



The Football Association
**Policy on the Inclusion of Transgender
and Non-Binary People in Football –
Frequently Asked Questions**



The Football Association

Policy on the Inclusion of Transgender and Non-Binary People in Football – Frequently Asked Questions

What does the Policy cover?

This Policy covers all matches under FA Rules (including friendlies and pre-season matches), save for international matches or competitions governed by FIFA, UEFA or the IOC. This Policy does not cover activities other than matches such as training sessions.

How long does the eligibility process take?

Assuming the relevant documents are provided, and relevant requirements met, provisional eligibility typically takes 1 – 2 weeks from the date of application, at which point you can start to play. If required, the match observation, to confirm eligibility, may take up to a further 6 weeks.

How often do I need to apply for clearance to play?

Eligibility is granted for the length of a season, and players need to renew it annually before the start of each season. If you have undergone a bilateral orchidectomy, you will be granted permanent eligibility.

What documentation do I need to provide for eligibility to play women's football?

- A record of your blood serum testosterone maintained at below 5.0 nmol/L for at least 12 months; and
- Medical record of hormone therapy (and/or gonadectomy).

Who is my data shared with?

- The data you provide on the application form, which includes your medical data, will be used by The FA and its instructed medical professionals to determine your eligibility to play football in your affirmed gender.
- Your eligibility status will be shared with your relevant County FA and League for the purpose of league governance and administration, and to provide you with any support you may require.

What is the independent medical advisor's role in the process?

The independent advisor's role is to provide The FA with expert advice, if necessary, on your level of blood serum testosterone.

Does the policy apply to players U18?

Players under the age of 18 are covered by The FA's policy for children, which allows girls and boys to play with and against each other. However, the Policy applies to open-age football so any Transgender or Non-Binary player who is under 18 years old but eligible to play in open-age football (or will soon be eligible and likely wishes to play in open-age football) is recommended to approach their club or County FA for support with the application process for open-age football.

The Football Association

Policy on the Inclusion of Transgender and Non-Binary People in Football – Frequently Asked Questions Frequently Asked Questions

If a player is U18 and has started taking hormone therapy to support gender transition, do they need to go through the clearance process?

They will need to complete it by the time they are 18 if they wish to continue to play football.

My birth sex is female, but I identify as male can I play women's football?

You can play women's football while your blood serum testosterone is within the natal female range.

Can trans women change in the same changing room as their female teammates?

The policy does not give a transwoman the right to use 'female - only spaces'. Each club needs to develop guidance, in accordance with the guide provided by the Equality and Human Rights Commission, to ensure all players are treated with equal respect.

What should I do if I have clearance to play in my affirmed gender, but I keep being questioned about my eligibility to play women's football?

Speak to someone in your club such as your club manager, County FA EDI or contact the FA directly via a ticket to the service desk on the following link: Click [here](#) to Contact Us

First Published September 2014.

Amended March 2025.