

GFWC-MFWC Resolution Committee
Proposed Resolution – Gender Fairness
Presented to MFWC Winter Board, February 17, 2024

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING GFWC JUNIORETTE CLUBS
AND GENDER EQUITY**

WHEREAS, there are inherent biological differences between men and women that range from chromosomal and hormonal differences to physiological differences; and

WHEREAS, men generally have stronger and denser bones, tendons, and ligaments and larger hearts, greater lung volume per body mass, a higher red blood cell count, and higher hemoglobin; and

WHEREAS, men also have higher natural levels of testosterone, which affects traits such as hemoglobin levels, body fat content, the storage and use of carbohydrates, and the development of Type 2 muscle fibers, all of which result in men being able to generate higher speed and power during physical activity; and

WHEREAS, the biological differences between men and women, especially as it relates to natural levels of testosterone, explain the male and female secondary sex characteristics which develop during puberty and have lifelong effects, including the following factors that are most important for success in athletic sports: categorically different strength, speed and endurance; and

WHEREAS, the benefits that natural testosterone provides to male athletes is not diminished through the use of puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones. A recent study on the impact of such treatments found that even after twelve (12) months of hormonal therapy, a man who identifies as a woman and is taking cross-sex hormones had an absolute advantage over female athletes and will still likely have performances advantages over women; and

WHEREAS, the General Federation of Women’s Clubs (“GFWC”) has long sponsored Juniette Clubs throughout the country whose members range in ages from twelve (12) to eighteen (18), who pay dues and who have voting privileges at the GFWC Annual Convention. Many of the GFWC Juniette members face the prospect of competing against and facing unfair biological advantages from biological males who are being allowed to participate in high school athletic events, sports and competitions that were established for biological female athletes; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to:

- Acknowledge and support the science that recognizes there will be significant numbers of biologically male athletes, starting in puberty, who would defeat the best biologically

female athletes in every head-to-head sport competition except sailing, shooting, and riding; and

- Acknowledge and support having separate biologically male and female teams and competitions furthering efforts to promote sex equality. Sex-specific teams accomplish this by providing opportunities for female athletes to demonstrate their skill, strength, and athletic abilities while also providing them with opportunities to obtain recognition and accolades, college scholarships, and numerous other long-term benefits that flow from success in athletic endeavors; and
- Support that athletic teams, competitions or sports designated for females, women or girls shall not be open to students who are males, men or boys, based on biological sex.

GFWC-MFWC Resolution Committee Members:

Darlene C. Adams, Chairman

Frances Brown

Melissa Carleton