

Connecticut Girls Just Want Fairness

When the law ignores biological reality, it's women and girls who pay the price. In athletics, girls deserve to compete on a level playing field. Unfortunately, these four female athletes are just a small sample of girls who have lost medals, championships, advancement opportunities, publicity, and the thrill of victory due to a discriminatory policy that allows biological males to compete in girls' sports in Connecticut. Two males now hold 15 women's state championship titles that were once held by nine different girls.



Selina Soule | Glastonbury High School

- Pronounced “soul.”
- Missed qualifying for the state championship 55m final and an opportunity to qualify for the New England championship by one spot in 2018-19 season—two spots were taken by males.
- “It’s very frustrating and heartbreaking when us girls are at the start of the race and we already know that these [male] athletes are going to come out and win no matter how hard you try. They took away the spots of deserving girls, athletes ... me being included.”

Chelsea Mitchell | Canton High School

- Lost four (4) girls’ state championships, two (2) all-New England awards, and many other awards to male competitors.
- Was ranked the fastest high school female in Connecticut in the 55m in indoor 2020 but was denied the opportunity to fairly compete for a state championship victory because boys were allowed to compete in the girls’ category.
- “I knew that I was the fastest girl here, one of the fastest in the state. I remembered all my training and everything I had been taught on how to maximize my performance ... I thought of all the times that other girls have lost. I could feel the adrenaline in my blood and hope that wafted from me. That just possibly, I could win this. Then, the gun went off. And I lost.”





Alanna Smith | Danbury High School

- Father, Lee Smith, was inducted into MLB Hall of Fame in 2019.
- Won the 400m at the 2019 outdoor New England Regional Championships as a freshman.
- Ran a 2nd place finish in the 200m at the New England Regional Championships, but was dropped to 3rd behind a male competitor.
- “Even before I get to the track, I already know that I’m not going to get first place, or maybe even second place . . . I know that no matter how hard I work, I won’t be able to have the top spot.”

Ashley Nicoletti | Immaculate High School

- Missed an opportunity to compete at the 2019 outdoor State Open Championship due to two male competitors.
- Won the 400m at the 2019 outdoor New England Regional Championships as a freshman.
- “I remember when I first had to race against a male athlete—it was intimidating. I felt nervous even at the thought of such an unfair race. I knew I had a chance against other girls, but not against a male athlete.”

