



## USA Bobsled/Skeleton Competition Category Policy

**Policy Owner:** Compliance and  
Membership Services Manager,  
USABS

**Effective Date:** 10/28/2025

### Introduction

The United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee ("USOPC") has determined that under the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. § 220501 *et seq.*, and further under Executive Order 14201 (which references definitions in Executive Order 14168), which the USOPC has determined to be applicable to National Governing Bodies ("NGBs"), and to ensure compliance with the NGB Athlete Safety Policy, all NGBs must adopt the Female Competition Category definition described below or be subject to consequences imposed by the USOPC, including potential loss of status as an NGB.

USABS is committed to protecting opportunities for athletes participating in sport. USABS will continue to collaborate with various stakeholders with oversight responsibilities, e.g., the USOPC and International Bobsleigh & Skeleton Federation ("IBSF"), to ensure that women have a fair and safe competition environment consistent with Executive Order 14201 and the Ted Stevens Olympic & Amateur Sports Act, 36 U.S.C. § 220501, *et. seq.*

### Scope

This policy applies to athletes participating in all competitions sanctioned by USABS, USABS selection and training camps, and athletes and teams that USABS designates to represent the United States in competition(s) (collectively, "USABS Events").

### Female Competition Category

Consistent with the above requirement, participation in the Female Competition Category is limited to athletes who meet the following definition of Female: "Female means a person belonging, at conception, to the sex that produces the large reproductive cell." This requirement is applied through the Administrative Application section, below.

### Male Competition Category

The Male Competition Category is open to athletes who are male, whose sex identified at birth was male, or who self-identify as male.

### Mixed Team Competition Category

The Skeleton Mixed Team Competition Category ("Mixed Category") consists of one female athlete and one male athlete. A female athlete competing in the Mixed Category must meet the definition applicable to the Female Competition Category, as described above. A male athlete competing in the Mixed Category must meet the definition applicable to the Male Competition Category, as described above.

### Administrative Application of the Female Competition Category

1. For purposes of determining whether a person is a Female under the Policy, it shall be rebuttably presumed that the person is Female if that person's sex identified at birth was female. This presumption may be rebutted only by USABS.

2. In registering for membership or competition in the Female Competition Category, or for a female athlete registering for competition in the Mixed Category in the female spot, an athlete represents and warrants to USABS that the athlete was identified as female at birth. The determination of whether the athlete was identified as female at birth may be established through the person's original birth certificate or other reliable facts. Only USABS shall have the right to contest an athlete's placement or status in the Female Competition Category, or as a female athlete in the Skeleton Mixed Team Competition Category.

## **International Events**

While the IBSF has not adopted a policy related to a female competition category in IBSF sanctioned events ("IBSF Events"), USABS recognizes that IBSF may choose to do so in the future. If IBSF adopts such a policy ("IBSF Policy"), athletes must comply with IBSF's Policy when participating in IBSF Events, and the requirements of this policy as applicable.

## **Confidentiality**

All athlete information provided to USABS under this Policy will be held in strict confidence. Such information will not be used for any purpose not contemplated in this Policy and will not be disclosed to any third party unless that disclosure is necessary for the effective application and enforcement of this Policy or as required by law. USABS shall not publicly comment on individual athlete cases under this Policy except it may do so in response to public comments attributed to the athlete or the athlete's representatives.

For the sake of clarity, this confidentiality clause does not include athlete information which is part of an athlete's normal public membership profile, such as the competition category the athlete participates or participated in.

## **Other Eligibility Requirements Not Affected**

The application of this Policy shall not affect eligibility requirements or rules otherwise set out in the USABS Bylaws, or other USABS rules, policies, or procedures.

## **Member Agreement, Consent, and Release**

All members represent and agree that:

1. All information submitted concerning their membership application is accurate and complete to the best of their knowledge, and no relevant information has been intentionally withheld.
2. The member will fully cooperate with and provide any additional information reasonably requested by USABS in the administration of this Policy.
3. Neither USABS nor any USABS employees, directors, officers, agents, representatives, or other persons involved in the administration of this Policy shall be liable in any way in relation to acts done or omitted to be done in good faith in connection with the administration of this Policy.