

SECTION 10: POSITION STATEMENTS



10.1 TRANSGENDER ATHLETE POSITION STATEMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This position statement establishes the eligibility criteria for participation in Virtus competition by a transgender athlete.
- 1.2. The aim of this statement is to preserve an individual's right to participate regardless of gender, whilst also upholding the principal of fair competition.
- 1.3. Throughout this policy:
 - 1.3.1. the term 'Transgender' refers to someone whose gender identity does not match their assigned birth gender and may have undertaken gender reassignment.
 - 1.3.2. The term 'transsexual man' describes a female-to-male transsexual person
 - 1.3.3. The term 'transsexual woman' describes a male-to-female transsexual person.
- 1.4. It is important to recognise that Transgender or Transsexual is not the same as a cross dresser or transvestite people, nor is it the same as sexual orientation.

2. INAS POLICY ON PARTICPATION

- 2.1. The participation of transgender athletes has been discussed for some time by all major sports organisations. To date there is no consistent or agreed policy across all organisations.
- 2.2. Therefore, until such time that there is an agreed international policy, the following interim position has been agreed by the Governing Board and is implemented with immediate effect:
 - 2.2.1. A transsexual male or transsexual woman (all ages) must compete in Virtus competition according to their legal identity (as stated in their passport) at the time of the start of competition (and for the duration of that competition).
 - 2.2.2. Any medal positions, records or rankings achieved in competition will be recognised within the respective gender.
- 2.3. In all cases where an athlete wishes to compete in a different gender to the one in which they first registered with the organisation, Virtus should be notified in writing by its National Member Organisation providing a copy of the athletes passport no later than the start of competition.
- 2.4. Athletes who do not notify Virtus or whose legal gender is different to that shown on the Master List may be denied entry to the competition.

3. REVIEW

- 3.1. Virtus maintains the right to review this policy and will give at least 3 months notice when any change is made.
- 3.2. Virtus will continue to monitor international bodies and publications, and will maintain a position/policy in line with major international sport bodies.