

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Cassandra Grieve  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2021 11:47 AM  
**To:** PressRoom Nevada Health Response  
**Subject:** COVID Restriction of Lacrosse

I am writing in support of the High Sierra Lacrosse request to change the risk classification of boys and girls youth and high school lacrosse in Nevada.

Lacrosse has been erroneously classified and enormously impacted in Nevada, perhaps due to an incomplete understanding of the game by decision makers. You should know that lacrosse is played outside, it is fast paced, and there is no shared equipment. Nevada's position on the game is basically out-of-step:

- The NCAA has classified mens and womens lacrosse as an intermediate risk sport (the same as soccer) citing "frequent, short-lived proximity among all competitors." See pages 20 and 21 of [Resocialization of Collegiate Sport: Developing Standards for Practice and Competition, Second Edition \(Updated\)](#)
- Lacrosse will be contested this Spring in many of our neighboring states including California, Utah, Arizona, Washington and Idaho.
- The [National Federation of State High School Associations \(NFHS\)](#) has done away with tiered sport classifications, stating that "as knowledge of the virus that causes COVID-19 has evolved, we have increasingly recognized that transmission depends upon multiple factors that cannot be easily accounted for by simply dividing sports into three distinct categories of risk."

Please also consider that the loss of a second consecutive season of competitive play will be devastating to 1,300 plus youth and high school players in the High Sierra Lacrosse community, and to many more in southern Nevada.

This is my son's third year playing high school lacrosse, which is considered a club sport by Washoe County School District. My son plays soccer as well. Lacrosse is not any more a contact sport than soccer is. Please reconsider the classification of this sport.

I respectfully ask that you reconsider the sport's classification in a timely manner for the benefit of our kids, and to further the Great State of Nevada's mission to "look for opportunities to allow Nevada youth to re-engage in activities that promote health and well-being."

Best regards,

C. Grieve

February 25, 2021

Dear Governor Sisolak,

My name is Don Barnard and I am writing in support of the High Sierra Lacrosse request to change the risk classification of boys and girls youth and high school lacrosse in Nevada.

In response to the global pandemic and in an effort to keep its citizens safe, Nevada has inadvertently misclassified the sport of lacrosse. Please know that lacrosse is played outside, it is fast paced, and there is no shared equipment. Nevada's position on the game seems to be based on incomplete information.

- The NCAA has classified mens and womens lacrosse as an intermediate risk sport (the same as soccer) citing “frequent, short-lived proximity among all competitors.” See pages 20 and 21 of [Resocialization of Collegiate Sport: Developing Standards for Practice and Competition, Second Edition \(Updated\)](#)
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Please also consider that the loss of a second consecutive season of competitive play will be devastating to 1,300 plus youth and high school players in the High Sierra Lacrosse community, and to many more in southern Nevada.

**Our family has been part of High Sierra Lacrosse for over six years. I have also been a coach and I see daily how much this sport means to the kids. We currently have a junior son who has college lacrosse ambitions. Without this spring season, his chances of being seen are unlikely, and his senior season will be too late. High Sierra Lacrosse manages a professional organization that readily complies with all state and school district requirements. I have full confidence that the league will adhere to all virus protocol in order to keep our athletes, coaches, and referees safe, on and off the field.**

I respectfully ask that you reconsider the sport's classification in a timely manner for the benefit of our kids, and to further the Great State of Nevada's mission to “look for opportunities to allow Nevada youth to re-engage in activities that promote health and well-being.”

Sincerely,

Don Barnard

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Keli Bucci  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2021 10:50 AM  
**To:** PressRoom Nevada Health Response; Caleb Cage  
**Subject:** Request to change the risk classification of boys and girls youth and high school lacrosse

Dear Governor Sisolak and Mr. Cage,

My name is Keli Bucci and I am writing in support of the High Sierra Lacrosse request to change the risk classification of boys and girls youth and high school lacrosse in Nevada.

Lacrosse has been erroneously classified and enormously impacted in Nevada, perhaps due to an incomplete understanding of the game by decision makers. You should know that lacrosse is played outside, it is fast paced, and there is no shared equipment. Nevada's position on the game is basically out-of-step:

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Please also consider that the loss of a second consecutive season of competitive play will be devastating to 1,300 plus youth and high school players in the High Sierra Lacrosse community, and to many more in southern Nevada.

I respectfully ask that you reconsider the sport's classification in a timely manner for the benefit of our kids, and to further the Great State of Nevada's mission to "look for opportunities to allow Nevada youth to re-engage in activities that promote health and well-being."

Sincerely, Keli Bucci

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Buhrmann, Nicole  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2021 10:10 AM  
**To:** PressRoom Nevada Health Response  
**Subject:** Reclassification of Lacrosse in the state of NV

Dear Ms. Delahney,

My name is Nikki Buhrmann, and I am writing in support of the High Sierra Lacrosse request to change the risk classification of boys and girl's youth and high school lacrosse in Nevada.

Lacrosse has been erroneously classified and enormously impacted in Nevada, perhaps due to an incomplete understanding of the game by decision makers. You should know that lacrosse is played outside, it is fast paced, and there is no shared equipment. Nevada's position on the game is basically out-of-step:

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**Please also consider that the loss of a second consecutive season of competitive play will be devastating to 1,300 plus youth and high school players in the High Sierra Lacrosse community, and to many more in southern Nevada.**

**My two sons have been playing lacrosse since they were 7 years old. My husband has been coaching since 2012. My oldest is now a Sophomore in Northern Nevada and if the current classification stands, he will lose a second year of HS eligibility and opportunities for college scouting and scholarships. He has worked too hard to be forgotten. He has played club competitive lacrosse, representing the state of NV in Utah, California, and Oregon. Let him play in his home state this spring!**

I respectfully ask that you reconsider the sport's classification in a timely manner for the benefit of our kids, and to further the Great State of Nevada's mission to "look for opportunities to allow Nevada youth to re-engage in activities that promote health and well-being."

Sincerely,

Nikki Buhrmann



Dear Governor Sisolak,

My name is Richard Harger and my son is 16 and a sophomore at Galena High School and I am writing in support of the High Sierra Lacrosse request to change the risk classification of boys and girls youth and high school lacrosse in Nevada.

Lacrosse has been erroneously classified and enormously impacted in Nevada, perhaps due to an incomplete understanding of the game by decision makers. You should know that lacrosse is played outside, it is fast paced, and there is no shared equipment. Nevada's position on the game is basically out-of-step:

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Please also consider that the loss of a second consecutive season of competitive play will be devastating to 1,300 plus youth and high school players in the High Sierra Lacrosse community, and to many more in southern Nevada.

*A personal note about my son. Two months ago he came to me and said Dad, "I have been having thoughts about not being here." I was devastated to hear this and got him into counseling right away. Since he has been practicing for a shortened football season his whole attitude has changed. He needs to be out on the field as much as possible. Playing sports has also helped him in the classroom. PLEASE...PLEASE let them play. It make sense on all levels including the Science to reclassify Lacrosse.*

I respectfully ask that you reconsider the sport's classification in a timely manner for the benefit of our kids, and to further the Great State of Nevada's mission to "look for opportunities to allow Nevada youth to re-engage in activities that promote health and well-being."

Sincerely,

Richard Harger

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Shaun Franklin-Sewell  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2021 10:12 AM  
**To:** PressRoom Nevada Health Response  
**Subject:** Including People Living with HIV on the list of those with Underlying Conditions

On January 12, I wrote an email to Shannon Bennett and anyone for whom I could obtain an email address at the Division of Public and Behavioral Health. In part, I wrote: "It seems to me that - at best - the failure to include people living with HIV in the list of people with underlying health conditions ages 16-64 is a mistake."

I received a response from an administrative assistant who did not really respond to my email, but provided a canned response about vaccine distribution, generally. She then followed up with an email informing me that "NSIP is restricted to using the CDC's guidance to guidance to identify the specific underlying health conditions causing the person to be at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19."

The CDC website linked from that bullet point indicates that people who are immunocompromised due to HIV "**might be at an increased risk for severe illness** from the virus that causes COVID-19." The paragraph introducing the list of those that might be at increased risk indicates that there is not enough research to determine how COVID-19 impacts those populations. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>)

Around Tuesday, 2/9, After New York state released its list of those with underlying conditions and included people with HIV, I attempted to engage with state leadership again. I had no further response from anyone, and so I asked all of my state and local representatives (Pat Spearman, Clara Thomas, William McCurdy II, and Pamelay Goynes-Browne) for help. On February 11, I forwarded the same email to the Governor's press secretary. I have had no response from my communications on February 11.

On February 17, I sent another email to state DPBH leaders and copied my state and local representatives. I pointed out the following:

The CDC has created a web page titled COVID-19 and HIV: <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/covid-19.html>. A Question and Answer section on that page includes this question: "**When can people with HIV get vaccinated for COVID-19?**" The answer: "**People aged 16 through 64 with underlying medical conditions, including people who are in an immunocompromised state from HIV, might be at increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19 and may be considered for vaccination in phase 1c.**"

I received no response to the email in which I reported the above information.

I have done further research in medical journals that indicates that people with HIV have worse health outcomes and higher hospitalization / death rates when infected with the coronavirus.

Thank you, in advance, for anything you can do to answer this question and/or get people with HIV added to this important list.

Shaun Franklin-Sewell

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Shaun Franklin-Sewell  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2021 10:04 AM  
**To:** PressRoom Nevada Health Response  
**Subject:** Public Comment for 2/25/21 Meeting

For the record, my name is Shaun Franklin-Sewell, spelled S-H-A-U-N F-R-A-N-K-L-I-N-DASH-S-E-W-E-L-L.

I've resorted to asking this question in public comment because I've emailed multiple people and, aside from a canned response from an administrative assistant on January 12, no one has engaged with me on this issue.

Why aren't people living with HIV included on the list of those 16-64 with underlying conditions (that are next in line to get the vaccine)?

The administrative assistant informed me that the state was following CDC guidelines, and yet, the CDC website indicates that people living with HIV might be at increased risk for illness and may be considered for vaccination in phase 1C.

Further research in published articles from medical journals indicates people living with HIV have worse health outcomes and higher hospitalization / death rates when infected with the coronavirus.

The failure to include this group of people in the list of those with underlying conditions seems, at best, a mistake that should be corrected. The failure of coronavirus leadership in our state to engage with constituents on this issue is terribly problematic.

Thank you for your time and attention.