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TENNIS • Published August 6, 2023 2:34pm EDT

# Martina Navratilova rips USTA's transgender inclusion policy: 'This is not right and it is not fair'

Tennis legend is staunch supporter of keeping trans females out of women's sports



By Ryan Gaydos | Fox News



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Tennis legend [Martina Navratilova](#) called out the United States Tennis Association (USTA)'s transgender inclusion policy early Sunday morning in response to another post on X, formerly known as Twitter.

Navratilova responded to a post from [Independent Council on Women's Sports](#) (ICONS) founder Kim Shasby Jones who wrote that "women's tennis is turning into a laughing stock because of these terrible policies prioritizing the mental health and identity of men over women who have discovered a love of tennis."

"Come on @USTA- women's tennis is not for failed male athletes- whatever age," Navratilova wrote on X. "This is not right and it is not fair. Would this be allowed at the US Open this month? Just with self ID? I don't think so..."

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Former tennis player Martina Navratilova (Reuters/Hannah McKay)

Shasby Jones wrote that women were calling her organization to complain about the lack of fair play when it comes to transgender athletes' inclusion in women's sports.

"Men are winning national titles, taking the place of women on team tennis, and competing in women's tournaments across the country," Shasby Jones added.

"There is already a category for male athletes to enjoy this privilege. Let female athletes enjoy the game of tennis too."

**Martina Navratilova**  
@Martina · [Follow](#)

Come on @USTA- women's tennis is not for failed male athletes- whatever age. This is not right and it is not fair. Would this be allowed at the US Open this month? Just with self ID? I don't think so...

**Kim Shasby Jones**  @KimJonesICONS  
Hey @USTA @WTA @Martina @ChrissieEvert

Women's tennis is turning into a laughing stock because of these terrible policies prioritizing the mental health and identity of men over women who have discovered a love of tennis.  
The women are calling us and begging for help to be...

11:03 PM · Aug 5, 2023

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"Change the policy and @BillieJeanKing change your stance - don't abandon these women and this sport any longer."

ICONS mentioned on Saturday that a "male tennis player" won a women's tournament in Philadelphia last month. The person won in straight sets in the tournament's finals.

The USTA and WTA didn't respond to a request for comment from Fox News Digital.

The USTA has a transgender inclusion policy when it comes to male-to-female transitions.



Tennis legend Martina Navratilova called out the United States Tennis Association transgender inclusion policy early Sunday morning in response to another post on social media. (Massimo Insabato/Archivio Massimo Insabato/Mondadori Portfolio via Getty Images)

"Those who transition from male to female are eligible to compete in the female category under the following conditions:

"The athlete has declared that her gender identity is female. The declaration cannot be changed, for sporting purposes, for a minimum of four years.

"Hormonal therapy appropriate for the assigned sex has been administered in a verifiable manner and for a sufficient length of time to minimize gender-related advantages in sport competitions."

nmol/L for at least twelve (12) months prior to her first WTA Tournament (with the requirement for any longer period to be based on a confidential, case-by-case evaluation, considering whether or not twelve (12) months is a sufficient length of time to minimize any advantage during competition).

"The player's total testosterone level in serum must remain below 10 nmol/L throughout the period of desired eligibility to enter into and participate in any [WTA Tournament](#).



"Come on @USTA- women's tennis is not for failed male athletes- whatever age," Navratilova wrote on X. (Hector Vivas/Getty Images for WTA)

"Compliance with these conditions may be monitored by testing, which testing shall be administered in WTA's sole discretion based on standards of reasonableness and fairness and in consultation with physicians and medical experts. In the event of non-compliance, the player's eligibility for competition in WTA Tournaments will be suspended for twelve (12) months."

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Navratilova has been a staunch supporter of keeping transgender women from playing against biological female athletes.

Ryan Gaydos is a senior editor for Fox News Digital.

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**RoryFinn**

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My baby sister once changed the nameplate on our dad's Dodge Dart to TransAm, but it was still really a Dodge Dart.

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**budnoonan396**

6 August, 2023

Martina has always been a wonderful ambassador of her sport. She is well-spoken, measured, and intelligent. We need these people in all sports.

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33 replies

**J jberg628**

6 August, 2023

Ran into her in Miami Beach w my young daughter at a restaurant years ago, I walked up to her and said Martina I saw you and told my little girl "your gonna meet a Legend" , Martina was so receptive and quickly chatted to my little one, so nice !!!!! so glad my little one met this true legend !!!!!...**See more**

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**victopaz142**

6 August, 2023

"The player undergoes hormonal treatment for gender transition and demonstrates that her total testosterone level in serum has been below 10 nmol/L for at least twelve (12) months prior to her first WTA Tournament (with the requirement for any longer period to be based on a confidential, case-by-ca...  
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**B Beelzebub**

6 August, 2023

Ultimately the women hold the final power in this. If they refuse to compete on or against a team that has a biologically born male, or compete against an opponent, as in tennis, that was born biologically male, this will come to a stop pretty quickly.

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No amount of hormones or surgeries will change the advantage.

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4 replies

**fishindayz** ...

6 August, 2023

Science says that there are ONLY two sexes, male or female.... No amount of drugs or surgeries will change that. Keep sports fair for both genders.

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**S safian** ...

6 August, 2023

The question not asked or considered if asked ..."Why aren't women upset"? The follow up question is "Why does it appear women are supporting this and gender ideology which is the recruitment apparatus of such"? Where is/are the women's rights groups which showed up to protest Trump ... isn't this ...

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**R rotordiskpilot2** ...

6 August, 2023

The mental illness insanity still exists. People don't "transition" to anything. They still the gender he/she was born with. Attempting to change the physical appearance is nothing more than a pretend costume worn on Halloween. Add in the "chemical" factor and the body will respond negatively a...

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**1 11b-ranger** ...

6 August, 2023

I'm not a fan of hers but can't disagree when what she says is ethically and morally right.

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