



# CONFÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA PÊCHE SPORTIVE

## **CIPS Congress Cape Town, April 19<sup>th</sup> 2024**

### **Report of the Equality Commission**

This report is just a summary of what was discussed and approved at the last Praesidium meeting held last year in September. CIPS Secretariat, as requested on that occasion by CIPS Praesidium, sent in a letter to Mrs. Emma Nicholson, Baroness of Winterbourne, in charge of the issue related to gender equality among women and men.

CIPS finally concluded that the eventuality to letting transgender participate in female competitions was discriminatory, especially in those disciplines where the physical strength could make the difference.

So CIPS decided to indicate in which sports strength is a relevant matter. It was first agreed on 3 sports related to female World Championships: surfcasting, long casting and carp fishing. Therefore it was added a 4th sport, some kind of fly fishing, as there are very little few competitions in the water, implying physical efforts.

CIPS also decided that only in case of doubt a birth certificate can be asked for these disciplines. The President sent an official letter to all national and internal federation.

Therefore, in the impossibility for CIPS to test the testosterone level at each competition and each athlete, CIPS decided to prevent transgender athletes from competing in some female dedicated competitions. In case of doubt on the sex of the competitor it was specified that the birth certificates of the participants would be requested upon registration, only for those disciplines where a physical strength could be involved in the competition.

The Baroness agreed with CIPS' decision.

Each International Federation, following the discussion at the Praesidium meeting, took steps to highlight the part concerning transgender people in their rules.

The FIPSeD in the carp fishing rules provided for the following sentence: "In Carp fishing for Ladies Championships the participation of transgender anglers is not authorised. In case of doubt or complaint, the birth certificate will be decisive.

The FIPS-Mer will, after the Assembly is held in Capetown, amend its rules by inserting the following sentence: In "Ladies" competitions, notably Long Casting of Sea Weights for Ladies and Shore Angling for Ladies, the participation of transgender anglers is not authorised. In case of doubt or complaint, the birth certificate will be decisive.

Finally, as far as FIPS-Mouche is concerned, they will amend the rules next year.

The following information will be attached to the above-mentioned rules:

#### ANNEX: CIPS - Transgender

No transgender competitor, i.e. any competitor whose birth certificate shows her original gender as male, may be admitted to participate in the Women's Carp Fishing World Championship for FIPS-Ed, the Ladies Long Casting of Sea Weights for FIPS-M and the Ladies Shore Angling Championships for FIPS-M. This decision by the CIPS Praesidium results from the fact that physical performance (ability to cast longer distances) and physical endurance are particularly important in these disciplines that do not only depend on technical ability, which could lead to disparities in comparison to other competitors. If a complaint is made against an athlete deemed to be transgender or in the case of doubts of the International Jury, the classifications will be drawn up and the resulting awards will be made, but these will be considered sub-judice. Only after the athlete in question has submitted the required birth certificate proving the non-sex change the results will be homologated and made officially as definitive. If it is established that the athlete has changed sex and is therefore not entitled to take part in the championship, the athlete and her entire team will be disqualified and the rankings and prize-giving will have to be redone.

Barbara Durante  
Equality Commission President