



FENCING  
VICTORIA

# TRANSGENDER AND GENDER DIVERSE ATHLETE POLICY

## 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 All people should have the opportunity to participate in fencing. Fencing Victoria is committed to ensuring and promoting the inclusion of Transgender and Gender Diverse Athletes in fencing.
- 1.2 The purpose of this policy is to provide for the participation of Transgender and Gender Diverse athletes in Fencing Victoria competitions, clubs and training.
- 1.3 Fencing Victoria acknowledges that:
  - 1.3.1 It is a member organisation of The Australian Fencing Federation (AFF) and is subject to AFF competition policies while holding 'Category 1' events.

## 2. COMPETITION ENTRY

- 2.1 For all Fencing Victoria hosted 'Category 2' events, competitors are welcomed to enter the event which most affirms their gender.
  - 2.1.1 Fencing Victoria acknowledges that competition naming convention allows only for Mens/Womens and Girls/Boys events.
  - 2.1.2 Fencing Victoria acknowledges that gender identity can be fluid, and that competitors may wish to alternate which event (Male/Female) they wish to enter. – In order to ensure accurate rankings, into an event and at the end of the year, Fencing Victoria requires Transgender and Gender Diverse athletes remain in the same category (Male/Female) for the duration of a calendar year.

## 3. UNIFORM POLICY

- 3.1 Participants, regardless of their Gender Identity, may wear the fencing uniform of their choosing, so long as it confirms to relevant competition rules.
  - 3.1.1 Participants, regardless of their Gender Identity, must wear the safety equipment specific to their anatomy. (eg. chest protectors)
- 3.2 Naming of FV uniforms (eg. tracksuits) will reflect differences in fit and size not Male/Female.

## 4. PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

- 4.1 Gender, Sex and Gender Identity are private matters, and should be treated as private and confidential. Even if not explicitly stated to be private and confidential.

## 5. DISCRIMINATION

- 5.1 Fencing Victoria is committed to creating a safe environment for all members of its community. Discrimination towards transgender and gender diverse athletes is against the Code of Conduct and may, at the discretion of Fencing Victoria, result in disciplinary action.
- 5.2 Fencing Victoria defines the following actions as willful discrimination.
  - 5.2.1 Dead naming (deliberately using incorrect names) of an individual or group.
  - 5.2.2 Intentional, and/or repeated misgendering of an individual or group
  - 5.2.3 Refusal to referee, or oversee the competition in any official capacity, due to Transgender or Gender Diverse entrants.
  - 5.2.4 Using an individual's Gender Identity to discriminate against someone in Team event selection.
  - 5.2.5 Using an individual or group's Gender Identity to limit opportunities within Fencing Victoria
  - 5.2.6 Invasive questions in relation to Gender Identity, personal anatomy, transition etc.
  - 5.2.7 Bullying/Intimidation/Aggression
- 5.3 Disciplinary Actions:
  - 5.3.1 Discrimination to Transgender or Gender Diverse individuals or groups may result up to, and including, a Black Card.

## 6. INCLUSIVE CONSIDERATION

- 6.1 Referee and DT Training
  - 6.1.1 All technical officials for Fencing Victoria will receive training and support, to ensure that the policy is adhered to fairly.
  - 6.1.2 Fencing Victoria will commit to, where possible, ask for preferred name on all registration forms.
  - 6.1.3 Fencing Victoria will commit to, when possible, provide the option for fencers to choose from a range of pronouns.