



USA Shooting Policy
Athlete Inclusion: Gender Identity/Expression

January 27, 2022

Change Log

Date	Changes	Approved By
Oct 12, 2020	Original Draft	M. Suggs
January 27, 2022	Update for NCAA Policy	M. Suggs

USA Shooting is an organization founded and focused on lifting all persons up through participation in sport. This positive purpose leaves no room for exclusion based on race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or background. USA Shooting is committed to the growth of our sport by creating environments that are diverse and inclusive to anyone and everyone. We embrace the equality of the shooting sports where there are no predetermined advantages. No matter who you are, there is a place in USA Shooting for you. Come join us at usashooting.org.

USA Shooting is committed to ensuring that all members have equal access and opportunity to participate in shooting events in a manner that is fair to all competitors, preserves the integrity of the sport, and respects international competition regulations. USA Shooting, therefore, adopts the following athlete participation policy for gender identity and expression.

Terms

Team Selection Competition: For the purposes of this policy a “**Team Selection Competition**” is any competition where the results are used to select individuals to represent the United States in any international competition(s) sanctioned by the ISSF and/or IOC.

Non-Team Selection Competition: For the purposes of this policy a “**Non-Team Selection Competition**” is any USA Shooting sanctioned event where the results of the competition will not be used to select individuals to represent the United States in international competitions.

Non-Team Selection USA Shooting Sanctioned Competitions

At Non-Team Selection Competitions, a member may compete under their gender of choice, but that gender selection must match their member profile with USA Shooting. Members who transition to a gender different from their gender on file with USA Shooting must contact USA Shooting to be placed in a discipline and category appropriate for that member’s identity. USA Shooting members may be re-categorized and/or ranked based on results achieved after a gender identity change. USA Shooting will use best efforts to align the competitor within our start lists if the start list calls for competitors being ordered by previous results.

In the event that a question should arise about a member’s eligibility to participate in a manner consistent with his or her gender, any member may file a grievance with USA Shooting. In such a situation, criteria that may be used to determine a member’s eligibility in a chosen gender include evidence of one or more of the following:

- Does the member’s gender in their “everyday life” match his or her competition gender
- Has the member obtained civil documents with his or her competition gender identified (i.e. state I.D., driver’s license, birth certificate)
- Attestation of gender identity from a medical professional
- Attestation of gender identity from a certified counselor, public official, school administrator, or other academic advisor
- Compliance with IOC and ISSF guidelines (below).

Team Selection Competitions

At Team Selection Competitions, members must adhere to the policies and regulations of the ISSF (ISSF) and International Olympic Committee (IOC). USA Shooting, therefore, follows the IOC guidelines and ISSF Rule 4.1.8-11 on transgender athletes for all Team Selection Matches.

The IOC revised its guidelines on transgender athlete participation in 2015, to focus on hormone levels and medical monitoring. The main points of the guidelines are:

1. Those who transition from female to male are eligible to compete in the male category without restriction. It is the responsibility of athletes to be aware of current WADA/USADA policies and file for appropriate therapeutic use exemptions.
2. Those who transition from male to female are eligible to compete in the female category under the following conditions:
 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. 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).
 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.
 4. Compliance with these conditions may be monitored by random or for-cause testing. In the event of non-compliance, the athlete's eligibility for female competition will be suspended for 12 months.

Inclusion Option: Any athlete may compete under their gender of choice, and without meeting the aforementioned ISSF requirements, at a Team Selection Competition as they would in a Non-Team Selection Competition under the following conditions:

1. Adequate range space is available for all competitors
2. The athlete acknowledges that they will not be eligible for the event finals
3. The athlete acknowledges that they are not eligible for team selection
4. The athlete's participation does not diminish any other athletes right to compete in a protected event.

NCAA Rifle Policy

The NCAA Rifle Championships are a component in the USA Shooting team selection process. Since that event is coed, competitors may compete in the gender of their choice without meeting the ISSF criteria for transgender participation. In order to have scores from the NCAA Championships or NCAA Championships count towards team selection, the athlete must adhere to the ISSF guideline for gender classification.

Procedures

Any member who desires to avail him or herself of Team Selection Competition policy may submit their request to Alex Szablewski, Sr Manager of High Performance, at Alex.Szablewski@usashooting.org. That request should include the following information:

(1) a signed declaration that the member's gender identity is female and (2) an attestation from a medical professional that the member's total testosterone level in serum has been below 10 nmol/L for at least 12 months prior to the member's first competition. USA Shooting will not accept actual test results or other medical records from a member and any such documents received by USA Shooting will be destroyed immediately.

Compliance

Transgender National Team members and those seeking eligibility in ISSF sanctioned competitions may be monitored. Therefore, a member who chooses to avail him or herself of this Team Selection Competition policy consents to testing for compliance. Any such member who cannot meet the criteria set forth in this policy will have his or her case analyzed on an individual basis and may be re-categorized by class, category or gender.

Privacy

The legitimate privacy interests and the medical privacy of transgender athletes should be preserved. Any discussions involving the gender identity of an athlete and any required written supporting documentation will be kept confidential unless the athlete makes a specific request otherwise. All information about an individual athlete's gender identity and medical information, including physician's information provided pursuant to this policy, shall be maintained confidentially. USA Shooting will not retain any written documentation or test results that may be provided in accordance with this policy beyond the period needed to make any required determinations.

You can find the International Olympic Committee's Transgender Athlete policy [HERE](#).



Matt Suggs

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