

TRANS CLIMBERS BELONG

We believe trans climbers belong in our community and at all levels of competition.

Without vetting or approval from any of their committees, USA Climbing has enacted harmful changes to their participation policies for trans and nonbinary climbers. Learn how this impacts all climbers and their families, and how you can be a part of the fight to rewrite these policies alongside transgender and nonbinary climbers.

How USA Climbing's New Policies Harm Climbers

USA Climbing's new policy and requirements:

- **Create expensive and unrealistic barriers to trans climbers** including strict, repetitive testing and reporting deadlines: Having the money, time, and health insurance to obtain blood-drawn labs multiple times every year requires being able to access medical care without waitlists.
- **Bar climbers in states that ban trans healthcare from competing.** Hormone replacement therapy is restricted or outlawed for minors in 22 states as of November 2023. Further, in 5 different states, a minor who is forced "out" could trigger an investigation of the family and removal of the child from their care even when they are away from their home state. Read more here:

https://www.lgbtmap.org/equality-maps/healthcare/youth_medical_care_bans

- **Require sharing and reporting of personal information** such as surgical histories psychological reports, and ongoing care plans: Kids and teens will have to submit their private medical information to the USAC, which does not have a HIPAA-compliant system to ensure their data is kept safe.
- **Put trans and cis climbers at risk of having to provide medical information without their consent.** Any climber can now be accused by another climber, parent, or community member of "being trans", which may trigger the above rules requiring that climber to "prove" their body and hormones fit within USAC's currently unenforceable rules within a strict deadline.
- **Are predicated on and perpetuate harmful assumptions, stereotypes, and misinformation about trans people.** For more information, visit the myths and misinformation page at www.transclimbersbelong.org.



HOW YOU CAN HELP: BOYCOTT USA CLIMBING

We are asking our community at all levels to withdraw support for USA Climbing. USAC relies on gym's willingness to host competitions. By revoking support for competitions, you send the message to USA Climbing that you support trans climbers and want to see these policies paused and rewritten with trans and nonbinary voices.

● Gyms & Gym Managers

Write to USA Climbing to say you will not host their events or comps until they revisit this policy.

● Routesetters

Tell your gym you will no longer set for USAC competitions.

● Gym Staff

Tell your gym you will no longer work at USAC competitions.

● Coaches

If you have trans or nonbinary climbers, **ask them** how you can support them. Otherwise, tell your gym you will no longer coach at USAC competitions.

● Parents

Ask your climber's gym to withdraw their support for USAC events and competitions.

● Athletes

Talk to your coaches about ways to support these initiatives. Talk to your gym managers and let them know you support trans climbers in your competitions.

● Community Members

Talk to your gym management and ask them to withdraw from hosting USAC events and competitions.

For sample letters you can write to USA Climbing, your gym supervisors, or coworkers, visit: www.transclimbersbelong.org



Trans Climbers Belong is a grassroots movement of trans and nonbinary climbers across the United States. For safety, many of the creators of this work are choosing to remain anonymous at this time.



E-mail Address
transclimbersbelong@gmail.com



website
transclimbersbelong.org

