



US OPEN PICKLEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS TRANSGENDER GUIDE

The US OPEN Pickleball Championships has designed these policies after taking into consideration the nature of the sport, and policies created by various sports organizations including, The International Olympic Committee, The International Tennis Federation, The NCAA.

This policy will apply solely to the US OPEN Pickleball Championships held in Naples, Florida.

Spirit Promotions and the US OPEN Pickleball Championships have every intent to be respectful, inclusive and welcoming to all athletes. We strive to create an environment that accepts and embraces diversity.

All information will be confidential. Spirit Promotions holds the right to make decisions based on each individual circumstance and is not bound to the policies of any other organization.

Spirit Promotions will use the current IOC policies as guidelines for pro and amateur events, however we are not bound to these policies.

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC) 2021

<https://olympics.com/ioc/human-rights/fairness-inclusion-nondiscrimination>

We encourage all to read this document. Especially the Questions and Answers section.

As we understand it, the IOC framework focuses on 10 principles:

Inclusion, prevention of harm, nondiscrimination, fairness, no presumption of advantage, evidence-based approach, priority to health and body autonomy, stakeholder-centered approach, right to privacy, and periodic reviews.

Guidance from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) says there should be no assumption that a transgender athlete automatically has an unfair advantage in female events.

"The IOC is therefore not in a position to issue regulations that define eligibility criteria for every sport, discipline or event across the very different national jurisdictions and sport systems."

NCAA will align with the IOC guidelines:

"Approximately 80% of U.S. Olympians are either current or former college athletes," NCAA President Mark Emmert said in a release. "This policy alignment provides consistency and further strengthens the relationship between college sports and the U.S. Olympics."

US OPEN ATHLETES:

Each athlete will be treated on an individual basis. MTF will be accepted in female events, with an approved rating by Spirit Promotions. Athlete and Spirit Promotions will agree upon the rating used by athlete. Rating must be completed by the registration deadline of each year of competition.

NOTES:

Trans athlete is a resource for students, athletes, coaches, and administrators to find information about trans inclusion in athletics at various levels of play. This site pulls together existing information in one central location and breaks down information into [easy-to-reference areas](#) to help you find what you need.