



Frequently Asked Questions: Curling Alberta's Fairness and Safety in Sport Policy

Why is Curling Alberta introducing this policy now?

This policy is in response to the *Fairness and Safety in Sport Act* (formerly Bill 29), which was recently enacted by the Government of Alberta. The legislation requires provincial sport organizations to designate specific divisions for biological females while ensuring transgender athletes can meaningfully participate in sport.

In plain language, what does Curling Alberta's Fairness & Safety in Sport policy mean for curlers?

Eligibility for female-only divisions (in events which are considered competitive by Curling Alberta, fall under its direct jurisdiction, and where athletes are 12 years of age and older) is limited to athletes whose sex recorded at birth is female. All other categories (men's, mixed, mixed doubles, wheelchair, triples, open/co-ed, recreational) will continue under Curling Alberta's Transgender & Non-Binary Inclusion Policy.

Which events does this policy apply to?

This policy applies only to events that fall under Curling Alberta's direct jurisdiction and are competitive in nature including:

- Curling Alberta provincial championships and qualifying events
- Canada Winter Games Trials
- Alberta Winter Games and qualifiers
- Arctic Winter Games qualifiers
- U20 Excel Cup
- Rockfest

Does this policy apply to club leagues or bonspiels?

No. Local curling clubs retain the autonomy to set eligibility rules for house leagues, bonspiels, and recreational events. Curling Alberta is available to provide guidance, but the policy does not govern internal club programming.

How will female-only divisions be defined?

In accordance with the legislation, Curling Alberta's "female-only" divisions will be

designated for athletes whose sex assigned at birth is female. For clarity, the policy will apply to women's and girls' fours categories only.

What options are available for transgender athletes?

Athletes who do not meet the eligibility criteria for a female-only division have options to compete in men's, mixed, mixed doubles, wheelchair, triples, open/co-ed, and recreational opportunities. Curling Alberta is committed to working with athletes to identify pathways for participation whenever possible.

Will athletes be required to disclose personal medical information when they register?

No. Curling Alberta will not request any medical documentation upon registration. Eligibility declarations will be collected through the event registration process.

How will the policy be enforced?

In the rare case that a challenge arises and it is accepted, the athlete whose eligibility is the subject of the challenge will be required to provide Curling Alberta with a copy of their birth registration document. Any challenges will be addressed with discretion, respect, and in accordance with the policy.

What about national or international competitions hosted in Alberta?

Events sanctioned by Curling Canada or the World Curling Federation follow their own eligibility policies.

Who can I talk to if I have questions or concerns?

Athletes, families, and clubs are welcome to contact Curling Alberta directly. Please reach out to Jill Groves, Curling Alberta's Executive Director, for confidential support and clarification (jill.groves@curlingalberta.ca).