



**CHALLENGE
INJUSTICE.**

29 June 2022

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA

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To whom it may concern,

RE: Ensuring the inclusion of trans, gender diverse and intersex people in sport

Amnesty International is the world's largest independent human rights organisation, with more than ten million supporters in over 160 countries. We're a worldwide movement to promote and defend all human rights as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments.

It is in this context, and as a sporting association within Australia, I write to you regarding the decision by FINA - the international federation recognised by the International Olympic Committee for administering international competitions in water sports - to introduce an exclusionary policy that effectively bans trans women, and some intersex women, from competing. This policy is discriminatory and not supported by scientific evidence.

Participation in sport is a human right. We know that playing sports has many benefits, including improvements to physical health, mental health, self-esteem and social connection. It is essential that everyone can participate in sport, regardless of their gender identity or variations in sex characteristics.

Not only is FINA's decision a breach of the human rights of the athletes that this policy will impact directly, but it also sends a dangerous message to trans, gender diverse and intersex people that they are not welcome.

Sport is a pivotal part of Australian culture and we have worked hard as a nation to ensure that it is a place where everyone can belong, participate and find community. We cannot let this be jeopardised.

Instead of buying into divisive anti-trans rhetoric, we are asking you to follow the [guidelines for the inclusion of transgender and gender diverse people in sport](#), which have been developed by the Australian Human Rights Commission in partnership with Sport Australia and the Coalition of Major Professional and Participation Sports.

By doing this, your sporting association can help create and promote an inclusive environment for transgender and gender diverse people.

For further information, or to discuss and organise a meeting, please contact Ry Atkinson at ry.atkinson@amnesty.org.au or 0423 270 124.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Klintworth', written in a cursive style.

Sam Klintworth
National Director
Amnesty International Australia