

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Daniel Arias
Sent: Friday, April 16, 2021 8:46 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. 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,

Daniel Arias, D.O.