

VOLLEYBALL BC

Transgender Athlete Policy

Definitions

1. The following terms have these meanings in this document:
 - a) “*Gender reassignment*” – medically-supervised program of treatment to transition a person’s body to align with their gender identity through hormone therapy and/or surgery.
 - b) “*Medical Practitioner*” – A person licensed to practice medicine in Canada who has obtained a medical school diploma (“MD”) and is registered with the Physicians Credential Registry of Canada.
 - c) “*Transgender*” – Individuals who have been assigned one gender at birth but identify with the other gender. In order to align their bodies with their sense of gender, many transgender individuals undergo hormone therapy and/or surgery to transition to the other gender.
 - d) “*Transgender Female*” – Someone who was assigned male at birth, but who identifies as a girl or a woman and who is being treated for gender reassignment.
 - e) “*Transgender Male*” – Someone who was assigned female at birth, but who identifies as a boy or a man and who is being treated for gender reassignment.

Guiding Principle

1. Volleyball BC is committed to being inclusive and respectful of all participants and will implement this policy in a fair and equitable manner.

Purpose

2. Volleyball BC believes in equal opportunity for all participants. However, in instances where a transgender athlete wishes to compete, Volleyball BC will implement eligibility guidelines in order to ensure a fair and level playing field for all participants.

Eligibility Guidelines

3. The following guidelines will be used to determine the eligibility of transgender athletes:

- a) *Gender reassignment before puberty*

- i. Athletes undergoing gender reassignment of male-to-female shall be regarded as female
- ii. Athletes undergoing gender reassignment of female-to-male shall be regarded as male

- b) *Gender reassignment after puberty*

The following conditions will be used to determine the individual’s eligibility to compete:

- i. Transgender Females, to compete as a female, must submit documentation from a Medical Practitioner that gender reassignment has been ongoing for at least one year.
- ii. Transgender Males, to compete as a male, must submit documentation from a Medical Practitioner that gender reassignment is ongoing.

4. Any transgender athlete who is not undergoing hormone therapy for gender reassignment purposes will only be permitted to compete as the gender that was assigned at birth.

Application for Eligibility

5. The transgender athlete will initiate the process by submitting documentation from a Medical Practitioner as outlined in Section 4.

6. Volleyball BC will decide each case based upon the documentation provided and may, with reasonable cause, request additional information. Upon review and acceptance of the documentation, the transgender athlete will be registered as the gender to which they have transitioned or are transitioning. The individual will continue to remain designated as such unless circumstances dictate that a different determination should be made.
7. All athletes must be aware that they may be subject to doping control testing pursuant to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program. Athletes are encouraged to contact the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) to determine what procedures, if any, are required to obtain a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) related to gender reassignment.

Confidentiality

8. Volleyball BC agrees that the procedures under this Policy are confidential. Volleyball BC will not disclose to outside parties any documentation submitted by a transgender athlete or any communications with a transgender athlete, except as is necessary for the purposes of implementing this policy.

Appeal

9. Any decision rendered by Volleyball BC in accordance with this Policy may be appealed in accordance with Volleyball BC's *Appeal Policy*.