

TRANSGENDER AND NON-BINARY INDIVIDUALS POLICY

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The LTA updated its Transgender and Non-Binary Individuals Policy for implementation on 1st January 2025. PFTC recognises that we have a responsibility to ensure competition at the Club is fair and a responsibility to make sure that tennis is welcoming and inclusive for everyone. Tennis is a gender-affected sport – the average man has an advantage when playing against the average woman. This includes longer levers with which to reach and hit the ball and an increased cardio-vascular capacity. The current broad consensus, including the conclusion of the review carried out by the Sports Councils Equality Group, is that this advantage is likely to be retained to a significant degree in trans women, making competition potentially unfair.

TYPES OF COMPETITION

The LTA's Policy has divided competition into Specified and Non-Specified. **Specified Competitions** will usually be "inter" venue, i.e. involving individuals from different clubs or counties (which are Graded 1 to 6). **Non-Specified Competitions** will usually be "intra" venue, i.e. involving players from within one venue (which is everything below Grade 6). The LTA restricts trans women and non-binary individuals male at birth from playing in the women's category in Specified, inter-venue, competitions. These will be competitions ranging from National Championships through to local county and district leagues, where the purpose is to provide fair competitive opportunities. This helps ensure there is a common national standard for all these competitions which is fair.

COMPETITION AT THE CLUB

PFTC has adopted a policy for Non-Specified Competitions, which is consistent with the LTA's Specified Competitions Policy. Unless otherwise stated, eligibility for Club competitions such as, but not limited to, the Annual Club Championships, Weldon Cup and Veterans Tournaments will be based on the following criteria:

- Any reference to woman, women, girl or girls refers to those female at birth.
- Competitions for women and/or girls are restricted to those female at birth.
- The woman or girl in a mixed doubles pairing must be female at birth.

PTFC may designate some competitions, such as the Singles Box Leagues, as mixed competitions open to all members.

Every member is welcome to participate in events and will be able to compete in at least one competition category.

USE OF CHANGING ROOMS

If we are made aware that a child or adult self-identifies as a gender that differs from their sex at birth, we will work with them and their parents/carers (where it relates to a child) to make reasonable adjustments to changing arrangements to suit their needs. Please see the Club's policy:

PFTC Use of Changing Rooms Policy

SUPPORT

Any concerns should be raised to our Welfare Officer, Jenny Allan via email: pitfarmwelfare@gmail.com

DOCUMENTS

The LTA's policy can be viewed at:

LTA Transgender and Non Binary Policy

The LTA's guidance for LTA Registered Venues and Accredited Coaches can be viewed at:

LTA Transgender and Non Binary Venue Guidance

This policy was approved by the Committee on 23 February 2025 and will be reviewed every three years (or earlier if there is a change in national legislation).

Next Review due: Date: 23 February 2028