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Women's Sport: Tamsyn Lewis questions whether transgender athletes should compete in women's sports

By Hannah Mendelsohn | 15:30 01/03/20



Tamsyn Lewis, a three-time Olympian for Australia has raised questions about whether transgender athletes should be allowed to compete in women's sport.

The 41-year-old track athlete and three-time Commonwealth Games gold medallist was talking on 2GB radio.

She said: "There's been a lot of people who are scared to come out and say anything because of political correctness."

Lewis explained her view: "If you've grown up a male and had testosterone your bone structure is different to the female, your upper body strength is going to remain, you've got greater lung capacity a larger heart size, there's too many unknowns about how much going through puberty and being born a male is going to affect your result."

She asked: "If we don't take a stand, what's going to happen to the female category of sport?"

"You don't want to get to the point where we haven't tackled this issue head on and in a respectful manner, that in 20 years time we're seeing our kids grow up and compete in sports that they just actually can't win."

Multiple transgender athletes could compete at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics should they qualify including New Zealand weightlifter Laurel Hubbard.

She recently won the women's super-heavyweight weightlifting contest at the Roma World Cup taking her one step closer to qualifying for the Olympics.