



NATIONAL TRAVEL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

GENDER IDENTITY ATHLETE PARTICIPATION POLICY

Preface

The NTBA recognizes the importance of inclusion, and in that capacity desires to implement a policy which allows athletes to participate on gender-specific teams different from the gender identity listed on the athlete's birth certificate. The rules set forth below have been formally adopted by the NTBA and are patterned after the rules of several state high school athletic leagues and associations.

Policy and Procedure

Athletes who wish to participate on an NTBA gender-specific team that is different from the gender identity listed on the athlete's official birth certificate are advised to address the gender identification issue with their team administrator or coach well in advance of the deadline for eligibility determinations for an upcoming NTBA event.

When a team administrator or coach identifies a transgender athlete who seeks to participate in an NTBA event, the team should submit a letter requesting a determination by the NTBA, subject to the NTBA policies. The letter should be responsive to the conditions in the policy below.

Privacy Statement: All discussions and documents either by a member team and the NTBA shall be kept confidential unless specifically requested by the athlete and family.

The NTBA honors and respects all individuals based on gender, gender identity, gender expression, race, sexual orientation and creed while striving to provide safe and equitable competition. NTBA rules and regulations allow transgender athlete participation under the following conditions:

A. The parents shall contact the team administrator or coach indicating that the athlete has a consistent gender identity different than the gender listed on the athlete's official birth certificate, and that the athlete desires to participate in activities in a manner consistent with his/her gender identity.

B. The team shall be responsible for submitting documentation to the NTBA for its consideration of the athlete's request. The following information must be provided to the NTBA:

- i. A written statement from the athlete affirming the consistent gender identity and expression of which the athlete relates;
- ii. Documentation – preferably two letters – from individuals such as, but not limited to, parents, friends and/or teachers, which affirm that the actions, attitudes, dress and manner demonstrate the athlete's consistent gender identification and expression;
- iii. Written verification from an appropriate health-care professional (doctor, psychiatrist, and psychologist) of the athlete's consistent gender identification and expression; and
- iv. Any other pertinent documentation or information which the athlete or parent(s) believe relevant and appropriate such as medications, treatments, or anything else related to the athlete's gender identity.

Note: The NTBA discourages submission of documents providing medical or psychological information that is unrelated to an athlete's gender identity and/or transgender transition.

C. The team coach shall provide a statement to the NTBA that he/she has determined that the expression of the athlete's gender identity is bona fide and not for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage in competitive athletics (or indicate that he/she does not believe such is the case).

D. Upon receipt of the necessary documentation, the NTBA shall conduct a thorough review of the athlete's request. This review shall take place within two weeks of receipt of all necessary documentation. The NTBA will then issue a written response to the athlete's request. The response of the NTBA shall be conclusive as to the specific tournament or season for which the athlete seeks admission, and shall not be subject to any rights to appeal.

E. During the review, the goal is to determine if the evidence and documentation submitted is sufficient to establish that the expression of the athlete's gender identity is bona fide and not for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage in competitive athletics.

F. As a general matter, after the issue of gender identity has been addressed by the athlete and the NTBA determination process, the determination shall remain consistent for the remainder of the athlete's NTBA eligibility and does not need to be renewed every sports season or competitive year.

Approved, to be effective January 1, 2018.

NATIONAL TRAVEL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NTBA)