

Administrative Procedures Manual	Administrative Procedure 262
	Appendix A
	Fairness and Safety in Sport
	APPROVED: September 2025
Page 1 of 3	AMENDED/REVIEWED:
LEGAL REFERENCE:	Bill 29: Fairness and Safety in Sport Act

Background

The Grande Prairie Public School Division recognizes the valuable contribution to student development that extra curricular opportunities provide. Sport activities provide students with opportunities to improve their physical health and promote lifelong participation in sport, they offer opportunities to build social connections, build communication and collaboration skills and support students' sense of belonging.

Alberta's Bill 29 (Fairness and Safety in Sport Act) outlines processes for the creation and implementation of sports teams.

Definitions

Athlete: a participant registered in a relevant sport in grades 7-12.

Applicant: means one of the following individuals who submits a confidential challenge to an athlete eligibility to participate in a relevant sport:

- a) Athlete
- b) Parent or guardian on an athlete who is under the age of 18 years
- c) Team manger of athlete
- d) Coach of athlete

Relevant Sport: amateur competitive sport regulated, coordinated, promoted or sponsored by GPPSD where female-only leagues or competition exists.

Procedures

1. This Administrative Procedure applies to participation for students in grades 7-12.
2. Principals will share, annually, a summary of the Fairness in Sport AP with all families of athletes in relevant grades. [Parent Communication and FAQ Fairness and Safety in Sport](#)
3. To participate in a female-only league, class or division of a relevant sport, an athlete must be of the female sex at birth.
 - 3.1. Parents (athlete may sign if over 18yrs) will confirm in writing to the school Principal their eligibility, through [Form 262-2 – Fairness and Safety in Sport Declaration Form](#)
 - 3.2. Failure of a parent (athlete is over 18yrs) to confirm in writing their eligibility will render the athlete ineligible to participate.

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4. A confidential challenge to an athlete's eligibility may be made, if there are reasonable grounds to believe that an athlete is ineligible under section 2 of this administrative procedure. During the challenge process the athlete is permitted to continue their participation.
 - 4.1. A confidential challenge must be made in writing to the school principal via email.
 - 4.2. A confidential challenge to an athlete's eligibility must include:
 - 4.2.1. The name of the **applicant** (the person who is challenging the eligibility of the athlete)
 - 4.2.2. The name of the athlete, their team's name, and sport.
 - 4.2.3. Information that supports the grounds for the challenge.
 - 4.3. The principal will notify the Director of Student Supports for notification of the ministry within 3 business days. No personal information is shared with the Ministry.
 - 4.4. The principal will determine if reasonable grounds exist for the challenge.
 - 4.4.1. If, in the opinion of the principal, reasonable grounds exist, the challenge will move forward. The applicant and the athlete will be notified of the challenge moving forward.
 - 4.4.2. If, in the opinion of the principal, reasonable grounds do not exist the challenge will be dismissed. Notification to the Director and Minister of Tourism and Sport of the dismissal within 30 days of the challenge.
5. Upon the challenge moving forward, the athlete whose eligibility is subject to challenge (or their parents if they are under the age of 18) will be required to provide the principal with a copy of the athlete's birth registration document.
 - 5.1. Failure to provide birth registration document as defined in the Vital Statistics Act or similar document issued outside of Alberta to the Principal will render the athlete ineligible to participate in a relevant sport.
6. Once the birth registration document is received, the principal will verify the athlete's eligibility under section 2 of this AP.

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7. Challenge

- 7.1. If the challenge is upheld and the athlete is determined to be ineligible, the principal will notify the applicant and the athlete (parent if under 18 yrs). The athlete will be permanently ineligible for participation in a female-only league.
- 7.2. If the challenge is dismissed and athlete is determined to be eligible, the principal will notify the applicant and that the athlete (parent is under 18rs). That athlete will be permanently eligible for participation in a female-only league.
- 7.3. Upon determination of eligibility under section 5 of this AP, the principal will notify the Director of Student Supports who will notify the Minters of tourism and Sport of the decision without personal identifying information within 30 days.

8. Appeals may be made to the Superintendent of Schools following a decision made by the Director as outlined in [Administrative Procedure 390 - Student Appeals](#).

9. Director will provide an annual report to the Superintendent outlining: Number of eligibility challenges, mixed-gender team requests, complaint summaries.