Gender Inclusion Policy

Approved by the USA Artistic Swimming Board of Directors
10/15/2026

The following is USA Artistic Swimming's (USAAS) gender inclusion policy for members, member clubs and events. These practices are consistent with USAAS's values of equitable opportunity and the unequivocal right to participate in sport. As a National Governing Body (NGB) USAAS is required to comply with the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee Athlete Safety Policy and Executive Order 14201 and the Ted Stevens Olympic & Amateur Sports Act.

USAAS policy does not take precedence over state law. *Know the law in your state*. Most state restrictions are based on publicly funded programs and events (primarily focused on high school and collegiate sports).

Policy:

USAAS promotes an environment in which athletes can participate in our sport without the fear of harassment or discrimination, as described within the Athlete Bill of Rights. USAAS strongly believes that gender identity, expression and sex variation should never hinder the participation of a member in all aspects of the organization. These members shall participate fairly, safely, and equitably without prejudice at all USAAS sanctioned and owned events. USAAS prioritizes diversity and inclusion in all aspects of the sport and is committed to providing a safe, supportive and welcoming environment for athletes regardless of gender identity.

USAAS will operate within the gender-based categories defined here. Athletes of all gender identities have the choice to participate in all USAAS sanctioned and owned events in the mixed gender events and the Gender Inclusive events. The policy requires athletes in Girl/Women Solo, Boy/Man Solo, Girls/Women Duet and Boys/Men Duet to compete as their sex at birth.

Solo Categories:
Girl/Woman Solo (athlete who is female at birth)
Boy/Man Solo (athlete who is male at birth)
Gender Inclusive Solo (open to athletes who do not identify as girl/woman or boy/man)

Duet Categories:
Girls/Women Duet (both athletes are female at birth)
Boys/Men Duet (both athletes are male at birth)

Mixed Duet (one athlete who is male at birth, one athlete who is female at birth)
Gender Inclusive Duet (one or more athlete(s) who do not identify as girl/woman or boy/man)

All other categories (i.e. Team events) are open (no gender restriction)

International Competition/National Team
World Aquatics (AQUA) - AQUA's current policy requires transgender athletes to undergo monitoring and comprehensive medical examinations in addition to proving medical intervention prior to the age of 12. Should an athlete accept a position on one of our national team programs, they must adhere to AQUA legislation for participation in their sanctioned events.

Participation Practices:

- The events categories are:
    - Solo – Girl/Woman Solo, Boy/Man Solo, Gender Inclusive Solo
    - Duet – Girls/Women Duet, Mixed Duet, Boys/Men Duet, Gender Inclusive Duet
- Open inclusion of all athletes in team routines (team routines include: technical, free, acrobatic, combination and trios).
- Athletes can disclose their gender identity and their preferred category of competition for each event they participate in. If an event has a qualifying requirement (i.e. national championships) the category that an athlete qualified in will be the category that they must compete in at the next level event.
- All categories are to be offered at USAAS sanctioned and owned events

Policy Implementation Information:

NGBs are committed to protecting opportunities for athletes participating in sport. NGBs will continue to collaborate with various stakeholders with oversight responsibilities, e.g., IOC, IPC, international federations, 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. § 22501, et. Seq.

Measures will be put into place by member clubs at USAAS sanctioned and owned events to ensure members have an environment and facility that is welcoming regardless of any member's gender identity. This includes but is not limited to providing a non-binary designated changing space and rest room facility when possible. (example: a family bathroom or designated bath room that allows space within it to change)

USAAS will work to advance inclusion and prevent discrimination based on gender identity and/or sex variations through educational training.

USAAS does not support the use of medical analysis, treatment or exams to determine competitive and non-competitive eligibility for domestic programs.

Eligibility criteria for a gender category will not include gynecological or physical examinations or documentation of such exams to compete.

USAAS may ask the member to provide further information and documents

USAAS will promote and support the athlete's ability to communicate and provide opportunities to discuss their competitive future at any level of the organization.

Health information is considered private and shall not be disclosed to others unless permission has been granted by the member or adult representative of the minor member for travel safety and emergency medical care.

This document was developed to confirm the opportunities available to all athletes who choose to participate in any USAAS sanctioned and owned event. Should an athlete require a more specific accommodations for inclusion based on gender identity, USAAS will facilitate a review of individual cases. A request for review should be sent to the national office at memcoord@usaartisticswim.org. An evaluation of the request will be completed by the VP Athlete Access & Opportunity, VP of Competitive Programs and AEC President to determine the best gender inclusive practices.

If there are any requests for guidance you can contact the national office at memcoord@usaartisticswim.org or call 719-866-2219

Violation of this policy will be subject Appendix P and K of the *USAAS Rulebook*.