

**NEW POLICY**

**Participation In Badminton By Transgender and Non-Binary Players Policy**

**August 2023**

Following an extensive consultation process, including a survey of the badminton community, Badminton England’s Board of Directors has approved an updated policy relating to participation in badminton by transgender and non-binary players with immediate effect. The policy reflects the views expressed by the badminton community through the consultation process.

Badminton England has been aware that its previous policy was out of date and has undertaken an extensive consultation to inform the revised policy. We are grateful for the badminton community and external partners who have contributed to this process.

Badminton England encourages transgender and non-binary players to play badminton recreationally in the gender they identify as. This includes all recreational participation, including No Strings Badminton, and club night activity

Competition has the potential to enable players to secure ranking points and/or representation at county level or higher, fairness of competition will be prioritised. This means that competition will be categorised as:

Female competition – players assigned female at birth.

Open competition – all individuals will be eligible to compete in the open category. This will replace the men’s category.

The full policy can be found [here](https://newsletter.badmintonengland.co.uk/i/cC_k4vF1uIwkZeJXapJgYE4Bloi5NOpjJETc7j70hnM). It is accompanied by an [Explanatory Note](https://newsletter.badmintonengland.co.uk/i/DBJgi9_Ww7RPYZqKwBpFmTAta7doONXiYYDN_COBr_c) and [FAQs](https://newsletter.badmintonengland.co.uk/i/BOw1AYaa2_PVSN8SA_E22RSdfGSy_nNRXz9mW_yIsLE). Any questions or queries relating to this policy should be directed to inclusion@badmintonengland.co.uk

To support the participation of transgender and non-binary players across the sport of badminton, we will look to provide support, advice and guidance for county badminton associations, clubs, coaches, volunteers, and players to ensure transgender and non-binary players can continue their engagement in badminton.

Badminton England recognises and acknowledges each individual’s right to define their own gender, regardless of their sex assigned at birth. We also fully support their right to choose if, when and how to share that gender with others.

Badminton England believes that transgender and non-binary players should be able to access badminton without fear of discrimination or prejudice. People who identify as transgender or non-binary have the right to be treated with dignity and respect. Badminton England operates a zero tolerance policy on homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia.