
Fairness and Safety in Sport Guidelines (ASAA Sanctioned Sports)

These Guidelines

- apply to athletes participating in ASAA sanctioned extra-curricular sports in schools;
- apply to athletes 12 years of age or older;
- exist to promote fairness and safety in sport by addressing matters of eligibility to participate in relevant sports in accordance with the Government of Alberta's Fairness and Safety in Sport Act and Fairness and Safety in Sport Regulation.

Athlete Eligibility

- To participate in a female-only league, class, or division of a relevant sport, an athlete must be of the female sex at birth
 - Before an athlete may participate in a relevant sport, an athlete (or their parent or guardian, if the athlete is under 18 years of age) must confirm in writing through the registration process that they understand eligibility requirements.
 - Failure to confirm the athlete's eligibility in writing will render the athlete ineligible to participate.

Challenge to Athlete Eligibility

- If there are reasonable grounds to believe that an athlete is ineligible to participate in a female-only league, class, or division of a relevant sport, a confidential challenge may be made in writing and sent to the High Prairie School Division, attention Pam Heckbert (pheckbert@hpsd.ca)
 - A challenge may be made by:
 - an athlete in the same league, class, or division of the relevant sport
 - a registered coach or team manager of athletes currently in the same league, class, or division of the relevant sport
 - A parent or guardian of an athlete currently in the same league, class, or division of the relevant sport (if the athlete is under the age of 18)
 - The challenge to an athlete's eligibility must include
 - name of the applicant
 - name of the athlete, their team and sport, and
 - information that supports the grounds for the challenge.
- Upon receipt of the challenge, if it is deemed that reasonable grounds do not exist, High Prairie School Division reserves the right to dismiss the challenge as invalid
 - Challenges could be deemed invalid if
 - a separate challenge for the same athlete has already been resolved,
 - not enough information has been provided, and/or
 - the challenge is made in bad faith.

Challenges Made in Bad Faith

- Bad faith challenges are determined by factors including but not limited to:
 - the applicant's prior history, and/or
 - a pattern of inappropriate behaviour surrounding these guidelines including numerous unfounded challenges.
- If it is determined that a challenge is made in bad faith, appropriate sanctions for the applicant could include without limitation
 - determination that the applicant has violated the code of conduct, and/or
 - a suspension or ban from participation in High Prairie School Division extracurricular sports for a determined period of time.

Valid Challenges

- If a challenge is deemed valid,
 - The applicant will be notified that the challenge is moving forward
 - The athlete who is subject of the challenge will be required to provide the High Prairie School Division with a copy of the athlete's birth registration document within 30 days.
 - Failure to provide documentation will render the athlete ineligible to participate in the relevant sport
- An athlete is eligible to compete throughout the verification process
- If the challenge is upheld and the athlete determined ineligible, the athlete will be permanently ineligible for participation in a female-only league, class or division of a relevant sport
- If the challenge is dismissed, the athlete will be permanently eligible for participation in a female-only league, class, or division of a relevant sport.