Summary

Trans People in Football

The FA has undergone a review of its policy on transgender players in line with its commitment to promote Football for Everyone. It is the FA’s firm view that gender identity should not be a barrier to participation in football which is governed by The FA. The FA is intent on making football a lifelong experience, and ensuring the inclusion and safety of participants.

Under 16’s

All U16’s may play in a mixed team, or an U16 girls’ or boys’ team, regardless of their natal sex.

16 and over

According to The FA rules, players who are 16 and over must not play in mixed teams of men and women. However, transgender players may apply to the FA for approval to play in their affirmed gender. Each application will be considered on a case-by-case basis, based on the following two criteria:

1. The safety of the applicant and other players; and
2. Fair competition.

The FA will, in most cases, approve a player’s application to play in their affirmed gender if they can show that:

- Hormonal therapy appropriate for the assigned sex has been administered in a verifiable manner and for a sufficient length of time, or
- The individual has had a gonadectomy

so that any gender-related advantage in sport competitions is minimised.

In all cases, a confidential case-by-case review will be undertaken and repeated annually by The Head of Medical Services with specialist support where necessary.

The FA policy on transgender players can be found at http://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/equality/lgbt-football. All queries should be directed to The FA’s Equality Manager by emailing equality@thefa.com

FA Equality Team

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