

09-18-25

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# Memo

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**TO**  
Officials Committee

**RE**  
Rev. USAS  
Competition  
Categories

**SUMMARY:**

*On September 16, 2025, USAS Revised Operational Policy Manual Section 19.0, Competition Category Policy*

**3. Men's Competition Category**

The Men's Competition Category is open to all athletes who (a) meet the Executive Order's definition of "men" or "boys"; (b) have transitioned, or are transitioning, to a male sex assignment; or (c) identify as non-binary. Those seeking to compete in the Men's Competition Category, who do not meet the Executive Order's definition of "men" or "boys", must complete the Self-Identity Verification form, at least thirty days prior to the start of the first competition in which the athlete seeks to compete in the requested Competition Category. If the form is completed and signed by the athlete (or their legal guardian, if under eighteen years of age), USA Swimming will approve the Competition Category change. If an athlete is seeking to rescind a prior request to change Competition Categories, they should contact USA Swimming's Secretary & General Counsel.

**4. Women's Competition Category**

Only athletes who meet the Executive Order's definition of "women" or "girls" may compete in the Women's Competition Category. In registering for membership in the Women's Competition Category, an athlete represents and warrants that they meet the Executive Order's definition of "woman" or "girl."

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What does this mean for Pacific Swimming:

Effective at once, only athletes born as a female may compete in the female athlete competition category. The definition of a female can be found in Executive Order 14168; [Click Here](#). USA Swimming is notifying all affected athletes of this change and reverting back their competition category. Conversely, there are some administrative changes to the male competition category, but those changes should have little to no impact on our operating procedures.

How will Pacific Swimming Officials Proceed?

If an official suspects or is notified of an athlete competing in the wrong competition category, they shall advise the Meet Referee. The Meet Referee will handle the incident in a professional and inconspicuous manner. No ACTION shall be taken or contact made with the suspected athlete. The Meet Referee will only notate the name of the meet, name of the athlete, club, and event(s). At the conclusion of the meet, the Meet Referee will notify the LSC Officials Chair, who will en-turn make the proper notifications to Pacific Swimming.

Note: These procedures will be in use until directed otherwise by the LSC or USA Swimming.

**PHIL GRANT**

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