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Gender Competition Policy



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Purpose:

The U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (“USOPC”) directed all National Governing Bodies, including USA Volleyball to align athlete safety policies with a federal executive order. This policy shall guide all USA Volleyball (“USAV”) member athletes regarding participation by gender in USAV sanctioned events or activities.

Policy Statement:

USAV athlete members are expected to participate or compete in all USAV sanctioned events or activities as a member of the gender assigned at the time of birth on their birth certificate.

Application:

USAV athlete gender selection is made at the time of the USAV membership purchase, and it is captured in the member’s Profile as well as in the USAV Verified/Membership information section. The USAV member Profile does not determine eligibility to participate in USAV sanctioned events or

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- If a USAV athlete/USAV member identifies as and selects “non-binary” as their Profile gender, and the USAV athlete/USAV member is participating in a competition that only offers competition categories of male or female, the Region or USAV must work with the athlete to determine their competition gender based upon their gender assigned at birth and update the USAV Verified/Membership gender to male or female accordingly. The USAV athlete/USAV member will be unable to roster for events until the USAV Verified/Membership gender is selected. The USAV Verified/Membership gender will remain the determined gender for the remainder of the volleyball season. USAV Athletes/USAV members are not permitted to change genders within a single season once the USAV Verified/Membership declaration has been made.

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Teams should adhere to those policies. This may include, without limitation: (i) USA Volleyball National Team competitions or events, and (ii) competitions or events operated or sanctioned by FIVB, the IOC, the International Paralympic Committee or World Para Volley, whether involving beach, indoor or sitting disciplines.

Anti-Doping Policy:

All anti-doping policies remain in force. Violation of any anti-doping policies, protocols or procedures as defined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC; www.olympic.org), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA; www.wada-ama.org), Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB; www.fivb.org), US Anti-Doping Agency (USADA; www.usada.org) or the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC; www.teamusa.org). Violations of this provision will be adjudicated only by USADA or the proper anti-doping authority, not USAV.

Anti-Retaliation:

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Act (the “Act”), retaliation means any adverse or discriminatory action, or the threat of an adverse or discriminatory action, including removal from a training facility, reduced coaching or training, reduced meals or housing, and removal from competition, carried out against a protected individual as a result of any communication, including the filing of a formal complaint, by the protected individual or a parent or legal guardian of the protected individual relating to the allegation of physical abuse, sexual harassment, or emotional abuse, with: (1) the U.S. Center for SafeSport; (2) a coach, trainer, manager, administrator, or official associated with USAV; (3) the Attorney General; (4) a Federal or State law enforcement authority; (5) the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; or (6) Congress.

Contact:

Rachael Stafford, General Counsel, may be contacted at rachael.stafford@usav.org or by postage at 4065 Sinton Road, Suite 200, Colorado Springs CO 80907



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Why is USA Volleyball updating this policy now?

When does this updated policy take effect?

Which USA Volleyball competitions are covered?

How does the policy affect international competition?

What about anti-doping requirements?

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