



WORLD OUTGAMES MIAMI 2017 GENDER IDENTIFICATION POLICY

Approved as of August 24, 2015

World OutGames Miami 2017 provides all athletes with equal opportunities to compete in competitive sporting events and provides coaches, managers, trainers, and referees opportunities to participate during the event **“without discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, sex, physical or mental ability, marital status, ethnicity, color, nationality, religion or age.”**

World OutGames Miami 2017 has a Gender Policy that invites an athlete to register on a self-declaration basis with the gender team that matches the athlete’s gender identity. All athletes must have a government identification or supporting documentation reflecting the athlete’s information such as name, birthdate and gender available at the time of registration/check-in for the OutGames Miami 2017 event and during the games to be made available if requested by OutGames administrators. In the case that a government issued id does not reflect the athlete’s gender identity then another form of documentation should reflect that the athlete’s gender identity is sincerely held, and is part of their core identity. Acceptable documentation includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Valid Driver’s License
- Valid Identity Card/Passport
- Birth Certificate

In cases where changes to government issued documentation that reflects the gender that the athlete identifies with is different than the gender that they were born with is not supported by state, federal or international legislation, then documentation prepared by the following will suffice for the purposes of registration and participation:

- A letter from a healthcare provider, counselor, or other qualified professional (not related to the applicant).
- A letter from an Educational Institution (not related to the applicant).
- A letter from a Community Based or Religious Organization (not related to the applicant).

Considering the challenges that may be involved in obtaining such documents in some countries, World OutGames Miami 2017 will exercise discretion when evaluating the adequacy of the type of documentation provided in cases where proof of an individual’s gender is required. All documentation submitted by transgender participants will be handled with the greatest confidentiality. The final decision about the participant’s gender status will be within the sole discretion of the World OutGames Miami 2017.

Policy authored by:

Lynare Robbins, World OutGames Miami, *Vice President, LBT Women's Program and Affairs*

Policy Co-authors and Academic & Research Consultants on Transgender Inclusion on Athletics:

Dr. Pat Griffin, Women's Sport Foundation, *Former Director, It Takes a Team! Education Campaign for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in Sports Campaign*

University of Massachusetts Amherst, *Social Justice Program, Professor Emerita*

Helen J. Carroll, National Center for Lesbian Rights, *Sports Project Director*

Resources:

__ US Soccer transgender policy – <http://www.ussoccer.com/about/governance/bylaws>

__ International Gay and Lesbian Football association
<http://iglfa.org/resources/documents>

__ Goorin, Louis, and Mathijs Bunck, —Transsexuals and Competitive Sports, European Journal of Endocrinology 151(2004): 425-429, <http://www.eje.org/cgi/reprint/151/4/425.pdf>.

—On the Team: Equal Opportunity for Transgender Student Athletes." National Center for Lesbian Rights (Oct. 2010). <http://www.nclrights.org/legal-help-resources/resource/on-the-team-equal-opportunities-for-transgender-student-athletes/>

__ Trans Athlete Resource Website, transathlete.com

__ Trans Miami, Director Aryah Lester, transmiami.org

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR THE INCLUSION OF TRANSGENDER ATHLETES

The World OutGames Miami 2017 Gender Identification Policy is provided to assist the community and public with adhering to the expectations for the inclusion of transgender athletes and to treat all athletes, officials, staff, volunteers, participants and spectators with dignity and respect.

These guidelines are consistent with World OutGames Miami 2017 values of equal opportunity and the right for all individuals to participate. Such a policy is required to be followed at all World OutGames Miami 2017 events and competitions throughout Miami Dade County.

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES:

- 1. All athletes will be afforded an equal opportunity and sport experience where they are able to compete in a safe and welcoming environment.**
- 2. During all World OutGames Miami competitions and events athletes, coaches, and all others should respect the expressed identification of transgender athletes. Athletes, coaches, staff, volunteers and all others should refer to transgender athletes by the athlete's name. Similarly, in all cases, pronoun references to transgender athletes should reflect the athlete's pronoun preference. When unsure, the correct approach would be to ask the participant and not assume.**
- 3. Transgender athletes should be able to use the locker rooms, changing facilities, and restrooms that are consistent with his/her gender identity, as per the Human Right's Ordinance that exists in Miami Dade County that extended legal protections to transgender individuals as of December 2, 2014. When requested, and if available, transgender athletes will be provided access to a gender neutral space.**
- 4. Training for event staff, volunteers, and venue staff regarding education related to gender identity and their responsibilities to prevent, identify, and respond to harassment, and discrimination will be administered prior to the OutGames Miami 2017 event.**
- 5. While World OutGames Miami 2017 recognizes the complexity of gender identity, there will be only two recognized gender categories for competition purposes in which athletes may choose to compete as male or female. Athletes may compete in the gender of their choice and must designate their gender identity at the time of registration. There may be no changes made to gender identity after registration is complete and athletes may not compete as more than one gender identity in any given OutGames Miami 2017 event.**
- 6. All athletes must have a government identification or supporting documentation reflecting the athlete's information such as name, birthdate and gender available at the time of registration/check-in for the OutGames Miami 2017 event and during the games to be made available if requested by OutGames administrators. In the case that a government issued id does not reflect the athlete's gender identity then another form of documentation should reflect that the athlete's gender identity is sincerely held, and is part of their core identity.**
- 7. If the sincerity of the gender identity held by a participant is ever challenged, the final decision about the participant's gender status will be within the sole discretion of the World OutGames Miami 2017.**

DEFINITIONS:

Binary: two-fold, consisting of only two parts.

Gender: the meaning attached to biological attributes, of a binary definition.

Gender expression/presentation: refers to external characteristics and behaviors socially defined as masculine, feminine, or androgynous (i.e. dress, mannerisms, speech).

Gender Queer: denoting or relating to a person who does not subscribe to conventional gender distinctions but identifies with neither, both, or a combination of male and female genders.

Gender transition: the process and procedures one undertakes to change their gender presentation in the world to present themselves authentically.

Feminine / femininity: characteristics and qualities representing expected cultural attitudes and behaviors traditionally associated with people assigned as female. In our current Western culture, the two main aspects by which femininity is measured are *appearance* and *relationships*.

HRO: Human Rights Ordinance.

Intersex: a variation in sex characteristics including chromosomes, gonads, or genitals that do not allow an individual to be distinctly identified as male or female. Such variation may involve genital ambiguity, and combinations of chromosomal genotype and sexual phenotype other than XY-male and XX-female.

Masculine / masculinity: characteristics and qualities representing expected cultural attitudes and behaviors traditionally associated with people assigned as male. In our current Western culture, masculinity is measured by the degree to which people distance themselves from anything considered feminine or womanly.

Orientation: the direction of one's sexual interest toward other people.

Orthogonal model: a representation allowing one to envision characteristics along a full continuum of human expression, rather than a binary, either/or concept.

Sex assignment: binary assignment given to newborns based on physical attributes.

Female: sex assignment given to newborns with a vulva.

Male: sex assignment given to newborns with a penis.

Transgender: Umbrella term encompassing any self-expression or identity that does not conform to a male/female binary illusion.

Transitioning: the process of undertaking a gender transition.

For Any Questions about this Policy, please contact:

Lynare Robbins

VICE PRESIDENT, LBT WOMEN'S PROGRAM AND AFFAIRS

WORLD OUTGAMES MIAMI 2017

1210 Washington Avenue, Suite 220

Miami Beach, FL 33139

O. [+1.786.276.9559](tel:+17862769559)

M. [+1.305.215.8176](tel:+13052158176)

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Website](#)

