

MYSA Policy on Transgender Youth Athlete Participation

The following policies clarify participation of transgender youth athletes undergoing hormonal treatment for gender transition. This policy is adopted to insure competitive fairness, equity and physical safety of all youth athletes competing in Missouri Youth Soccer Association (MYSA) sanctioned events and leagues. A transgender participant is defined as a participant whose consistent gender identity or expression does not match the sex assigned to him or her at birth as reflected on the student's birth certificate or other recognized forms of identification (i.e. passport).

Request & Permission for Participation Required: A youth athlete seeking participation under this policy due to gender transition shall gather and submit a formal written request for participation, along with all documentation required, to the administration of his/ her member club or league for submittal to MYSA. The MYSA Executive Director shall issue an opinion on the club or league request regarding participation under this policy after receiving all documentation required.

A transgender athlete must meet the following to participate in sex-separated MYSA sanctioned events so long as the athlete's use of hormone therapy is consistent with current medical standards and is verified in writing by the medical doctor that is treating the athlete as part of the submitted documents.

No Hormone Treatment:

Any transgender youth player who is not taking hormone treatment related to gender transition may commence and continue participation in sex-separated competitions in accordance with his or her assigned birth gender.

- A trans male (female to male) youth player who is not taking testosterone related to gender transition may participate in co-ed sports and may apply to participate in boys' competitions. Once the athlete participates in a boys' sport, he shall participate consistently with that gender for the remainder of his eligibility.

- A trans female (male to female) youth player who is not taking hormone treatments related to gender transition may not compete on a girls' team but may participate in co-ed and boys' competitions.

Receiving Hormone Treatment:

- A trans male (female to male) youth player who has commenced hormonal treatment with testosterone (or other prescribed drugs) for diagnosed gender dysphoria and/or transsexualism, may compete on a boys' team, but is no longer eligible to compete on a girls' team without changing that team status to a co-ed team.

- A trans female (male to female) youth player being treated with testosterone suppression medication for diagnosed gender dysphoria and/or transsexualism may continue to compete on a boys' team but may not compete on a girls' team, without changing it to a co-ed team, until at least one calendar year of documented testosterone suppression treatment is completed.

To maintain eligibility, a trans female student shall thereafter provide continuing medical documentation annually that the suppressed hormone levels are being maintained. Once a student has been granted eligibility consistent with his/her gender identity and expression under the above policy and has participated, the eligibility granted shall be binding on the youth athlete for the remaining duration of the players eligibility.

This policy was taken in part from the approved NCAA Transgender Participation Policy, as published in Champions of Respect, which was commissioned in 2012. (Approved June 2012; Revised 2018)