



# Wrestling Australia Inc

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## **Wrestling Australia Transgender Policy**

Wrestling Australia (WAI) believes in the rights of transgender people to take part in and achieve their potential in the sport of Wrestling. This policy has been adopted to clarify the rules that relate to the participation of Transgender people in Wrestling and to create a clear framework for participating in WAI sanctioned event. This policy is based on the United World Wrestling (UWW) Transgender Policy.

### **1. Application**

1. The term “Transgender” is used in this policy to refer to individuals whose gender identity (i.e. how they identify) is different from the biological sex assigned to them at birth (whether they are pre or post-puberty, and whether or not they have undergone any form of medical or surgical intervention).
2. This policy applies to all officially sanctioned WAI events, this includes but is not limited to competitions within state associations, national events, beach wrestling and training camps.
3. This policy establishes the conditions enabling transgender wrestlers to participate in WAI sanctioned events in the style that is consistent with their gender identity.
4. In the event that an issue arises, which was not foreseen in this policy it will be dealt with in a manner that protects and supports the imperatives of the policy.
5. All cases under this policy, and in particular all wrestler’s information provided to WAI under this policy, and all results of examinations and assessments conducted under this policy, will be dealt with in strict confidence at all times. All medical information and data relating to a wrestler will be treated as sensitive personal information and WAI will ensure at all times that it is processed as such in accordance with applicable data protection and privacy laws. Such information will not be used for any purpose not contemplated in this policy, and will not be disclosed to any third party except (a) as is strictly necessary for the



effective application and enforcement of this policy; (b) as is required by law or (c) an official request of the Australian Sports Anti-doping Authority (ASADA) or World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

## **2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

### **Eligible conditions for male-to-female Transgender wrestler**

2.1 To be eligible to participate in WAI sanctioned events in the Women's Wrestling (WW) style Competition, a male-to-female transgender wrestler must satisfy the following requirements:

(a) she must provide a written and signed declaration, in a form satisfactory to WAI, that her gender identity is female; and

(b) she must demonstrate to the satisfaction of WAI that the concentration of testosterone in her serum has been less than 10 nmol/L continuously for a period of at least 12 months (with the requirement for any longer period to be based on a confidential case-by-case evaluation, considering whether or not 12 months is a sufficient length of time to minimize any advantage in women wrestling competition), and that she is ready, willing and able to continue to keep it below that level for as long as she continues to compete in the women's wrestling style.

2.2 If WAI determines that the above eligibility conditions have been met, WAI will issue a written certification of that wrestler eligibility to compete in WAI WW competitions. That eligibility will be subject, in every case, to the wrestler's consistent compliance with and continuing fulfillment of the above eligibility conditions, including (without limitation) to continuously maintaining the serum testosterone at a concentration of less than 10 nmol/L.

2.3 To avoid discrimination, if an athlete is deemed ineligible for WAI WW competition, the wrestler should be eligible to compete in WAI Men's Greco-Roman (GR) and Freestyle (FS) competitions.

### **Eligibility conditions for female-to-male Transgender wrestler**

2.4 To be eligible to participate in WAI Men's GR and FS competitions, a female-to-male transgender wrestler must provide a written and signed declaration, in a form satisfactory to WAI, that his gender identity is male. As soon as it is reasonably practicable, following receipt of such declaration, WAI will issue a written certification of that wrestler's eligibility to compete in WAI GR and FS competitions. In order to avoid ambiguity, a female-to-male transgender wrestler will not be eligible to participate in WAI WW Competitions once they have commenced hormone treatment.



## **Conditions applicable to all Transgender wrestlers**

2.5 Once a transgender wrestler has satisfied the eligibility requirements and has started participating in WAI Competitions in the wrestling style consistent with his/her gender identity, he/she may not then switch back to participating in the other gender category in WAI competitions unless and until (a) at least four years have passed since the first WAI competitions in which he/she participated as a transgender wrestler; and (b) he/she satisfies all of the conditions for eligibility to compete in the other style/s.

2.6 It should be clear that, the eligibility condition for a transgender wrestler specified in this policy, operate without prejudice to all other eligibility requirements that are applicable to all wrestlers (transgender or otherwise) under the rules of WAI, which must also be satisfied, at all relevant times. In particular, nothing in this policy is intended to undermine or affect, in any way, any of the requirements of the World Anti-Doping Code (of the WADA International Standards) including the International Standards for Therapeutic Use Exemptions), or of the WAI Anti-Doping Program. Nothing in this policy will be deemed to permit, excuse or justify non-compliance with any of those requirements, including (without limitation) any requirement for a wrestler to obtain a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) for the use of the prohibited substance, such as testosterone.

2.7 Transgender wrestles may be granted a TUE only after their eligibility and gender has been established and confirmed by WAI.

## **3. MONITORING/INVESTIGATING COMPLIANCE**

1. WAI may review or monitor any wrestlers compliance with the transgender eligibility conditions at any time, with or without notice, whether by random or targeted testing of the wrestlers serum testosterone levels (and the wrestler agrees to provide serum samples for this purpose, and also agrees that any samples provided for anti-doping purposes and/or any anti-doping data relating to him/her may also be used for this purpose), or by any other appropriate means.

3.2 In addition, WAI may investigate, at any time:

(a) whether a wrestler who has not filed a declaration under this policy is a transgender wrestler who needs to establish his/her eligibility to compete in a particular wrestling style in accordance with this policy;

(b) whether (because of a subsequent change in circumstances, subsequent learning or experience, or otherwise) it is necessary to require a transgender wrestler who has previously been determined to satisfy the transgender eligibility conditions to



undergo further assessment by WAI to determine whether he/she still satisfies those conditions; and or

- (c) any circumstances indicating potential non-compliance with this policy; and in such cases the wrestler in questions must cooperate fully and in good faith with this investigation, including (without limitation) by providing serum samples upon request.

3.3 To avoid abuse, only WAI may initiate an investigation under paragraph 3.2, and WAI should only do so in good faith and on reasonable grounds, based upon information derives from reliable sources, such as (for example) the affected wrestler him/herself. Results from a routine pre-participation health examination, or data as to serum testosterone levels and/or data obtained from analysis of samples collected from anti-doping purposes.

3.4 The dignity of every individual must be respected. All forms of abuse and/or harassment are expressly prohibited. In particular (but without limitation):

- a) Any person or entity (including, without limitation, any other wrestler or official) that provides information to WAI for consideration under this policy is under strict obligation (i) to ensure that the information is accurate and complete; and (ii) not be provide any information in bad faith, to harass, stigmatize or otherwise injure a wrestler or for any other improper purpose.

- (b) No stigmatization or improper discrimination on the grounds of gender identity will be tolerated. In particular (but without limitation), persecution or campaigns against wrestlers, simply on the basis that their appearance does not conform to gender stereotypes, are not acceptable. Any such conduct will be considered a serious breach of this policy, which is, without prejudice, subject to any action WAI may take under any applicable WAI Codes of Conduct.

3.5 Where WAI determines that a male-to-female transgender wrestler who has previously been declared to compete in the women's wrestling style in WAI competitions has failed to maintain her serum testosterone level at a concentration of less that 10 nmol/L, she may not compete in the women's wrestling style in WAI competitions until such time as she demonstrates, to the satisfaction of WAI, that she has maintained her serum testosterone below 10 nmol/L for a new continuous period of at least 12 months.

This document is subject to review at any time.

Any questions in relation to this document should be directly towards [mpio@wrestling.com.au](mailto:mpio@wrestling.com.au)

