



BLDSA Transgender Policy

The BLDSA is fully committed to the principles and practice of equality and opportunity for all.

The BLDSA welcomes transgender swimmers and volunteers.

Transgender people should be treated as members of their acquired gender.

BLDSA policy is that people should be treated, and swim, as a member of their acquired gender.

Swimming is recognised as a “gender-affected sport”, which means that on average men swim faster than women.

In the event of a transgender woman (that is defining herself and swimming as a woman but with birth gender male) having a BLDSA record for a swim, the *Policy on Trans Competitors from British Swimming April 2015* will be adopted. This would involve the woman providing evidence that hormone treatment has reduced her blood measured testosterone level to that of the affirmed gender for an appropriate length of time.

Should there be concerns that a transgender woman has an unfair advantage in the championship swims this evidence could also be sought.

The privacy of all swimmers will be respected.

Should any transgender person be discriminated against or bullied, this will be dealt with under existing BLDSA rules and policies.

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years and amended as necessary.