

**TRANSGENDER PARTICIPATION POLICY**  
**Southern Illinois Jr. High School Athletic Association**  
**Revised 10-17-18**

The Southern Illinois Jr. High School Athletic Association (SIJHSAA) encourages diversity, and the privacy of its student athletes, coaches, administrators and fans. Transgender athletes are allowed participation in all sports and activities governed by the SIJHSAA.

\*All decisions to allow participation by a student-athlete identifying as a transgender student-athlete shall be made by the school where the student-athlete attends or participates in athletics. The school will notify the SIJHSAA of transgender participation at their school.

\*In the event the school participates in a co-op, the school the transgender student athlete is a student shall make the determination as to that student-athlete's participation.

**School Procedure:** The school district where the student-athlete attends MUST set their own rules and regulations regarding participation.

1. It is suggested the school survey the following in their participation evaluation.
  - a. Gender identity used for school registration records
  - b. Medical documentation (medical, psychological, or psychiatric records)
  - c. Gender identity related advantages for approved participation.
2. Notify the Director of the SIJHSAA of the approved transgender participation at your school.
3. Contact schools on your schedule of your transgender participation so they can provide student safety and privacy with access to changing rooms, shower, and toilet facilities, if requested by the identifying transgender student athlete's school.

**Note:**

\*The collection of data to identify the transgender athlete is solely up to the school they attend. The SIJHSAA shall not collect any medical, psychological, or psychiatric records of the identifying transgender athlete.

\*A sex-change operation is not required or suggested of the identifying transgender athlete.

\*Uniforms should not affect the student athlete's gender identity. All uniforms and dress code shall be established by the school and not by the SIJHSAA.

\*Once the student is approved, participation is granted through the duration of their junior high/middle school career, it does not need to be annually renewed.

\*Any appeals as to the eligibility of the petitioning transgender student athlete shall be denied by the SIJHSAA. Appeals based upon academic or jurisdictional eligibility will be heard by the SIJHSAA in accordance with SIJHSAA rules, procedures, and guidelines.