

Suburban Swim League Policy on Transgender Swimmers

Introduction:

The purpose of the Suburban Swim League is to provide the opportunity for competitive swimming for all members of the teams in the SSL that is a fun and rewarding experience conducted in a safe and health atmosphere. The competitive environment in the SSL is based on good sportsmanship, fair play, team spirit, and participation by all swimmers in all meets. A basic tenant of the SSL is that all officials, coaches, swim team representatives, swimmers and spectators treat each other with respect, courtesy, and professionalism.

Policy:

1. The Suburban Swim League allows members of SSL teams to participate in accordance with his/her/their gender identity. This means that a swimmer on an SSL team who is biologically female but identifies as a boy/man is allowed to participate in boy's events and that a swimmer on an SSL team who is biologically male but identifies as a girl/woman is allowed to participate in girl's events at SSL dual meets, Time Trials, and championships.
2. Members of SSL teams must swim in the girl's or boy's events of the gender they identify with for the entire SSL season. The gender they identify with is determined by the first dual meet they participate in for that season.
3. At all times, teammates, coaches, and all others should respect the confidentiality of a member of an SSL team member. Discussion or disclosure of an individual's gender identity should only take place after expressed permission is given by the individual or the individual's parent or another designee. A swimmer on an SSL team should be referred to by the name and pronoun the swimmer goes by.
4. A swimmer should be able to use the locker rooms, changing facility, and restroom that is consistent with his/her/their gender identity.
5. During competition, a swimmer should wear a swimming suit that is appropriate for their gender. In accordance with SSL Rule 14.j, at Time Trials and Championships, swimmers must comply with the current USA Swimming regulations regarding swimsuits. Appropriate provisions that do not give the swimmer a competitive advantage may be approved by the Championship Meet Referee and the Chair of the Championship Committee. During dual meets, the SSL rules have no restrictions on swimming suits.

References:

1. USA Swimming Recommended Practices for Gender Diverse Minor Athletes

2. USA Center for Safe Sport, which prohibits discrimination against any participant based on gender, sexual orientation, gender expression, and gender identity.

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