



Gender Reassignment

Responsible for review
Chief Executive

Change History			
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1 Introduction

The Gender Recognition Act 2004 (the “Act”) allows transsexual people who have taken decisive steps to live fully and permanently in their acquired gender to gain legal recognition in that gender. The Act ensures that transsexual people can now take up their fundamental rights including the right to respect for private and family life and be allowed to live free from discrimination.

In practical terms, legal recognition will have the effect that, for example, a male-to-female transsexual person will be legally recognised as a woman in English law. On the issue of a full Gender Recognition Certificate, the person will be entitled to a new birth certificate reflecting the acquired gender and will be able to marry someone of the opposite gender to his or her acquired gender.

The Act makes specific provision for sports organisations to prohibit or restrict a person whose gender has become the acquired gender under the Act from participating as competitors in an event or events involving a gender-affected sport. A sport is a gender-affected sport if the physical strength, stamina or physique of average persons of one gender would put them at a disadvantage to average persons of the other gender as competitors in events involving the sport.

Such prohibition or restrictions can only be made in order to secure fair competition or the safety of competitors at the event or events.

The International Olympic Committee has established a policy for the participation of transsexual people in sports competitions (the “IOC Policy”). As the National Governing Body for the sport of Archery in Great Britain, Archery GB has adopted the IOC Policy in respect of participation in archery events at UK/World Record Status and at international level.

The Archery GB Gender Recognition Policy has been developed in accordance with the Gender Recognition Act 2004, the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 and the IOC Policy. It recognises the right of an individual who has undergone gender reassignment to participate in sport in their acquired gender whilst ensuring that such participation does not unfairly affect competition and does not affect the safety of fellow competitors.

2 Policy

2.1 Definitions

In this policy, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:

- “Domestic Competitions” means events at clubs and other Non-Record Status competitions.
- “Record Status Competitions” means events granted UK Record Status or World Record Status in the United Kingdom or overseas.
- “Elite Competitions” means events selected by Archery GB to train for, or compete as, an Archery GB team member at international events.
- “Panel” Means the Gender Recognition Panel established pursuant to the Gender Recognition Act 2004, and described more fully in Section 3.

2.2 Gender Reassignment before Puberty

An individual who has undergone gender reassignment of male-to-female before puberty is regarded as female. An individual who has undergone gender reassignment of female-to-male before puberty is regarded as male. Each is eligible to take part in any competition under their acquired gender, including (for the avoidance of doubt) Domestic, Record Status and Elite competitions.

The individual may be asked to provide confirmation that they have undergone gender reassignment before puberty, including medical records or other relevant evidence.

Once an individual has met all the above requirements their Archery GB membership details will be changed to reflect their new gender.

2.3 Gender Reassignment after Puberty

2.3.1 Domestic Competitions

An individual undergoing gender reassignment from male-to-female or female-to-male after puberty, or has undergone gender reassignment may participate in Domestic Competitions.

2.3.2 Record Status and Elite Competitions

An individual who has undergone gender reassignment from male-to-female or female-to-male after puberty may participate in Record Status and Elite Competitions under their acquired gender provided they have a Gender Recognition Certificate issued by the Panel.

An individual who has undergone gender reassignment from male-to-female or female-to-male after puberty may only participate in Record Status and Elite Competitions where they meet all the three following conditions:

- Surgical anatomical changes have been completed, including external genitalia changes and gonadectomy, which must have occurred at least two years before the date of the competition.
- Legal recognition of their acquired gender has been conferred by the Gender Recognition Panel.
- Hormonal therapy appropriate for the acquired gender has been administered in a verifiable manner and for a sufficient length of time to minimise gender-related advantages in sport competitions.

An individual wishing to participate in Record Status and Elite Competitions under their acquired gender will have their application considered by a Medical Officer appointed by Archery GB. (For the avoidance of doubt, the Medical Officer will assess the application to ensure that the individual meets the three conditions set out above).

Once an individual has met all the above requirements their Archery GB membership details will be changed to reflect their new gender.

2.4 Uncertainty, Dispute and Appeal

In the event of uncertainty or dispute as to the date of gender reassignment, the matter shall be considered and decided by a Medical Officer appointed by Archery GB.

An individual whose participation is refused shall have the right to appeal that decision to an independent appeals panel established by the Sports Dispute Resolution Panel or similar body.

2.5 Qualifications and Awards

All knowledge-based qualifications, such as those for coaching and judging, may be retained in the acquired gender.

All shooting awards may be gained in the new gender notwithstanding the fact that equivalent awards have been gained in the previous gender.

2.6 Privacy

Archery GB recommends that, where an individual or individuals contact an event organiser wishing to compete in competition under their acquired gender(s), the event organiser should work with the individual or individuals to accommodate their participation, whilst respecting their privacy at all times.

Archery GB (and its officers and staff) and any organisers of Archery GB event(s) shall not disclose any information obtained from an individual in accordance with this policy unless:

- The disclosure of that information does not enable the individual competitor to be identified;
- the individual competitor to whom the information relates has agreed to its disclosure;
- or it is under a legal duty to disclose the information.

Archery GB (and its officers and staff) and any organisers of Archery GB event(s) shall make reasonable efforts to provide suitable toilet/changing facilities for archers undergoing gender reassignment, taking into account their needs and those of other archers using those facilities. Where no suitable facilities exist, archers undergoing gender reassignment should be allowed to use existing or temporary disabled facilities.

3 Gender Recognition Panel

The Gender Recognition Panel assesses applications from transsexual people for legal recognition of the gender in which they now live.

The Panel was set up under the Gender Recognition Act 2004 and ensures that transsexual people can enjoy the rights and responsibilities appropriate to their acquired gender.

If a person is successful in their application to the Panel they will be issued with a full Gender Recognition Certificate and that person's gender will become for all purposes their acquired gender.

The official website of the Panel is www.grp.gov.uk. This website provides information about the Panel, together with information for applicants, medical practitioners and chartered psychologists and other parties who may be interested in the gender recognition process. It contains the application forms and guidance that will be required for the application.



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