



Fairness and Safety in Sport Policy 2.16

This policy is applicable to all Third Schools students, parent clients, volunteers, employees, directors, and the Head of Schools.

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Managed by: Sunil Mattu	Responsible position: Head of Schools	Version: 1
Approved by the Board of Directors: David Beresford, Chair	Date approved: 5 November 2025	Next review date: January 2028

REVISION RECORD

Date	Version	Revision description

1. TITLE

Parental Notification and Consent (Opt-In)

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to:

- Ensure compliance with the Fairness and Safety in Sport Act and associated regulations
- Set out parameters by which Third Schools students will register for sport teams and activities
- Promote fairness and safety in sport across Third Schools programs

3. DEFINITIONS

Term	Meaning
Gender	The sex that an individual is identified by at birth.
Birth Registration Document	A birth registration document as defined in the Vital Statistics Act or a similar document issued outside Alberta containing the individual's full name, date and place of birth, and sex at birth.
Challenge	A procedure by which an individual's eligibility to participate in a relevant sport may be challenged.
Female-only league, class or division	A league, class or division of a relevant sport intended to consist entirely of individuals whose sex at birth is female
Sex at birth	The sex of an individual that appears on the individual's birth registration document.

4. POLICY AND PROCEDURES STATEMENT

Athlete Registration

Every athlete that registers to play in a female-only league, class or division—or their parent/guardian if the athlete is under 18—will be required to confirm in writing at the time of registration that they understand and that the athlete meets all eligibility requirements set out in the *Fairness and Safety in Sport Act and Regulation*.

Athlete Participation and Categories

- Female athletes may continue to compete in male and co-ed categories.
- Only those athletes whose sex at birth, as identified on the Birth Registration Document, may compete in female sports categories.
- These provisions apply to athletes age 12 years and older.

Challenges and Athlete Verification

The eligibility of an athlete may be challenged. Challenges must be made in writing to the Principal of the applicable school. Challenges can be made by coaches, parents of athletes, or by athletes 16 years of age or older.

Challenges that are vexatious or frivolous may result in sanctions against the individual or group who challenged the eligibility, including suspension from further athletic events. Other sanctions may be implemented at the discretion of the Head of Schools.

If a challenge is made, the athlete whose eligibility status is being questioned will be required to submit a copy of their Birth Registration Document. This document will be used to confirm the athlete's eligibility to participate in the division. A birth certificate, which may be changed, is not an acceptable substitution.

The Birth Registration Document may be obtained by the athlete (or parent/guardian if the athlete is under 18) from the jurisdiction of their birth. Processing and delivery times are typically published on each jurisdiction's website.

Reporting and Timelines

- All challenges regarding athlete eligibility shall be reported to the Minister of Tourism and Sport within 3 business days of receipt.
- The result of each challenge shall be reported to the Ministry within 30 business days.
- All challenges are to be resolved within a 30 business-day period.

Appeal Process

Should a challenge regarding eligibility be denied by the Principal, the challenger shall have the right to appeal to the Head of Schools. The final place of appeal shall be the Board of Directors in accordance with Appeal Policy. The decision of the Board shall be final.

5. LIMITATION

Notwithstanding anything in this Policy, the Head of Schools is permitted to develop further procedures as appropriate.

6. COMMUNICATION

This policy will be posted on the school websites and in hard copy placed in the offices of the Head of Schools and Principals.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Fairness and Safety in Sport Act

Fairness and Safety in Sport Regulation

Vital Statistics legislation for relevant jurisdictions

7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Party / Parties	Roles and responsibilities
Principals	Implement Policy and Procedures at School level
Head of Schools	Develop Policy and Procedures
Board	Approve Policy