

Participation Policy for Transgender and Nonbinary Student-Athletes

Effective immediately as of July 20, 2025

Introduction

The policy outlined below applies to all competitions in which the NCTTA conducts events separated by gender (“Competitions”). The policy will come into effect with the 2025-2026 season. NCTTA regulates the participation of competitors in table tennis Competitions as set out in our NCTTA Rules and Regulations.

This policy sets out NCTTA’s position on the inclusion of transgender and nonbinary people in table tennis. NCTTA prides itself on being an open sport that anyone can enjoy and we want to ensure that we are welcoming, accessible and attractive to everyone. We celebrate the diversity and inclusivity of our sport.

As with all other NCTTA eligibility criteria, member schools remain responsible for certifying student-athlete eligibility for competition. The application of this policy may not be waived.

NCTTA reserves the right to amend this, and any, policy from time to time and in the case of any legal, scientific or other relevant developments.

Definitions

1. NCTTA Board of Directors (“Board”): NCTTA’s Executive team, whose titles are: President, VP External, CFO, Athlete Representative, VP Internal, HR Coordinator, and League Director.
2. Member/Membership: Definitions of NCTTA member schools are provided in NCTTA’s Rules and Regulations.
3. Competitions: NCTTA-sanctioned tournaments where events are separated by gender. These include Fall and Spring Divisional tournaments, Spring Regional tournaments, and the NCTTA Championships.
4. Sex Assigned at Birth: The male or female designation doctors assign to infants at birth, which is marked on their birth records.
5. Gender Identity: An individual’s own internal sense of their gender (e.g., man, woman, nonbinary).

6. Nonbinary: Nonbinary refers to people whose gender identity does not sit comfortably as 'male' or 'female'. Nonbinary identities are varied and can include people who identify with some aspects of binary identities, while others reject them entirely.
7. Transgender ("Trans"): A broad inclusive term referring to anyone whose personal experience of gender extends beyond the typical experiences of those of their assigned sex. This can include:
 - a. Trans/Transgender girl/woman - A Transgender girl/woman is a male-to-female Transgender person who was assigned male at birth but has a female Gender Identity.
 - b. Trans/Transgender boy/man - A Transgender boy/man is a female-to-male Transgender person who was assigned female at birth but has a male Gender Identity.
8. Women's Team: An NCTTA "A" or Non "A" women's team as defined in NCTTA's Rules and Regulations.
9. Coed Team: An NCTTA "A" or Non "A" coed team as defined in NCTTA's Rules and Regulations.

Scope and application

1. The policy does not specifically apply to trans people who are coaches, match officials, volunteers or have any other role within the sport of table tennis, nor to any events or competitions not regulated by NCTTA.
2. For purposes of this policy, scrimmages and/or other inter-school competitions that are not regulated or organized by NCTTA Division Directors, Regional Directors, and/or the NCTTA Championships Committee do not qualify as Competitions; non-NCTTA regulated and recreational activity remain unchanged.
3. Under this policy, gender will be referred to as follows:
 - a. Transgender man – a term used to describe someone who is assigned female at birth but identifies and lives as a man;
 - b. Transgender woman – a term used to describe someone who is assigned male at birth but identifies and lives as a woman.
4. Members agree to comply in full with this policy, insofar as applicable to them.
5. By participating in NCTTA Competitions, Members agree to cooperate promptly and in good faith with NCTTA's Division, Regional and Championship Directors in the discharge of their responsibilities under this policy, including providing them with all the information and evidence they request to determine and/or monitor eligibility under this policy, and the lawful

collection, processing, disclosure and use of information (including their sensitive personal data) as required to implement and apply this policy effectively and efficiently.

6. A player may revoke at any time, with or without giving reasons, the consent that they have granted in accordance with paragraph 5. In that event, the player will (where relevant) be deemed to have withdrawn any claim to satisfy the eligibility conditions for Transgender or Nonbinary players set out in this policy.

Policy

1. Coed Team

1. Regardless of sex assigned at birth or gender identity, a student-athlete may compete on a coed team, assuming they meet all other NCTTA eligibility requirements.

2. Women's Team and Women's Singles

1. A student-athlete assigned male at birth may not participate on a Women's Team.
2. A student-athlete assigned female at birth may participate on a Women's Team.
3. Nonbinary student-athletes are eligible to play in the category of their sex assigned at birth.

3. Men's Singles

1. A student-athlete assigned male at birth may participate in Men's Singles.
2. A transgender male may participate in Men's Singles.
3. Nonbinary student-athletes are eligible to play in the category of their sex assigned at birth.

The participation policy for transgender student-athletes adopted by the Board of Directors does not permit competition by an individual assigned male at birth to compete on a Women's Team or in Women's Singles. No waivers are available, and students assigned male at birth may not compete on a women's team with amended birth certificates or other forms of ID. Student-athletes assigned male at birth may not receive NCTTA scholarships that are otherwise designated for women. If competition occurs, the team will be considered a coed team and not eligible to compete against women's teams.