

ALLYSHIP FOR THE **LGBTQIA+** COMMUNITY

[WIS Inclusion Letter](#) - Tips to foster inclusion and allyship for all marginalized groups.

ORGANIZATIONS

[Athlete Ally](#) - Through partnerships, programs and workshops, they inspire leaders in sports to create positive change on matters of LGBTQIA+ equality in sport. Follow them on [social media](#) and consider taking courses from them/ learning from their expertise.

[United Soccer Coaches LGBTQ & Allies Advocacy Group](#) - This organization is committed to supporting all queer people in and around the game and always welcomes new members. They offer support and resources for anyone navigating LGBTQIA+ issues in soccer.

[Forever Proud](#) - was created to reinforce USL's commitment to social impact and to provide a SAFE, INCLUSIVE space for all fans, players, coaches and employees.

[HomeField Alliance](#) - this organization's mission is to build community, support, and uplift LGBTQ+ Professionals in Sports and Entertainment. Like the WISE for the LGBTQ+ community.

[Quantum Gender](#) - is here to provide education, training and consultation to help organizations or businesses reimagine gender in order to include all gender identities — because two will never be enough.

[Sports Equality Foundation](#) - LGBTQ+ athletes, coaches and sports leaders that inspire us and one another. We exist to empower each other, and together demonstrate that equality in sports transforms everyday culture to be more inclusive and welcoming for all.

[PFLAG National](#) - The PFLAG Chapter Network--with over 400 chapters across the country--provides confidential peer support, education, and advocacy to LGBTQ+ people, their parents and families, and allies. PFLAG chapters are in communities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

ARTICLES & REPORTS

[Why NWSL's 'foundational' statement on Pride matters right now](#) - In 2020, Meg Linehan of The Athletic published a piece detailing the importance of the NWSL evolving embrace of LGBTQ Pride.

[Celebrating Trans Players in Pro soccer](#) - Washington Spirit forward Kumi Yokoyama came out as a transgender citing Canada international and OL Reign midfielder Quinn — who also went public with their transition in 2020 — as an inspiration.

[The Truth About Trans Athletes \(2019\)](#) - This report works to distinguish fact from fiction in relation to trans athletes in mainstream, elite sport. The article identifies that there is no data-based scientific evidence suggesting that trans women athletes have advantages over their competitors. The work encourages readers to think about the human lives at the center of the trans athletes debates.

[What About the Trans Athletes Who Compete – and Win – in Men's Sports? \(2021\)](#) - Much of the legalities and conversations focus on trans girls and women and the implications of their inclusion in competitive sport, while the experiences and voices of and advocacy for trans boys and men often gets excluded. Centered on the personal experience of a high school senior trans athlete who competed for his school's girls team before competing on the boy's team, this article explains the power sport holds for transgender people, especially at the grassroots and youth level and redirects the conversation away from competition and toward the emotional, psychological, and physical realities of transgender life within the context of sport.

[Living Non Binary in a Binary Sports World](#) - While many trans athletes have become political lightning rods, nonbinary people like the WNBA's Layshia Clarendon are left out of the conversation.

[Trans Girls Belong on Girls' Sports Teams](#) - There is no scientific case for excluding them - another great article on anti-trans athlete bill

[Spirit's Yokoyama comes out as transgender man](#) - Washington Spirit and Japan forward Kumi Yokoyama came out as a transgender man in a video posted to Yuki Nagasato's YouTube channel on Sunday.

BOOKS

[Loving Sports When They don't Love you Back](#) - A book by two sports journalists on how to consider the ethical issues of inequity in the sports we love.

PODCASTS

[The LGBT Sport Podcast](#) - Taking a look at LGBTQ+ issues in sport. Hosted by Jack Murley, BBC Radio Cornwall.

[Burn It All Down](#) - An intersectional feminist sports podcast. [In episode 171](#), the dynamic team of experts at Burn it All Down talk about recent challenges to the gender binaries at the heart of sport and suggest some ideas for how to move beyond homophobic and transphobic sporting cultures.

FILMS

[Changing The Game](#) - As a worldwide debate about the inclusion of transgender people in sports grows, this documentary has entered the conversation putting the lives and experiences of trans youth at the core. *Available on Hulu*

RESOURCES MEMBERS SHARED DURING OUR COFFEE & PROGRESS

I highly recommend [OutSports](#) also. *Thank you, Kim Brady*

The Full Kit Wankers podcast featuring Couper Gunn: [2/23/21 - Couper Gunn \(Sports Equality Foundation\) x FKWs "We want to show people that not only is it possible to be queer and an athlete, but it's empowering to be both."](#) *Thank you, David Goldstein*



[A message from](#) Couper Gunn with the Atlantic City FC Squad

A great tool for pronoun practice: [A Guide to Pronouns](#) *Thank you, Kaig Lightner*

KEY TIPS FROM OUR EXPERTS

Ben Pereira (he/him): member of the Board of Directors with [HomeField Alliance](#), 40 under 40 Business Equality Network LGBTQ+ Leader honoree, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Program Manager at HubSpot; [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter \(@bereira31\)](#)

Kaig Lightner (he/him): proud member of the LGBTQ+ community, founder [Portland Community Football Club](#), founder and CEO of Quantum Gender, member of the United Soccer Coaches LGBTQ & Allies Advocacy Group; [Twitter \(@pcfcsoccer\)](#), [Twitter \(@kaightner\)](#)

David Goldstein (he/him): General Manager of [Atlantic City FC](#), WIS Ally; [LinkedIn](#)

- Key tip: ASK for pronouns before assuming what someone's pronouns are.
- Key tip: cisgender allies, start by saying your pronouns first.
- Key tip: make pronouns an optional policy for companies to avoid forcing people to out themselves.
- Key tip: use gender neutral language when in doubt or if you do not know a person's pronouns.
- Key tip: if you're an ally and you make a mistake, own it, apologize, and move forward informed.
- Key tip: embrace your players and where they are on their journey; give them as much of a platform as they would like to have, or as little. Support their decision to share or keep to themselves.