

BASKETBALL BC TRANS INCLUSION POLICY

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1 The following terms have these meanings in this document:

- a. *“Cisgender”* – A term to describe a person whose gender identity corresponds with their birth-assigned sex (e.g. someone whose gender identity is man and was assigned male at birth).
- b. *“Gender”* – The socially constructed roles, behaviours, activities and attributes that a society assigns to masculinity or femininity.
- c. *“Gender Expression”* – The way an individual communicates their gender identity to others. This is done through behaviour, body language, voice, emphasis or de-emphasis of bodily characteristics, choice of clothing, hairstyle, and wearing make-up and/or accessories. The traits and behaviours associated with masculinity and femininity are culturally specific and change over time.
- d. *“Gender Identity”* – A person’s innermost sense of their own gender. This can include man, woman, both neither or something else entirely. Gender also refers to a variety of social and behavioral characteristics (e.g. appearance, mannerisms). There are lots of words people may use to talk about their gender identity and expression.
- e. *“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.
- f. *“Intersex”* – Refers to a combination of features that distinguish male and female anatomy.
- g. *“Sex”* – The classification of people as male, female or intersex. Sex is usually assigned at birth and is based on an assessment of a person’s reproductive system, hormones, chromosomes and other physical characteristics, most notably by external genitalia.
- h. *“Trans”* – An umbrella term that describes people with diverse gender identities and gender expressions that do not conform to stereotypical ideas about what it means to be a girl/woman or boy/man in culture and society. It includes but is not limited to people who identify as transgender, transsexual, cross dressers (adjective) or gender non-conforming (gender diverse, agender or genderqueer).
- i. *“Transgender Female”* (including trans female or trans feminine) – Someone who was assigned the male sex at birth, but whose gender identity is female.
- j. *“Transgender Male”* (including trans male or trans masculine) – Someone who was assigned

female sex at birth, but whose gender identity is male.

- k. “Non-binary” – a spectrum of gender identities that are not exclusively masculine or feminine – identities that are outside the gender binary.

2. GUIDING PRINCIPALS

2.1 Basketball BC supports the recommendations outlined in *Creating Inclusive Environments for Trans Participants in Canadian Sport*, the guidance document developed by the Trans Inclusion in Sport Expert Working Group and published by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES). Association adopts the best practices outlined in the document and has used the four Policy Guidance statements in the development of this *Inclusion Policy*. The Policy Guidance statements are:

- a. Individuals participating in development and recreational sport (Long Term Athlete Development stages ((LTAD)); Active Start, FUNdamental, Learn to Train, Train to Train, Train to Compete (((until international federation rules apply)))) and Active for Life) should be able to participate in the gender with which they identify and not be subject to requirements for disclosure of personal information beyond those required of cisgender athletes. Nor should there be any requirement for hormonal therapy or surgery.
- b. Hormone therapy should not be required for an individual to participate in high-performance sport (LTAD stages Train to Compete (once international federation rules become a factor) and Train to Win) in the gender category that is consistent with their gender identity, unless the sport organization can prove that hormone therapy is a reasonable and bona fide requirement.
- c. Individuals should not be required to disclose their trans identity or history to the sport organization in order to participate in high-performance sport (LTAD stages Train to Compete (once international federation rules become a factor) and Train to Win) unless there is a justified reason requiring them to do so.
- d. Surgical intervention should not be required for an individual to participate in high-performance sport (LTAD stages Train to Compete (once international federation rules become a factor) and Train to Win) in the gender category that is consistent with their gender identity.

3. PURPOSE

3.1 Basketball BC believes that all individuals deserve respectful and inclusive environments for participation that value the individual’s gender identity and gender expression. Basketball BC wants to ensure that all participants have access to programming and facilities in which they feel comfortable, safe and included. Basketball BC is committed to implementing this policy in a fair and equitable manner.

4. ACTIONS FOR INCLUSION

4.1 Basketball BC pledges to:

- a. Provide this Policy to all staff, Directors and members.

- b. Maintain organizational documents and Basketball BC website in a manner that promotes inclusive language and images.
- c. Refer to individuals by their chosen name and pronoun that aligns with their gender identity.
- d. When Basketball BC has the authority to determine participants' use of washrooms, change rooms, and other facilities, Basketball BC will permit individuals to use the facilities of their gender identity and non-binary people will be supported by being able to use the facility that they believe they will be safest in.
- e. Ensure uniforms and dress codes that respect an individual's gender identity and gender expression.
- f. Determine Eligibility Guidelines for trans participants (as described in this Policy).

5. ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES- EXCEPTIONS

5.1 When applicable, the eligibility guidelines of Canada Basketball and/or any major Games regarding trans athlete participation will supersede the eligibility guidelines as outlined in this Policy

6. ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

6.1 As a general guiding principle for Basketball BC's eligibility guidelines, Basketball BC supports the guidance document from *Creating Inclusive Environments for Trans Participants in Canadian Sport*:

6.2 At both recreational and competitive levels, an individual may participate in their expressed and identified gender category and non-binary athletes can choose which team they participate in

6.3 Individuals are not required to disclose their trans identity or history to Basketball BC or any of Basketball BC's representatives (e.g., coaches, staff, Directors, officials, etc.)

6.4 All athletes must be aware that they may be subject to doping control testing pursuant to the Canadian Anti Doping Program. Trans athletes undergoing gender affirming surgery, medical transition by way of hormone replacement or suppressing therapy 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)

7. CONFIDENTIALITY

7.1 Basketball BC will not disclose to outside parties any documentation or information about an individual's gender identity and expression

8. ONGOING MONITORING

8.1 Basketball BC commits to monitoring ongoing developments regarding provincial, national and international participation guidelines for trans athletes and pledges to monitor the implementation, review and/or revise this *Policy* whenever new information becomes available

9. PROCESS FOR RESOLVING CONFLICTS & ISSUES

9.1 Should an individual feel they have been subject to, or witness, discrimination, bullying, harassment, sexual harassment, vilification or victimization based on gender identity or expression, they should take appropriate action through Basketball BC's policies. Should the person not feel safe in doing so, they should seek assistance from the Executive Director of Basketball BC for advice and support, or action on their behalf

10. APPEAL

10.1 Any decision rendered by Basketball BC in accordance with this Policy may be appealed in accordance with Basketball BC's [Appeal Policy](#).

11. REVIEW

This Policy was reviewed and approved by the Basketball BC Board of Directors on March 31, 2026.