



TBNZ Gender Classification Policy 2024

TBNZ's gender classification is based on USBC's Gender Classification Policy and IOC guidelines approved in 2015 and subsequent IOC framework on inclusion and non-discrimination on the basis of gender identity and sex variations announced in 2021.

Default gender classification for TBNZ competition will be determined by birth certificate. Members may petition for a change in gender classification by writing to TBNZ and will be evaluated as follows:

Requirement for a transition to male:

Those who transition from female to male are eligible to compete in the male category without restriction.

Requirement for a transition to female:

Transition before puberty

Individuals transitioning from male to female before puberty are eligible to compete as girls and women (female) until puberty. Once they hit puberty and they wish to continue they must submit an application to TBNZ.

Transition after puberty

Those that transition from male to female may be eligible to compete in the female category by submitting an application to TBNZ.

Female competition conditions:

1. The athlete has declared that her gender identity is female. The declaration cannot be changed, for sporting purposes, for a minimum of four years.
2. Member attests she is not eligible for TBNZ awards or records in the female category for the first 12 months.
3. The athlete must demonstrate that her total testosterone level in serum has been below 10 nmol/L for the last 12 months prior to competition in any tournaments listed on the TBNZ calendar (i.e. must provide four consecutive readings spaced three months apart to be eligible for tournament competition).
4. The athlete's total testosterone level in serum must remain below 10 nmol/L throughout the period of desired eligibility to compete in the female category.
5. Compliance with those conditions may be monitored by testing. In the event of non-compliance, the athlete's eligibility for female competition will be suspended for 12 months.

6. Athlete must submit declaration from a medical doctor stating to a responsible degree of medical certainty that her birth gender does not give her a competitive advantage.
7. All costs associated with this request to change gender is borne by the athlete.

TBNZ Management staff will evaluate the submission and make an administrative determination as to whether the application is approved or if the athlete's birth gender gives her a competitive advantage and the application is denied.

TBNZ Management staff may request independent opinions from medical doctors, TBNZ trained coaches or other experts in making a determination. A determination will be based on the following criteria:

- Opinions of Medical doctors
- Opinions of coaches specifically if the applicant's rev rate and ball speed are more comparable to elite male athletes than female athletes, the application may be denied.

If the application is denied, the athlete may appeal the determination with the TBNZ Board. The appeal must be lodged within 14 days, the board must use the same criteria when considering the appeal

There shall be no appeal from the decision of consideration by the TBNZ Board and such decision shall be final and binding to all parties.

If TBNZ approved the application, another member may file a grievance and appeal the determination with the TBNZ Board. The appeal must be lodged within 14 days, the board must use the same criteria when considering the appeal

There shall be no appeal from the decision of consideration by the TBNZ Board and such decision shall be final and binding to all parties.