



**Golf Canada**

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## **GOLF CANADA POLICY ON TRANSGENDER GOLFER PARTICIPATION**

Golf Canada believes in and is committed to diversity, inclusion and gender equity among its competitors. As participation in Golf Canada Championships provides golfers a unique and positively powerful experience, the goal of this policy is to create opportunity for transgender golfers to participate in accordance with their gender identity while maintaining the relative balance of competitive equity within our events.

### **Definitions:**

*Golfer:* Any individual who seeks to participate as a player in any of Golf Canada's events.

*Gender Review Sub-Committee:* is made up of Golf Canada's Managing Director, Amateur Competitions, Chair of Amateur Competitions Committee and the Chair of the Rules & Amateur Status Committee.

The following policy clarifies participation of a transgender Golfer in an event. For purposes of this Policy, any reference to an "event" refers to a Golf Canada Championship event.

### **Eligibility**

1. A Golfer will be eligible to participate in an event, provided that the participant is female or male and:

- a) was female or male at birth; or <sup>1</sup>
- b) is a trans female (Male-to-Female) Golfer and surgical anatomical changes have been completed, including external genitalia changes and gonadectomy; or
- c) is a trans female (Male-to-Female) Golfer treated with testosterone suppression medication for gender reassignment purposes. A trans female may compete in a

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<sup>1</sup> If the individual has undergone sex reassignment from male to female before puberty, the individual shall be regarded as female upon presentation of appropriate documentation (see documentation section).

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men's event but may not compete in a women's event until completing one calendar year of testosterone suppression treatment; or

d) is a trans male (Female-to-Male) Golfer treated with testosterone administration medication for gender reassignment purposes. A trans male may compete in a men's event, but is not eligible to compete in a women's event.

2. Any transgender Golfer who is not taking hormone treatment related to gender reassignment may participate in sex-separated events in accordance with his or her assigned birth gender. For certainty:

a) A trans male (Female-To-Male) Golfer who is not taking testosterone related to gender reassignment may participate in a women's event.

b) A trans female (Male-To-Female) Golfer who is not taking hormone treatments related to gender reassignment may participate in a men's event.

## Documentation

1. Gender reassignment documentation must be submitted in an envelope marked "Confidential" and addressed to **Managing Director, Amateur Competitions** Suite 1 – 1333 Dorval Drive, Oakville, ON L6M 4X7 and received at Golf Canada **no later than the date the championship entry application is due**. The documentation, which will be reviewed by Golf Canada's Gender Review sub-committee, must include the following:

i. identification of physician who conducted a psychiatric evaluation before undergoing treatment for gender reassignment, including name, address and phone number;

ii. hospital records confirming completed surgical gonadectomy; or physician's letter confirming completion and description of hormonal treatment as described in the Eligibility provisions above; and

iii. an executed waiver allowing Golf Canada's Gender Review sub-committee to review all relevant medical information and to contact all treating physicians if

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deemed necessary for the purpose of confirming trans male or trans female status (See Appendix 1-Waiver).

## Review Procedure

1. A confidential case-by-case evaluation will occur on a timely basis. In the event that the gender of a participant is questioned, the Gender Review sub-committee as nominated by Golf Canada shall have the authority to take all appropriate measures for the determination of the gender of the Golfer.
2. If Golfer is deemed ineligible to participate in an event, the Golfer may appeal the decision in accordance with Golf Canada's Dispute Resolution and Appeal Policy. The appeal time period may conflict with scheduled events that the Golfer has applied to participate in. The Golfer will only be eligible to participate in events that follow a final determination of his or her status.
3. If Golf Canada grants the Golfer eligibility to participate in events consistent with the individual's gender identity, the eligibility is granted for the duration of the Golfer's participation and does not need to be subsequently renewed.
4. Golf Canada, with reasonable cause, may request that a trans female or trans male provide an updated physician's letter at any time.

## Confidentiality

1. All communications among involved parties and required supporting documentation shall be kept confidential and all records of proceedings sealed unless ordered to be disclosed pursuant to applicable law.
2. All information about a Golfer's gender identity and medical information, including physician's information provided pursuant to this policy, shall be maintained in accordance with Golf Canada's Privacy Policy and applicable laws.

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## APPENDIX 1

### Golf Canada Policy on Transgender Golf Participation Waiver

In connection with my application to participate in a Golf Canada Championship Event (“Event”) as a transgender golfer, I, the undersigned person, for myself and my personal representatives, heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, hereby:

certify that I have read, understood, and agree to be bound by the Golf Canada Policy on Transgender Golf Participation (the “Policy”);

certify that I am eligible to participate in an Event and meet the golfer eligibility requirements set out in the Policy;

agree to submit the following information and documentation for review by the Golf Canada Gender Review sub-committee (the “Sub-Committee”) as verification of my eligibility:

- a. identification of the physician who conducted the psychiatric examination before I underwent treatment for gender reassignment including the physician’s name, address and phone number; and
- b. hospital records confirming the completed gonadectomy or physician’s letter confirming completion and description of hormonal treatment as described in the Golf Canada Policy on Transgender Golf Participation.

explicitly agree that the Sub-Committee or its delegate(s) may review the information and documentation referred to above in accordance with the “Review Procedure” outlined in the Policy, and if deemed necessary by the Sub-Committee or its delegate(s), may contact all treating physicians specified in such information or documentation for the purpose of confirming trans female or trans male status, and I hereby expressly permit such medical practitioners to provide the requested confirmation(s).

BY SIGNING THIS WAIVER, I ACKNOWLEDGE HAVING READ, UNDERSTOOD, AND AGREED TO ALL OF THE ABOVE TERMS.

.....

### PART A

Dated in \_\_\_\_\_ on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013  
 (city) (day) (month)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 PARTICIPANT **PRINTED** First and Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature (if participant is age of majority)

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**PART B** – Where the PARTICIPANT named in Part A is under the age of majority in his/her province or territory of residence, his/her parent/legal guardian must complete Part B below:

***I am the parent/legal guardian of the participant named in Part A above who is under the age of majority in the province or territory in which we reside. As parent or legal guardian, I certify that the information on this documentation is true and that I am aware of the applicant's intention to participate in this championship(s) as a trans male or trans female competitor; and that he/she does so with my approval and consent. I further permit the release and disclosure of the information and/ or documentation specified herein, and consent to the confirmation of trans male or trans female status by applicable medical practitioners to the Sub-Committee or its delegate(s).***

Dated in \_\_\_\_\_ on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013  
(city) (day) (month)

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN First and Last Name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

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