



Leslie Smith <smithl@reno.gov>

Recreation and Parks Commission meeting tonight

Erik Scalise <scalisee@hotmail.com>

Tue, Mar 16, 2021 at 2:49 PM

To: Leslie Smith <smithl@reno.gov>

Leslie,
Here is what I would like to say.

Thanks,
Erik

My name is Erik Scalise and I am the current Director of Northern Nevada Aquatics. We are an aquatics user group here in the Reno area. We offer swimming, water polo, and adaptive swim training to the youth in our community.

I wanted to comment on the proposed changes to the lane allocation policy given to the commission.

Everyone on the commission is aware of the current aquatic complex situation in our city. It is true that we are lacking in facilities but everyone needs to make due and share the best we can.

The current allocation divides the lanes hours up among the organizations by their current number of athletes. It also takes into consideration the number of members that live in the Reno area, giving them priority over members that live outside of the City of Reno boundaries. And then it goes one step further to disallow any new groups from using the facilities. This is all done in an attempt to make things fair to all the user groups and its members.

At Northern Nevada Aquatics, we have put a hold on any new memberships until we have more space to allow them to come on to our team. With the current situation, there are only 6 swimmers allowed per lane at any given time. NNA asked for the minimum lane hours that we could get by with at the last allocation. Now NNA has less lane hours allocated to it right now than some of the other teams of comparable size. But we make due. NNA could easily overflow our current lanes with a multitude of athletes. But that would not be safe for anyone. We have had to think outside of the box and some of our swimmers commute to other pools in other areas that can accommodate our athletes. These are our members originating from the City of Reno area, and they are leaving and paying higher prices to travel outside of the area for more pool time.

The lane allocation should not be used to reflect what *may* happen in the future. How many members you *could* have next season. Or what you could accomplish if you had more pool space. We need to use the lane space that we have been allocated better and more efficiently. As each organization sees fit to provide best for our membership. We should base the lanes allocated on current rosters and leave the logistical responsibility to the swim teams to provide for their memberships.

I believe it is only fair to leave the allocation policy as it is until new facilities are built.

Thank you,
Erik Scalise
Director
Northern Nevada Aquatics