



## US SPEEDSKATING GENDER ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

The following guidelines support US Speedskating's (USS) mission of being an inclusive organization and growing participation without discrimination of any kind. USS also supports the concepts of ability-based racing as an important factor in positive athlete development.

### Definitions

- Transgender: a person whose gender identity does not correspond to the person's assigned sex at birth.
- Gender identity: a person's internal sense of being male, female, or non-binary.

### Guidelines

A transgender athlete is allowed to participate in speed skating in accordance with his/her/their gender identity, irrespective of the gender listed on the athlete's birth certificate and or passport.

An athlete who's sex assigned at birth was female, but identifies as a male, should be allowed to participate in male events and an athlete who's sex assigned at birth was male, but has a female gender identity should be allowed to participate in female events.

This should be applied to all non-elite competitions. Non-elite competitions are currently defined as any competition at the club, local and/or regional level.

USS Athletes will follow the ISU Transgender Policy found in [ISU Communication No. 2595](#) or any update to such for elite-level competitions. Elite-level competitions are defined as any USS Qualifying Event for international teams, National Senior and/or Junior Championships, AmCup events and any other USS hosted events unless otherwise stated.

### Recommended Practices

1. To disclose an athlete's transgender identity to USS, the athlete (or parent/guardian in the case of a minor) should declare their gender identity when completing their annual membership renewal or new membership registration with USS. Once this is completed, the athlete will be able to register in events that match his/her/their gender identity.
2. Prior to meets, without violating an athlete's confidentiality, the athlete (or parent/guardian or designee) may communicate with the meet director regarding accommodations for transgender athletes in the rink and in the locker rooms if possible.
3. The US Speedskating Safe Sport Policy & Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) preventing, identifying, and responding to bullying, harassment, and discrimination are applied equally to all participants regardless of gender identity.
4. The US Speedskating Code of Conduct specifies that discrimination of any kind, is prohibited.
5. The ISU Transgender Policy shall apply, for an athlete to be eligible to set a U.S. National Record including Age-Group Records at the Junior C level and above.