

FINA (International Swimming Federation)

June 22, 2022

In news– The International Swimming Federation (FINA) has barred participation of transgenders in the women's category recently.

Key updates-

- FINA is thinking of introducing an 'Open' category to include trans-women.
- FINA has voted against allowing transgender athletes to participate in female competitions – the exception being that the transgender athlete must have completed their transition before the age of 12.
- The ruling only applies to elite competitions run by FINA.
- A Working Group was being set up to create an 'open category' in some FINA competitions.
- The creation of an open category will mean that everybody has the opportunity to compete at an elite level.

About FINA-

- FINA (**French: Fédération internationale de natation**), is the international federation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for administering international competitions in water sports.
- **FINA was founded on 19 July 1908 in the Manchester Hotel in London**, UK at the end of the 1908 Summer Olympics by the Belgian, British, Danish, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian and Swedish Swimming Federations.
- It is one of several international federations which administer a given sport or discipline for both the IOC and the international community.

- **It is based in Lausanne, Switzerland.**
- FINA currently **oversees competition in six aquatic sports:** swimming, diving, high diving, artistic swimming, water polo, and open water swimming.
- FINA also oversees “Masters” competition (for adults) in its disciplines.