

Discrimination in Sports

By James Roberts and Theo Pryke-Stancer



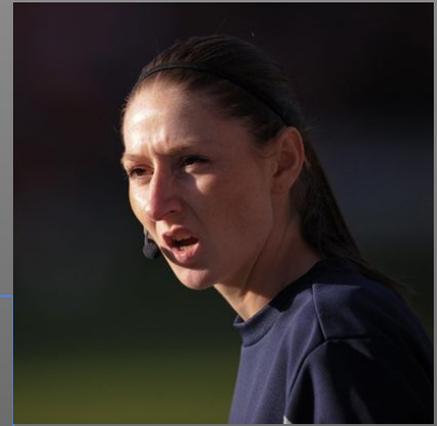
Sian Massey

Sian Massey is an English football match official who officiates generally in the role of assistant referee in the Premier League and the Football League and was born on the 5th October 1985.

Keys said "Somebody better get down there and explain the offside rule to her". Gray responded: "Women don't know the offside rule".

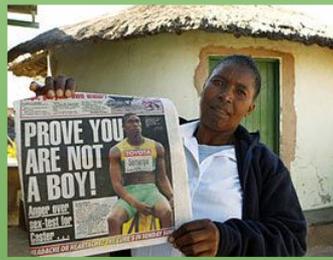
Controversy sparked when the Sky reporters Richard Keys and Andy Gray were recorded making sexist remarks about two female match officials and a leading female football executive one of which was Sian.

Keys and Gray were recorded during transmission of the Premier League match between Wolverhampton Wanderers and Liverpool complaining that the assistant referee, Sian Massey, probably didn't know the offside rule and that someone "f***ed up big" by appointing a female match official. "The game's gone mad," said Keys, the channel's football anchor. The recording was not broadcast, but was passed to the Mail by an anonymous source.



"In their position, they should have known that just to be on that pitch I must have gone through so much. So much scrutiny, so much training, so many challenges, so much game pressure. I'm not there without being tried and tested over many years."





For the Majority of Casters life and career she has been put through discrimination and negative comments about the way she is built. The IAAF had put a new rule into place concerning the female testosterone rule, 'athletes who have a difference of sexual development, who exceeded the limit would have to alter their bodies by medical means if they wished to compete at international events.'

"Casters physical statistics and overall build shouldn't affect her chances of competing"

Caster Semenya

Semenya's legal team will ask the CAS to declare the new rules as discriminatory. The athlete will ask the IAAF to suspend the regulations pending her the results of her case as women who wish to compete after November 1 must demonstrate lowered testosterone levels for six months prior.

The restrictions would severely impact Semenya in particular, who as things stand would be unable to compete in the 800m and 1500m without undergoing medical interventions. In a press statement released on Monday, she described them as "discriminatory, irrational, unjustifiable".

"I just want to run naturally, the way I was born. It is not fair that I am told I must change. It is not fair that people question who I am. I am Mokgadi Caster Semenya. I am a woman and I am fast."