

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Levi Laxina  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 3:31 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!

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Lina  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 21, 2021 8:15 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, 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.

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 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!

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,

**Lina DaPena**

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## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Marina Sek  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 8:52 PM  
**To:**

**Cc:**

**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, 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,

Marina (Concerned parent),

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Mark Printup  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 4:17 PM  
**To:**

**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,

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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,  
Mark Printup

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Mark St. John  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 5:06 PM  
**To:**  
**Cc:**

**Subject:** Re: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo  
**Attachments:** Supporting Document\_Water Polo.pdf; Reclassification of Water Polo.pdf; Protocols\_Request for Approval\_Water Polo Events.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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

We eagerly await any response to our questions. We are hoping you make the time to rectify this clear example of inequality when it comes to youth sports.

Please answer our questions or offer us an immediate path forward.

Thank You,

On Wed, Mar 17, 2021 at 12:00 AM Mark St. John <> wrote:

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.

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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,

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Mark St. John

Team Vegas Water Polo

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Mark St. John

## **COVID PROTOCOLS**

### **PRE TRAVEL**

All athletes and coaches will be required to have a negative result COVID test in their hometown/state no more than 6 days prior to the event. They will need to show proof of this before the on-site Rapid Test is performed. A negative result for the initial test is mandatory. It is highly recommended those traveling as chaperones are also tested. All information will be kept confidential.

We are asking that after the initial COVID test, each athlete will try to isolate themselves in their own "tournament bubble." Taking all precautions to avoid any exposure to the virus prior to and during travel.

Once your entry is in, you will reserve a time to have the Rapid Test performed either prior to your 1st game, or at the Host Hotel. A positive result at tournament check in will disqualify the individual athlete/coach from tournament participation. You can choose to perform another Rapid Test, or a PCR test at a local lab the next day.

Also, athletes and coaches must sign the USA Water Polo COVID-19 Return to Play Release and Waiver through their USAWP Membership portal.

While at the tournament site, masks are to be worn at all times unless you are in the water. Coaches and Admins, we are asking you to take care of this in regards to your own team and families. We are not the mask police. If you or your team (which includes parents/family) have an issue with the masks, a Covid Officer on site will either warn you or ask you to leave. I am hoping everyone is compliant in this regard, as we hope to have a fun weekend of water polo. The facility has strict rules, and if we can't follow them, it jeopardizes our ability to host.

Spectators will be limited to 2 per athlete, and 30 total per team

### **Forms and Documents for Testing**

- COVID-19 Parental Consent Form and Waiver(any athletes 18+ can sign for themselves)
- AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OR DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION -
- Proof of Negative Test dated no earlier than 6 days before event start date. Electronic or Hard Copy

**Consider the above 3 documents your "Playing Passport." These documents must be presented when testing. PLEASE PLEASE have these with you. I do not want to be the bad guy here. Testing company will not test anyone who doesn't have the above documents. I want everyone to be able to participate. Please don't let a sheet of paper with signatures be the thing that holds you back from that.**

### **Additional Tests (Optional)**

- If you believe your test results in a false positive, you can have the choice to take another test. \$49
- If you would like to take a PCR test(most accurate), the medical staff running the test can administer them for \$110 each. Samples will be collected on site Friday and Saturday morning for anyone choosing to take that option. Tests will be taken to a local lab Saturday at 10am that will have the results expedited within 4-6 hours. (you may miss a game(s) waiting for the results)

### **Reminder**

- No athlete or coach can participate unless they show a negative result on their pre-travel test and tournament on-site test.

The medical staff running the tests wants to remind all participants to be patient during your testing time. They are familiar with sporting event testing and will get through each team efficiently as possible. Also reminding you to take all steps necessary to put yourself in a position to participate in this event. Be diligent with your personal protection, cleanliness, and social distancing at and leading up to the weekend.

### **Player and Parent Entrances**

Players and Coaches will have a separate entrance from Parents/Spectators. See the attached photo for your designated entrance. Parents/Spectators are not permitted on deck. Parents/Spectators are to maintain social distancing and to have a mask on at all times in the facility. Please also see the pool deck map(attached) for your reference. Team areas are the yellow boxes.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank You,

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Mark St. John

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,

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Mark St. John

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

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Mark St. John  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 9:17 PM  
**To:**  
**Cc:**

**Subject:** Re: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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So this can happen but not water polo? Come on guys. This is an easy fix! Let us play!! The emails will continue until our voice is heard. Our next round of emails coming this weekend.

Please reach out to us so we can work this out together.

[https://www.reviewjournal.com/local/local-las-vegas/downtown/march-madness-returns-to-las-vegas-with-a-big-splash-at-circa-2309501/?fbclid=IwAR28\\_daGeJvxuibtFQZJk4Ty7Z7PocN4P7m8Lszq\\_X0cE8Qj6GIVxKyH0FY](https://www.reviewjournal.com/local/local-las-vegas/downtown/march-madness-returns-to-las-vegas-with-a-big-splash-at-circa-2309501/?fbclid=IwAR28_daGeJvxuibtFQZJk4Ty7Z7PocN4P7m8Lszq_X0cE8Qj6GIVxKyH0FY)



[\\_March Madness returns to Las Vegas with a big s...](#)



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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! 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,

--

Mark St. John

Team Vegas Water Polo

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** Mark St. John  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021 8:55 AM  
**To:** Meagan Werth Ranson  
**Subject:** Re: Water Polo Event Approval

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi,

I did not see this in the public comments portion of the task force meeting.

On Wed, Mar 17, 2021 at 12:09 PM Meagan Werth Ranson <> wrote:

Good Afternoon,

Would you like this included as public comment for tomorrow's Task Force meeting?

Thank you,

Meagan

---

**From:** Mark St. John <>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 12:05 PM  
**To:** Terry Reynolds  
**Cc:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Subject:** Re: Water Polo Event Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Hello All,

I can provide testimony from 2 Hockey Parents that will state that their youth athletes are able to play with contact and have games. I am glad they are able to do so.

Can we be treated the same?

Caleb, Terry, and Meagan, you have heard our plea. Yesterday's meeting took us by shock. We request a meeting today to seek approval for our event. Do you have time to discuss? We still have time as team's are ready to play.

At the very least, can you address the fact that we are not being addressed in any sort of equitable manner as compared to hockey?

We are available all day today and await your response please.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 16, 2021, at 3:42 PM, Mark St. John wrote:

Thank you for the email. I have videos of the contrary that I can send you all if you would like.

I would be very surprised that teams would travel to have a non-contact hockey tournament. Rest assured, I will be at this event with my camera.

You are offering no options for our athletes.

Again, I am just asking for equal treatment.

On Tue, Mar 16, 2021 at 3:34 PM Terry Reynolds wrote:

Mark to clear up a miss conception. Youth Hockey does not allow contact (checking) and that is part of the Tournament approval. Youth Hockey is not allowed to have full contact practices or games.

---

**From:** Mark St. John

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 3:24 PM

**To:** C

**Subject: Water Polo Event Approval**

Hello All,

I was hoping you can help me identify the same path that hockey used to allow contact in their practices and events. Hockey, which is in the same classification as Water Polo, is able to have full contact practices, games, and even host tournaments despite their current classifications.

**Please see these links**

<https://www.lasvegasice.com/Tournaments/Presidents-Day>

<https://www.lifeguardarena.com/page/show/5801473-house-league-2020->

I eagerly await your response and approval with our existing protocols in place. We are far exceeding any protocols that hockey has in place for our event. We are feeling a little left in the cold as a sport with no opportunities for our athletes to participate.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank You,

--

Mark St. John

Team Vegas Water Polo

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** Mary Karen Lundh  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:49 PM  
**To:**

**Subject:** CDC says water sports are SAFE and has APPROVED water sports to play for over six months! Please treat water polo athletes equally!!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

The CDC has stated multiple times that water sports are among the MOST SAFE of all sports because the Coronavirus cannot survive in water, and over six months ago proactively approved safe opening plans and procedures for water sports BEFORE any other sports were giving this approval.

Our water polo athletes need 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,

Mary Karen Lundh

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:**  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:56 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Fwd: CDC says water sports are SAFE and has APPROVED water sports to play for over six months!  
Please treat water polo athletes equally!!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

---

**From:** Mary Karen Lundh  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:49:09 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** CDC says water sports are SAFE and has APPROVED water sports to play for over six months! Please treat water polo athletes equally!!

The CDC has stated multiple times that water sports are among the MOST SAFE of all sports because the Coronavirus cannot survive in water, and over six months ago proactively approved safe opening plans and procedures for water sports BEFORE any other sports were giving this approval.

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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,

Mary Karen Lundh

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** Matt.Murphy  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 3:53 PM  
**To:**

**Cc:**

**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?

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!

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,

Mark St. John

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** Matt Northcutt  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 5:03 PM  
**To:** Meagan Werth Ranson  
**Subject:** Fw: Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on](#)

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,

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** Matt Tunney  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 21, 2021 2:06 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?

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!

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,

Matt Tunney, CEO

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Maxwell Montes  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 8:06 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.

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

Thank You,

Maxwell Montes

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** elleimch  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 5:26 PM  
**To:** Meagan Werth Ranson  
**Subject:** FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

From: elleimch  
Date: 3/20/21 6:25 PM (GMT-07:00) r  
Subject: FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

From: elleimch <  
Date: 3/20/21 6:24 PM (GMT-07:00)  
To:  
Subject: FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

From: elleimch  
Date: 3/20/21 6:24 PM (GMT-07:00)  
To:  
Subject: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

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,

Michelle danko

--

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** elleimch <elleimch@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 21, 2021 11:04 AM  
**To:** Meagan Werth Ranson  
**Subject:** FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

**From:** elleimch <elleimch@aol.com>  
**Date:** 3/20/21 6:25 PM (GMT-07:00)  
**To:** mwranson@gov.nv.gov  
**Subject:** FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

**From:** elleimch <elleimch@aol.com>  
**Date:** 3/20/21 6:25 PM (GMT-07:00)  
**To:** pressroom@nvhealthresponse.nv.gov  
**Subject:** FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

**From:** elleimch <elleimch@aol.com>  
**Date:** 3/20/21 6:24 PM (GMT-07:00)  
**To:** info@stevesisolak.com  
**Subject:** FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

From: elleimch <elleimch@aol.com>

Date: 3/20/21 6:24 PM (GMT-07:00)

To: steve@stevesisolak.com

Subject: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

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!](#)**

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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.

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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.

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,

Michelle Danko

--

Mark St. John  
[702.477.5529](tel:702.477.5529)

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.



## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** elleimch  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 7:46 PM  
**To:** Meagan Werth Ranson  
**Subject:** FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

From: elleimch  
Date: 3/21/21 11:04 AM (GMT-08:00)  
To:  
Subject: FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

From: elleimch  
Date: 3/20/21 6:25 PM (GMT-07:00)  
To:  
Subject: FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

From: elleimch  
Date: 3/20/21 6:25 PM (GMT-07:00)  
To:  
Subject: FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

From: elleimch

Date: 3/20/21 6:24 PM (GMT-07:00)

To:

Subject: FW: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

----- Original message -----

From: elleimch

Date: 3/20/21 6:24 PM (GMT-07:00)

To:

Subject: Still no equality in youth sports reclassification of water polo

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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Thank You,

Michelle danko

--

Mark St. John

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S10+.

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** Mindy Palma  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 21, 2021 8:59 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.

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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:** Nick Fullerton  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 10:51 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.

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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,  
Nick Fullerton

## **Meagan Werth Ranson**

---

**From:** Pat Beemer  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 2:08 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. 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,**

- Pat Beemer

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** Pat Beemer <pbeemer@laverne.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 4:52 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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Governor, NV Task Force, Department of Business & Industry,

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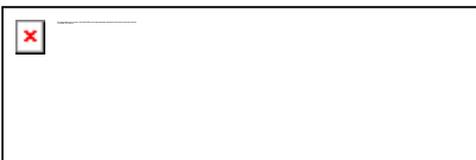
Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

**Pat Beemer**  
Head Water Polo Coach  
Athletics Department

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**University of La Verne**  
1950 Third Street | La Verne, CA 91750  
Office: (909) 448-1590 Mobile: (814) 215-5417  
[pbeemer@laverne.edu](mailto:pbeemer@laverne.edu)  
[laverne.edu](http://laverne.edu)



## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** MP K  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:29 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.

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.

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We ask that you address and answer these questions.

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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,  
Patricia Kraatz

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** Paul Albright  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 4:45 PM  
**To:**  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Re-Classification of Water Polo  
**Attachments:** Supporting Document\_Water Polo.pdf; Protocols\_Request for Approval\_Water Polo Events.pdf; Reclassification of Water Polo.pdf

**Importance:** High

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Mr. Cage and Governor Sisolak,

It has come to my attention that Nevada, specifically the COVID-19 Task Force, arbitrarily denying water polo equal protection under the classifications and restrictions imposed by the Task Force. Further, the Task Force and the governor's office have seemingly decided to ignore the legitimate concerns Mr. Mark St. John has voiced at public forums and through correspondence to each of you directly, as well as your offices.

As an initial matter, it is wholly improper and insulting for our government representatives to ignore the legitimate concerns and complaints of their citizens and constituents. Further, neither the task force nor any other governmental entity, have provided a coherent reason supporting the seemingly arbitrary restrictions that prevent water polo from being played in Nevada. I use the term "arbitrary" because the Task Force is allowing swimming, hockey, and football to take place, but is denying water polo the same rights, without any scientific basis supporting the allegation that water polo poses a higher risk of transmission than these sports, when considering necessary protocols.

In addition to the scientific evidence accepted by the CDC and ALL OF OUR NEIGHBORING STATES, common sense tells us that a sport taking place in a pool full of chemicals that kill the virus poses a much lower risk of transmission than many of the other sports the Task Force has classified in manner that allows these sports to be played at this time. **I invite you to provide us with scientific studies and/or data that shows that water polo poses any higher risk for transmission of COVID-19 than hockey, football, or swimming.**

I implore you to consider the science, as well as your common sense, and re-classify water polo so that the sport can be just like swimming, hockey, and football.

If you continue to ignore our requests for re-classification, we will have no choice but to proceed with legal action.

Attached are the letters and information previously provided by Mr. St. John, which have been ignored.

Please contact myself or Mark St. John (702-477-5529 [mark2polo@gmail.com](mailto:mark2polo@gmail.com)) by the **close of business March 26, 2021.**

Sincerely,

Paul Albright, Esq.

## **COVID PROTOCOLS**

### **PRE TRAVEL**

All athletes and coaches will be required to have a negative result COVID test in their hometown/state no more than 6 days prior to the event. They will need to show proof of this before the on-site Rapid Test is performed. A negative result for the initial test is mandatory. It is highly recommended those traveling as chaperones are also tested. All information will be kept confidential.

We are asking that after the initial COVID test, each athlete will try to isolate themselves in their own "tournament bubble." Taking all precautions to avoid any exposure to the virus prior to and during travel.

Once your entry is in, you will reserve a time to have the Rapid Test performed either prior to your 1st game, or at the Host Hotel. A positive result at tournament check in will disqualify the individual athlete/coach from tournament participation. You can choose to perform another Rapid Test, or a PCR test at a local lab the next day.

Also, athletes and coaches must sign the USA Water Polo COVID-19 Return to Play Release and Waiver through their USAWP Membership portal.

While at the tournament site, masks are to be worn at all times unless you are in the water. Coaches and Admins, we are asking you to take care of this in regards to your own team and families. We are not the mask police. If you or your team (which includes parents/family) have an issue with the masks, a Covid Officer on site will either warn you or ask you to leave. I am hoping everyone is compliant in this regard, as we hope to have a fun weekend of water polo. The facility has strict rules, and if we can't follow them, it jeopardizes our ability to host.

Spectators will be limited to 2 per athlete, and 30 total per team

### **Forms and Documents for Testing**

- COVID-19 Parental Consent Form and Waiver(any athletes 18+ can sign for themselves)
- AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OR DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION -
- Proof of Negative Test dated no earlier than 6 days before event start date. Electronic or Hard Copy

**Consider the above 3 documents your "Playing Passport." These documents must be presented when testing. PLEASE PLEASE have these with you. I do not want to be the bad guy here. Testing company will not test anyone who doesn't have the above documents. I want everyone to be able to participate. Please don't let a sheet of paper with signatures be the thing that holds you back from that.**

### **Additional Tests (Optional)**

- If you believe your test results in a false positive, you can have the choice to take another test. \$49
- If you would like to take a PCR test(most accurate), the medical staff running the test can administer them for \$110 each. Samples will be collected on site Friday and Saturday morning for anyone choosing to take that option. Tests will be taken to a local lab Saturday at 10am that will have the results expedited within 4-6 hours. (you may miss a game(s) waiting for the results)

### **Reminder**

- No athlete or coach can participate unless they show a negative result on their pre-travel test and tournament on-site test.

The medical staff running the tests wants to remind all participants to be patient during your testing time. They are familiar with sporting event testing and will get through each team efficiently as possible. Also reminding you to take all steps necessary to put yourself in a position to participate in this event. Be diligent with your personal protection, cleanliness, and social distancing at and leading up to the weekend.

### **Player and Parent Entrances**

Players and Coaches will have a separate entrance from Parents/Spectators. See the attached photo for your designated entrance. Parents/Spectators are not permitted on deck. Parents/Spectators are to maintain social distancing and to have a mask on at all times in the facility. Please also see the pool deck map(attached) for your reference. Team areas are the yellow boxes.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank You,

--

Mark St. John

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

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

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Philip S  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 10:03 AM  
**To:**

**Subject:** when can we expect to see 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?

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!

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.

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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,

Kind regards,

**Philip**Seelenbacher

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Photos by Cain  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 21, 2021 8:19 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.

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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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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,

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Piera Bignetti  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 8:04 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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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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Please reach out to us so we can work this out together. We need your leadership on this Governor.

Thank You,

Piera Bignetti

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Renata Swieconeck  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 10:52 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!

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,

Renata Tinoco

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** Rene Aguirre <  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 1:49 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,

Rene Aguirre

## Meagan Werth Ranson

---

**From:** Renee Resko  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 21, 2021 8:37 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,

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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

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**From:** Revolution Fitness Evolved  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 8:53 AM  
**To:**

**Subject:** LET US PLAY PLEASE!!!

**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 - 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,

## Meagan Werth Ranson

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**From:** Richard Thornton  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021 3:07 PM  
**To:** PressRoom Nevada Health Response  
**Subject:** Still No Equality in Youth Sports-Reclassification of Water Polo

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?

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.

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Richard Thornton