Special Skirt for Sam Taylor Jun

Should one’s gender limit them from doing things that they love? The novel “Sam the Athlete” by Stuart McLean is the story of a young boy named Sam and his quest for athletic greatness. He struggles to find a sport that he is good at as well as have interest in. He was hoping that he would find his dream sport with some help of his new shoes and from the sound of it, in early years he has always had a real struggle in finding the right sport for him. He found out about the school’s field hockey and decided that he should join. On the first practice, he realizes that the entire team were girls because the coach had been calling him “Samantha”. However, the coach said to him “Nice work, Samantha” (p.68), which was the phrase he wanted to hear. Therefore, he decides to stay on the field hockey team and wear the uniform skirt. I think Sam has made the right decision to keep wearing the skirt because it made him to feel in-powered, and more confident, simply he loved it. It also made him feel like he fitted in and comfortable, “Sam put his skirt on and spent an hour working out some game moves in front of his mirror.” (p.69). Sam has known his dad will get angry, but he still wanted his dad to understand his love for the skirt. Even though, he could choose another way, he eventually chose to wear the skirt. Therefore, I would like to support him because he has made a hard decision. One should be able to do whatever he wants because gender should not chase away their dreams. From this novel, one can learn that one does not need to hide their gender from doing things they love. He doesn’t need to hide his gender, he should have confidence and say that he is a boy to his hockey team members. With this, one can say the skirt is a special skirt for Sam.