

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Aaron Sottile
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 10:01 PM
Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

No proof has been provided to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Thank you for your time.
Seaside Water Polo

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Cliff Abbott
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:55 PM
To: Meagan Werth Ranson
Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Thank you for your time.

Thank You,

Cliff Abbott

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: David Niz
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 12:15 AM
To:

Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Governor and esteemed members of the task force,

Water polo needs your help! The request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

I am asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

Water polo organizations have done everything you have asked and have been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

I ask that you address and answer these questions:

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by the Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines?
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey?
4. Can you claim that water polo athletes are being treated fairly and with equity.

Based on scientific data, water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission. Other states and countries have had success with carefully planned water polo events.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Cities are increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood the area. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their communities returning to normal and see their peers in sports are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Thank you for your time.

Thank You,

David Niz, M. D.

Water polo parent

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Edith Ebarb
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:41 PM
To:

Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Thank you for your time.

Thank You!

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: hilary thomas
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:32 PM
To:

Subject: Re-classify Water Polo

To all concerned,

Our youth need you! Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games.

It's time for consistency. It's time to make a change.
Thank you for your time.

Meagan Werth Ranson

From:
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 6:14 AM
To:

Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Sincerely,
Holly Carter

Sent from my iPhone

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Jennifer Gaetano
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:27 PM
To:

Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games.

The state of Utah and Texas have allowed playing to continue without any problems and so we have had to travel out of our own state to go there and play. Now our state is losing tax dollars and not getting the income generated from tourism revenue. Instead, other states are benefitting. Please, right now help our athletes, just as you helped hockey.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Gaetano

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: T Jon Huynh
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 6:21 AM
To: lak.com; PressRoom Nevada Health Response; PressRoom Nevada Health Response

Subject: Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

Hello

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.

How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.

How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey.

Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely

Jon

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Kathy Cupich
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 10:43 PM
To:

Subject: Reconsidering Water Polo
Attachments: supporting_document_water_polo.pdf; reclassification_of_water_polo.pdf

Dear Governor, NV Task Force, and Business and Industry Director,

This email is to implore you to reconsider your stance on reclassifying water polo in order to allow Nevada athletes to pursue the sport they love, safely. You and taskforce leaders have been shown our argument and supporting data for a safe return to play.

We cannot help but feel that we are not prioritized when it comes to youth sports. Is it because we aren't a casino? Maybe we don't know the right "people" or political figure? Perhaps we don't have a strong lobby or money to get noticed. We are, after all, just a non-profit sports team. However, we are water polo players with passion and love for this sport. We pride ourselves in coaching and teaching all levels of play from beginners in splash ball to sending our high school players to division one collegiate teams.

Sadly, your denial in today's meeting with the Coronavirus Response Director gave us no path to return to play. No proof to refute that our sport is unsafe has been provided and you are allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments. We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

Fact - Hockey is having games weekly and it even says on their website (scroll down to 2021 Schedule). I have seen these games and can send you videos to support my claim. Look at the first sentence on that page. It says MORE GAMES!

Fact - Department of Business and Industry has approved an application to host a hockey tournament March 19-22. How is a sport that is classified as prohibited under current guidelines able to acquire such an approval? They are even noted here as being classified as high contact sport (second paragraph). Dept of B&I claims the tournament will not allow "checking" and that is how they were approved. Is that the only contact in hockey? What about faceoffs? Defense on the puck? Fighting for the puck on the boards? Can they guarantee all that will not happen at this tournament? And if it does happen, will the event be canceled. Doesn't sound like hockey if they can't do those things. Rest assured they will.

Fact - You mentioned you can't make an exception for a single sport. This statement is false. You just reclassified Lacrosse and you are allowing hockey games events without reclassification.

Fact - While I am happy for Lacrosse and Hockey, I have the same passion for my sport as they do. I hope to join them in their path to return to play.

Please explain to me why you can't approve our request to be able to have contact in our practices and the ability to have games while others in the Battle Born State of Nevada are?. We are soccer, basketball, football, lacrosse, and hockey (all approved) DIPPED IN CHLORINE! Chlorine is a disinfectant that kills the virus! Please see our attached supporting documents.

Attached:

Supporting Letter to Reclassify Water Polo Protocols for our Event - Testing no more than 6 days before the event and Rapid Test On-Site before the teams first game. Reclassification Request

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too.

I know you will do the right thing as you are for all Nevadans but especially for our kids that are battling so many other things such as depression and need this to properly classify our sport.

Respectfully,

Kathy Cupich

Dear Nevada Task Force Members:

We are writing to formally request that the State of Nevada reclassify current COVID-19 restrictions regarding participation in water polo. Based on scientific data, we believe that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a “high risk of transmission” sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), and when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission. During water polo, faces and bodies are frequently submerged, immediately killing the virus. The positive effects of chlorine are not just limited to the water. Chlorine gas hovers above the water’s surface acting as an additional disinfectant. The [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) has reported that there is NO evidence of COVID-19 transmission through swimming pools, while the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) has also identified only a limited risk of contamination and illness at well-managed facilities.

Neighboring states, such as California and Arizona, have already acknowledged that water polo can resume safely. NCAA Pac-12 Conference resumed training and competition – with participants including UCLA, USC, California, Stanford, and Arizona State University, all of which are playing without evidence of their actions leading to higher infection rates. Last week, the California Department of Public Health announced additional guidance allowing the state to resume participation opportunities for “**all organized** youth sports and recreation— including school- and community-sponsored programs, and privately-organized clubs and leagues.” This guideline was not restricted to scholastic competition.

Water polo is now taking place across the United States while Nevada delays implementation because the sport is not recognized through the NIAA high school system. In Nevada, swimming is allowed to go forward and we can simply apply the same on deck protocols for water polo to ensure an equally safe environment. Last month, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) elected to remove colored tiers in evaluating the risk of COVID-19 transmission in high school sports and encouraged other sports authorities to do the same.

On the international front, Italy was hardest hit by COVID-19’s initial impact. Its oldest technical university, Polytechnic Institute of Turin, issued a 400-page study of 387 sports. The study named water polo as the safest team sport. Similarly, the Spanish Swimming Federation issued a technical paper arguing that “a well-maintained swimming pool is sanitary safe” from COVID-19. The Dutch University Medical center of Utrecht provided further evidence that chlorine inactivated COVID-19.

Safety protocols are now in place to train and compete safely in the USA. Science clearly identifies a much lower risk to playing water polo than many other basic activities that are currently allowed. We can assure you that we are ready to resume participation safely. The governing body for water polo in America, USA Water Polo, has issued protocols for a safe return to play based on science and the experiences noted above. In the case of water polo, one size does NOT fit all when applying general public health guidelines to a sport played in an environment hostile to the COVID-19 virus is counterproductive at best. This was evident when the NIAA allowed high risk sports to resume competition with additional measures. Unfortunately water polo was not included as it is not a recognized sport through the NIAA, so those students are still restricted from participating in their sport of choice. However, just recently, Lacrosse was reclassified by the state as an “intermediate risk of transmission” when it was previously classified as high risk.

We are asking for your help to allow water polo to fully open under strict safety rules. Please be our advocate with our government and public health officials to follow the science and let our young people back in the chlorinated water to pursue their dreams. You can make a difference in the lives of water polo athletes, and Team Vegas Water Polo needs your help and support.

Sincerely,

Mark St. John - Head Coach Team Vegas Water Polo

At the moment my application can not be approved because of the current classification of water polo in the current guidelines. Even with all the testing protocols we will have in place, it can not be considered. After speaking with Terry today, he mentioned I would need to get on the agenda of the NV COVID Task Force to potentially plead my case to allow these events to take place.

My colleagues and I at USA Water Polo and would like to share some findings with you.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a “high risk of transmission” sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

When playing water polo, faces and bodies are frequently submerged, immediately killing the virus. The positive effects of chlorine are not just limited to the water. Chlorine gas hovers above the water’s surface acting as an additional disinfectant. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has reported that there is NO evidence of COVID-19 transmission through swimming pools, while the World Health Organization (WHO) has also identified only a limited risk of contamination and illness at well-managed facilities.

I and the water polo community are open and willing to adhere to restrictions like other sports, and be given the opportunity to participate in full contact practice and competition, similar to that of our neighboring states and other local high school sports.

Currently we are stuck with no options for participation opportunities for these athletes. These athletes are students of our district, but don't have their sport available through their school. These athletes are still Student Athletes, and have chosen a sport that is outside of their schools Varsity programs.

I am available and willing to work with you on finding a way to bring this sport back. Our neighboring states(including California, Utah, and Arizona) are already allowing full contact water polo.

I respectfully ask that you reconsider the sport's classification.

I understand water polo's current classification. With your guidance, I am hoping to better understand what it would take to either; 1. Move water polo into a different classification. (I can provide studies and cases on how chlorinated water and the chlorine gases that float above the water affect the virus) or 2. Keep water polo in its current classification, but allow these events to proceed with the testing and protocols I have in place.

As a quick note, I have hosted 5 weekends of water polo events in January and February of 2021 in St. George, UT. Those weekends hosted over 1,600 athletes and 110 teams in a safe and responsible manner. We had each athlete and coach test no more than 6 days before each weekend, and they had to produce a negative COVID test result. When arriving at the event, they all also had to take an onsite rapid test with a negative result before being permitted to compete. That is 2 tests within 6 days of the event.

I am hoping to bring these safe and responsible events to my hometown.

I can share my application and all the protocols we have in place if you wish.

If this matter needs to be directed to someone else, please let me know. I am just trying to find a way. This will be the most responsible run youth sports event. This sport is my passion, and I am willing to put in as much effort as is needed to find a way to make it work.

I appreciate your time.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank You,

--

Mark St. John

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Lina
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 7:37 AM
To: Lina DaPena
Subject: Water Polo

Good morning,

Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Lina DaPena

Lina DaPena

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Manucher Ghaffari
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:22 PM
To:

Cc: Mark St Johns
Subject: Water Polo in Nevada

Dear Sir/Madam,

Rocky Mountain Neptunes Water Polo Club based in Boulder, Colorado was looking forward to bringing its teams to the Las Vegas/Henderson area for a tournament in April. We have attended several tournaments in Utah this past fall and winter. Noone got sick with Covid. In fact, a couple of our players who did not go contracted Covid from elsewhere! We support Team Vegas' request below:

"Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the

COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Thank you for your time."

Thank You,
Manu Ghaffarifar, head coach and founder,
Rocky Mountain Neptunes Water Polo Club

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Megan Farooqui
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2021 7:07 AM
To:

Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Thank you for your time.

Thank You,
Megan Farooqui

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Robert Danko
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:13 AM
To:

Subject: WATERPOLO NEEDS YOUR HELP

Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport. No amount of adjustments to game play can eliminate contact in such a sport.

2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.

3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey

4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to host games.

Thank you for your time.

Thank You,

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Robert Danko
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:14 AM
To:

Subject: WATERPOLO NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!!!

Dear Governor, NV Task Force, and Business and Industry Director,

This email is to implore you to reconsider your stance on reclassifying water polo in order to allow Nevada athletes to pursue the sport they love, safely. You and taskforce leaders have been shown our argument and supporting data for a safe return to play.

We cannot help but feel that we are not prioritized when it comes to youth sports. Is it because we aren't a casino? Maybe we don't know the right "people" or political figure? Perhaps we don't have a strong lobby or money to get noticed. We are, after all, just a non-profit sports team. However, we are water polo players with passion and love for this sport. We pride ourselves in coaching and teaching all levels of play from beginners in splash ball to sending our high school players to division one collegiate teams.

Sadly, your denial in today's meeting with the Coronavirus Response Director gave us no path to return to play. No proof to refute that our sport is unsafe has been provided and you are allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments. We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

Fact - Hockey is having games weekly and it even says on [their website](#) (scroll down to 2021 Schedule). I have seen these games and can send you videos to support my claim. Look at the first sentence on that page. It says MORE GAMES!

Fact - Department of Business and Industry has approved an application to [host a hockey tournament March 19-22](#). **How is a sport that is classified as prohibited under [current guidelines](#) able to acquire such an approval? [They are even noted here as being classified as high contact sport \(second paragraph\)](#).** Dept of B&I claims the tournament will not allow "checking" and that is how they were approved. Is that the only contact in hockey? What about faceoffs? Defense on the puck? Fighting for the puck on the boards? Can they guarantee all that will not happen at this tournament? And if it does happen, will the event be canceled. Doesn't sound like hockey if they can't do those things. Rest assured they will.

Fact - You mentioned you can't make an exception for a single sport. This statement is false. You just reclassified Lacrosse and you are allowing hockey games events without reclassification.

Fact - While I am happy for Lacrosse and Hockey, I have the same passion for my sport as they do. I hope to join them in their path to return to play.

Please explain to me why you can't approve our request to be able to have contact in our practices and the ability to have games while others in the Battle Born State of Nevada are?. We are soccer, basketball, football,

lacrosse, and hockey (all approved) DIPPED IN CHLORINE! Chlorine is a disinfectant that kills the virus! Please see our attached supporting documents.

Attached:

- Supporting Letter to Reclassify Water Polo
- Protocols for our Event - Testing no more than 6 days before the event and Rapid Test On-Site before the teams first game.
- Reclassification Request

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too.

I know you will do the right thing as you are for all Nevadans but especially for our kids that are battling so many other things such as depression and need this to properly classify our sport.

Thank You,

Regards,

Robert Danko

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Stacey M. Hensley
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 2:30 AM
To:

Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

To Whom It May Concern:

Water polo needs your help! OUR CHILDREN NEED YOUR HELP! The request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that water polo is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Based on scientific data water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission. Many tournaments have been played around the country using safety protocols with success.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Thank you for your consideration to this matter of utmost importance to our children.

Thank you
Stacey Munatones Hensley

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: tony.chanove
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 7:18 AM
To:

Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Thank you for your time.

Thank You,

Tony Chanove

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: abigayle dapena
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 7:54 AM
To: abidapena@gmail.com
Subject: Water Polo

Water polo needs your help! Our request to re-classify water polo has been denied.

You have provided no proof to refute that our sport is unsafe. While at the same time allowing other sports, in the same classification as water polo, the ability to play games and host tournaments.

We are asking for the same consideration and consistency in the decision making process.

You have allowed hockey, a sport that shares the same classification as water polo to have weekly games and even host tournaments. All this is advertised on their websites.

We have done everything you have asked and been told NO exceptions can be made unless your sport is reclassified by the Governor. That statement is false as hockey has been given preferential treatment either with or without your knowledge.

We ask that you address and answer these questions.

1. How is a sport that shares the same prohibited classification as water polo under current guidelines able to acquire an approval to host a local tournament? Hockey has been classified by our Governor as a high contact sport.
2. How is hockey able to advertise they can have games weekly when such is prohibited under current guidelines.
3. How can water polo acquire the same treatment as hockey
4. Can you claim that we are being treated fairly and with equity.

Our view, based on scientific data, is that water polo has been inaccurately classified as a high risk of transmission sport. In fact, since water polo is played in a highly chlorinated environment (which kills the COVID-19 virus), when combined with proper on-deck protocols, water polo is safe and represents an extremely low risk of transmission.

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks to open and resort pools. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancies. Our city is increasing hotel occupancy and allowing Spring Breakers to flood our city. This is all great news...PLEASE FIND THE TIME FOR US TOO! Our athletes see their city returning to normal and see their peers are able to find options to play their sport. Please consider water polo too. We ask that you reconsider your position on the classification of water polo and immediately approve our request to have our practices return to normal and the ability to host games .

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,
Abi DaPena