed to participate in any sex-separated SSUSA tournament under the following conditions:

Transgender SSUSA Participants who are undergoing hormone treatment

1. A male-to-female (MTF) transgender SSUSA player who is taking medically prescribed hormone treatment related to gender transition may participate on a men's team at any time, but must complete **one year of hormone treatment** related to gender transition before competing on a women's team.¹
2. A female-to-male (FTM) transgender SSUSA player who is taking medically prescribed testosterone related to gender transition may not participate on a women's team after beginning hormone treatment.
3. A female-to-male (FTM) transgender SSUSA player who is taking medically prescribed testosterone for the purposes of gender transition may compete on a men's team.
4. In any case where a SSUSA player is taking hormone treatment related to gender transition, it is recommended that a physician monitor the treatment.

¹ Recent research indicates that most salient physical changes likely to affect athletic performance occur during the first year of hormone treatment making a longer waiting period unnecessary. Goorin, Louis, and Mathijs Bunck, "Transsexuals and competitive sports," *European Journal of Endocrinology* 151 (2004): 425-429 <http://www.eje.org/cgi/reprint/151/4/425.pdf>

Transgender SSUSA participants who are NOT undergoing hormone treatment

1. Any transgender SSUSA player who is not taking hormone treatment related to gender transition may participate in sex-separated sports activities in accordance with his or her assigned birth gender.
2. A female-to-male transgender SSUSA player who is not taking testosterone related to gender transition may participate on a men's or women's team.
3. A male-to-female transgender student-athlete who is not taking hormone treatments related to gender transition may not compete on a women's team.

B. Implementation Process

I. The Player's Responsibility

1. In order to avoid challenges to a transgender player's participation during a qualifying, US National or World Championship tournament, the player, after completing all age eligibility requirements, shall submit the information listed below to SSUSA Headquarters, 2701 K Street, Suite 101A, Sacramento, CA, 95816.
2. The information shall include a letter from the player's physician documenting that the appropriate prescribed hormonal treatment for the participants has been in effect for at least one year including the documentation of the patient's testosterone levels, if relevant.
3. If there is an inconsistency regarding gender on the government-issued identification, the player will be required to provide documentation prepared by a health care provider, counselor, or other qualified professional not related to the player, affirming that player's identity.

II. SSUSA Responsibilities

1. The SSUSA will review submitted requirements for approval of transgender participation.

2. The SSUSA will notify the player of approval or denial of the request to participate. Upon approval, the player will receive their National ID Card. Upon denial, the player may file a written appeal to the SSUSA Headquarters. A neutral 3-member Appeals Board decides all Appeals. The Appeals Board decision is final.

III. The SSUSA will provide strict confidentiality concerning all medical information, correspondence and interactions with the SSUSA transgender player to protect the privacy and abide by laws protecting their privacy rights.