

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: AJ <
Sent: Saturday, March 20, 2021 3:46 PM
To: Press Governor's Office
Cc:

Subject: LET THEM PLAY!!!!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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.

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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!

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.

Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

AJ Sexton

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Alicia Hansel <arhansel@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 20, 2021 6:00 PM
To: steve@stevesisolak.com; info@stevesisolak.com; PressRoom Nevada Health Response; Caleb Cage; Meagan Werth Ranson; Terry Reynolds; COVID19 Plans; Victoria Carreon; Press Governor's Office; news@news3lv.com; newsdesk@8newsnow.com; desk@fox5vegas.com; desk@ktnv.com; contact@thenvindy.com; carrie.buck@sen.state.nv.us; elaine.marzola@asm.state.nv.us; officeofthemayor@lasvegasnevada.gov; msymes@reviewjournal.com
Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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.

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Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Alicia Hansel

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Galanski, Amy
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 8:24 AM
To:

Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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,

Amy Galanski

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Ana Castro Bernal
Sent: Saturday, March 20, 2021 10:17 PM
Cc:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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.

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My son is 12 years old, his name is William Castro. Please let him play.

Attn.

Ana Castro

Sent from my iPhone

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Andrew Bottene <abottene@tricolorbraunwinepak.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 4:51 PM
To: steve@stevesisolak.com; info@stevesisolak.com; PressRoom Nevada Health Response; Caleb Cage; Meagan Werth Ranson; Terry Reynolds; COVID19 Plans; Victoria Carreon; Press Governor's Office; news@news3lv.com; newsdesk@8newsnow.com; desk@fox5vegas.com; desk@ktnv.com; contact@thenvindy.com; carrie.buck@sen.state.nv.us; elaine.marzola@asm.state.nv.us; officeofthemayor@lasvegasnevada.gov; msymes@reviewjournal.com
Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank you,

Mark St. John

702-477-5529

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Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Anthony Cain
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 8:18 AM
To:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Armond Abramian
Sent: Saturday, March 20, 2021 6:35 PM
To:

Subject: Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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.

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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.

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Thank You,

Armond Abramian

Mobile 818-822-6162

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Autumn Peters
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 12:09 PM
Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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.

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Thank you for your time.

Thank You,
Autumn Peters

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Mr. BS
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2021 5:16 AM
To:

Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

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Botond Szatmary

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Mr. BS
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 9:20 PM
To:

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Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Botond Szatmary
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 8:12 AM
To:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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.

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Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Botond Szatmary

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Brian Emerson
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 1:56 PM
To:

Subject: NV Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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.

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Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Brody DaPena
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 8:27 AM
To:
Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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Thank You,

Brody DaPena

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Cameron Thomas
Sent: Saturday, March 20, 2021 4:02 PM
To:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Cameron

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Christopher Ramsey
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 3:46 PM
To:
Cc:
Subject: Letter to Governor Sisolak & Director Cage from USA Water Polo CEO Christopher Ramsey
Attachments: 2021-03-22 NV_USAWP_Gov. Sisolak.Dir. Cage Letter.pdf

Dear Governor Newsom and Director Cage,

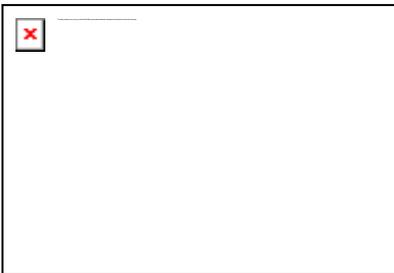
Please review the attached correspondence at your earliest convenience.

Best wishes,

Chris Ramsey

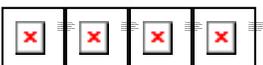
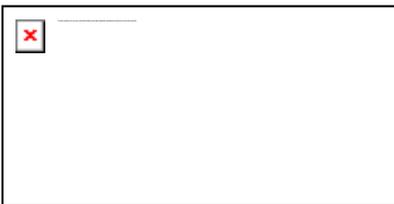
GO USA!

Christopher Ramsey
Chief Executive Officer
USA Water Polo



Jasper Johns, Flag, 1954, Museum of Modern Art
Gift of Philip Johnson in honor of Alfred H. Barr, Jr.

PRIDE - INTEGRITY - UNITY
POLO IN EVERY POOL



USA WATER POLO

March 22, 2021

Governor Steve Sisolak

Director Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Task Force

SUBJ: RETURN WATER POLO TO NEVADA POOLS

Dear Governor Sisolak and Director Cage,

We are writing to formally request that the State of Nevada reclassify current COVID-19 restrictions regarding participation in water polo in the state of Nevada. 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. Unfortunately, Nevada has simply lumped water polo into the HIGH RISK contact sport category without any additional consideration regarding the environment in which it is played. Evidence from other states and abroad demonstrates that **COVID-19 is highly unlikely to be transmitted during games or practices**. This misclassification of Water Polo threatens the opportunity for our athletes to participate in their sport of choice. **Please note that The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Sports Medicine Advisory Committee classifies Water Polo as a “Moderate-Risk” sport.**

- 1. Experiences in Other High Risk States.** High school seasons were played in Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Texas, mostly in smaller *indoor* pools. Nationwide, tens of thousands of athletes have played water polo across all age divisions without a single reported transmission. As a result, Illinois and Ohio will permit water polo for spring *indoor* seasons. Utah water polo is not recognized by the high school association, yet they have been permitted to run their club-based high school and middle school seasons. California high school and club athletes have benefited greatly from being afforded the opportunity to participate in full water polo leagues and competitions. Florida is now running its water polo season, which culminates in Regional Semi-Finals, and a state-wide tournament at the end of March. The Florida High School Sports Association developed “Sport Contest Specific Considerations” for a variety of sports; the Water Polo section provides modifications for out-of-pool issues only, leaving all in-water activity unchanged (https://fhsaa.com/documents/2021/1/6/SMAC_COVID_19_Spring_Safety_Considerations.pdf?id=916). **As previously mentioned, the NFHS classifies Water Polo as a Moderate-Risk Sport** (<https://www.nfhs.org/media/3812287/2020-nfhs-guidance-for-opening-up-high-school-athletics-and-activities-nfhs-smac-may-15-2020-final.pdf>).
- 2. International Scientific Studies.** Italy was hardest hit by COVID’s initial impact. Its oldest technical university, Polytechnic Institute of Turin, issued a 400-page study of 387 sports (<https://figest.it/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Rapporto-LO-SPORT-RIPARTE-IN-SICUREZZA.pdf>). Water polo was the safest team sport. Similarly, the Spanish Swimming Federation issued a technical paper arguing, “A well-maintained swimming pool is sanitary safe” from COVID-19. The Dutch University Medical center of Utrecht provided evidence that chlorine inactivated COVID-19. Swimming Canada tracked in total 282,000 individual swim training sessions without a single reported pool transmission and the New Jersey Swim Safety Alliance reported 44 indoor facilities serving 212,641 patrons in indoor pools with zero infections in these facilities (<https://swimswam.com/updated-info-whats-known-about-chlorines-impact-on-coronavirus/>).
- 3. CDC Guidance.** “There is no evidence that COVID-19 can be spread to humans through the use of swimming pools...or aquatic play areas.”



USA WATER POLO

4. **WHO Guidance.** “There is limited risk of significant microbial contamination and illness in a well-managed pool or similar environment with an adequate residual disinfectant concentration.”
5. **Chlorine Gas.** The effect of chlorine is not limited to the water. Droplets and gas disinfect the surface of the water column, according to the *British Sports Medicine Journal* and *National Institute of Health*.
6. **Travel Tournaments.** *Indoor* youth tournaments in Utah and Texas have hosted more than five thousand athletes this winter with no reported transmissions. Nevada athletes have taken part in these tournaments, with no COVID-19 transmission.
7. **Studies show that treated pools sanitize the air and environment above the water’s surface.** The chlorine-by-products we smell in air above pool water may not be great for humans, but these chlorine-by-products disinfect COVID-19. When swimming or playing Water Polo, faces are often submerged, and athletes experience significant rinsing of the mouth and nose, as well as dilution of saliva (think gargling with chlorinated water) while in the pool. Thus, droplets expelled through aquatic activities involve large, inactivated droplets. Please consider the two links below, one an assessment of air and water contamination by disinfection by-products, and one an analysis by a coach and Chemical Engineer:
 - [Assessment of air and water contamination by disinfection by-products at 41 indoor swimming pools - ScienceDirect](#)
 - <https://www.swimmingworldmagazine.com/news/coronavirus-and-environmental-considerations-for-aquatic-sports/>

Other states and countries have concluded that youth sport games are uncorrelated to COVID hospitalizations. **The risks are outside the water.** *Nevada has allowed some high risk sports to resume competition with additional measures, unfortunately water polo is not offered to student athletes through the NCAA, so those students are restricted from participating – but we are willing to put any and all restrictions into place to ensure the safety of our members. Furthermore, the facilities with which we operate are already governed by city and state rules and regulations; we cannot circumvent these rules as our sport can only be played at regulated facilities.*

Governor Sisolak and Director Cage, if you open the sport, operational risks will be mitigated, the looming destruction Nevada’s aquatic ecosystem can be avoided, and our mentally exhausted, isolated athletes will return to thrive in home waters.

We look forward to working with you to create a safe environment so that our athletes can participate in our great sport.

Sincerely,



Christopher Ramsey
Chief Executive Officer of USA Water Polo

cc: Terry Reynolds, State of Nevada Director of Business and Industry
treynolds@business.nv.gov
Nevada COVID-19 Task Force
pressroom@nvhealthresponse.nv.gov



Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Christine McCracken <
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 2:39 PM
To:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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.

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Please reclassify the tier water polo falls under.

Respectfully,
Christine McCracken

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: The Niz Family
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 4:38 PM
To:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

This email is to implore you to reconsider your stance on reclassifying water polo in order to allow Nevada male and female 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, afterall, 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.

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Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

David Niz
Water polo parent.

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: David Youngblood
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 12:17 PM
To:

Subject: Reclassify Water Polo in Nevada!!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Water Polo is a contact sport but it is the only contact sport played in a disinfectant. Covid-19 cannot survive in chlorinated water which the players are constantly swimming, splashing, and at times being completely submerged. The sport is inherently a low risk sport.

How hockey can be deemed safe but water polo too risky defies logic. All equipment, players, suits and caps are constantly drenched in highly chlorinated water that destroys bacteria and viruses. The pathways to infection are statistically insignificant in this medium.

The water polo community is very small compared to most sports and the players, refs, coaches, and fans tend to be extremely respectful of authorities so the volume and tenor of the lobbying efforts may be easy to dismiss. However, this youth sport is being unfairly categorized with little to no thought by people who have no exposure to this great sport. You should consider the associated risks scientifically and allow water polo to be reclassified.

The western US is the hotbed of water polo for the country. Most of our olympians come from this region. We have conducted a number of events in Utah with rigorous protections (masks, distancing, testing) in place and observed no viral spread. Nevada should support the development of our future olympians and reclassify water polo as low risk. Thanks, your attention is appreciated.

Sincerely,
the water polo community

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Dina Minasyan
Sent: Saturday, March 20, 2021 6:59 PM
To:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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.

HOW CAN THIS BE APPROVED AND NOT WATER POLO!?! THIS IS HAPPENING NOW IN OUR TOWN. [CLICK HERE TO SEE A PACKED HOUSE AT THE POOL!](#)

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! Was their approval supposed to be a secret?

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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!

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.

Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Dina Minasyan

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: edith santos
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 8:03 PM
To:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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.

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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.

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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.

Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Edith Santos (water polo mom)

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Eric Bero
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 2:11 PM
To:

Cc: hfcheer@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Re-classify water polo as a Covid-safe sport

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Governor Sisolak and those who care deeply about the health and welfare of our state's youth:

Water polo needs your help! I urge you to re-classify water polo as a Covid-safe sport, just like has occurred in California and many other states. The first request has been denied for reasons that seem off the target and for this reason I feel compelled to write.

You have not provided 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 the 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. In fact, here is what USA Water Polo had to say to Governor Gavin Newsom regarding the inherent safety of the sport:

"Water polo is played in a chlorinated environment, and virtually all California swimming pool courses are located outdoors. 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 like the ones in California."

<https://usawaterpolo.org/news/2021/2/10/general-usa-water-polo-letter-to-california-governor-gavin-newsom-regarding-water-polo-classification.aspx>

Governor and Task Force, your agenda has made time to allow water parks and resort pools to open. You have made the effort to increase F&B occupancy. 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,

Eric Bero

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Eric Hamm
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 5:23 PM
To:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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.

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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!

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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.

Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Eric Hamm

Eric Hamm

Sent via [Superhuman](#)

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Erin Hamm
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 8:08 AM
To:

Subject: Let Them Play Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I beg of you to reconsider your decision regarding youth water polo. NCAA championships happened over the weekend in California. Youth water polo tournaments are happening just up the road in St George. With proper protocols, there can be no doubt water polo is not going to be the cause of greater speed of Covid, particularly with youth.

I happen to be coming to Vegas for a volleyball tournament next weekend and am grateful for the opportunity. The protocols in place are appropriate and will be respected. And yes, water polo involves more physical contact than volleyball, but the girls huddle regularly, they pass the ball often and teammates share the same spaces. I understand lacrosse and hockey are being played in Nevada. So why not water polo?

For heavens sake, youth football is being played in California of all places now. So c'mon Nevada. Quit shutting down, quit keeping businesses from making money, and let's open up safely for our communities' well-being, our kids' mental health, and for the love of reason.

Thanks for your consideration. I know this is a tough time to be in leadership. And I'm sure you've heard more than your fair share of arguments and pleading in the past 12 months. Please consider the facts. Please support youth athletics of all kinds!

Sincerely,
Erin Hamm

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Eszter Szatmary
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:33 PM
To:

Subject: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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,

Eszter Szatmary

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Eszter Szatmary
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 9:26 PM
To:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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.

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Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Eszter Szatmary

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Heather Flynn
Sent: Saturday, March 20, 2021 6:08 PM
To:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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.

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Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Heather Flynn
Park City Water Polo Coach
Former USA Water Polo National Team Member

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Heidi Fritz
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 1:18 PM
To:
Subject: Equality in All Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Governor Sisolak and those who care deeply about the health and welfare of our state's youth:

Water polo needs your help! I urge you to re-classify water polo as a Covid-safe sport, just like has occurred in California and many other states. The first request has been denied for reasons that seem off the target and for this reason I feel compelled to write.

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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,
Heidi A. Fritz

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Heidi Fritz
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 12:01 PM
To:

Subject: Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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 task force 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.

HOW CAN THIS BE APPROVED AND NOT WATER POLO!?! THIS IS HAPPENING NOW IN OUR TOWN. [CLICK HERE TO SEE A PACKED HOUSE AT THE POOL!](#)

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! Was their approval supposed to be a secret?

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 face-offs? 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!

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.

Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,
Heidi A. Fritz

Meagan Werth Ranson

From: Ian Journey
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 1:48 PM
To:

Subject: Water Polo

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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,

Ian Journey
Bakersfield, CA