

Note: None of this policy is Code. Sections that are not italicized were previously approved. The bulk of this policy addresses transgender participation requirements as per the IHSAA Regulation Manual.

The Soda Springs School will follow all current and subsequent eligibility requirements for participation in interscholastic activities, as set forth by the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA). All students wishing to participate in any interscholastic activity must meet the eligibility requirements for that activity as established by IHSAA, as well as any district eligibility requirements.

TRAINING AND PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Coaches and/or advisors are expected to set reasonable standards for continued eligibility, including, but not limited to, training and other participation requirements, academic performance, and sportsmanship. Such standards will be in writing and distributed to the students at the beginning of the sports season or enrollment period. Student participants in all extracurricular activities are expected to comply with such requirements. Coaches and/or advisors may suspend students from participating in interscholastic activities for failing to comply with training and participation requirements. *Students may also be subject to school disciplinary action where appropriate.*

During any suspension period, the student will be required to adhere to training rules and practice sessions. The student will be required to attend home events. A student suspended from athletics may not dress down with the team or travel with the team to away contests during the period of suspension.

TRANSGENDER STUDENT PARTICIPATION

A transgender student, defined as a student whose gender identity differs from the student's assigned birth gender, will be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics that is consistent with the student's gender identity, under the following conditions:

- 1. A female-to-male transgender student athlete who is taking a medically prescribed hormone treatment under a physician's care for the purposes of gender transition may participate only on a boys' team.*
- 2. A male-to-female transgender student athlete who is not taking hormone treatment related to gender transition may participate only on a boys' team.*
- 3. A male-to-female transgender student athlete who is taking medically prescribed hormone treatment under a physician's care for the purposes of gender transition may participate on a boys' team at any time, but must complete one year of hormone treatment related to the gender transition before competing on a girls' team.*

Process

A student athlete who has completed, plans to initiate, or is in the process of taking hormones under a physician's care as part of a gender transition will submit the request to participate on a sports team to the administration of the student's school and to the IHSAA. The request will include a letter from the student's physician documenting the student's intention to transition or the student's transition status if the process has already been initiated. This letter will identify the prescribed hormonal treatment for the student's gender transition and the date the hormone treatment was initiated. The Executive Director will make a determination whether the student is eligible to compete under the above criteria.

Once the transgender student has been granted eligibility to participate in the sport consistent with his/her gender identity, the eligibility is granted for the duration of the student's participation and does not need to be renewed every sports season or school year.

Once the transgender student selects the gender or the team on which the student wishes to participate, the student thereafter must consistently participate on teams of that gender in all sports for the duration of their high school career.

Appeals

The decision of the Executive Director may be appealed to the Eligibility Committee. The decision of the Eligibility Committee may be appealed to the IHSAA Board of Directors for a review and hearing.

Confidentiality

All discussions among involved parties and the required written supporting documentation will be kept confidential.

PROHIBITION AGAINST THE POSSESSION OR USE OF ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

Students are prohibited from possessing, using, being under the influence of, or distributing tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, and/or paraphernalia (see Policy No. 551, Student Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Use).

Any student participating in interscholastic activities who tests positive for drugs will be suspended or expelled from all participation in interscholastic activities as set forth in Policy No. 578, Drug and Alcohol Testing of Students Participating in Extracurricular Activities and the Soda Springs High School Athletic Code of Ethics.



LEGAL REFERENCE:

Idaho Code Section 33-512(12) – Governance of Schools

Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA), 2014-15 Rules and Regulations Manual

ADOPTED: August 28, 2002

AMENDED: May 2, 2007; May 20, 20015

RELATED: Policies: 578, 551, 572

Organizational Constitution or rules

SSHS Athletic Code of Behavior