



11 Mar 2016

To whom it may Concern,

I have had the most rewarding and exceptional opportunity the past eight years to be a member of the coaching staff of the United States Wheelchair (Paralympic) Curling Team. During this time we have assembled and trained an absolutely incredible cadre of athletes who annually have earned their spot in the World Wheelchair Curling Championships as well as earning their quota spots for the 2006, 2010, 2014 and most recently, the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games.

The current team hails from a rather diverse geographic area; Colorado, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Wisconsin. During the season we travel to train as a team once per month and train individually the rest of the time. For our team training, particularly in the summer, we are always looking for quality training sites that provide for reasonably priced high quality lodging, healthy meals, good quality ice and a learning atmosphere. The two Olympic training centers (OTCs), Lake Placid and Colorado Springs, while providing very well for the athletes either do not have dedicated ice or poor quality ice (Lake Placid) or no ice at all (Co Springs). As a result, we rarely use the OTCs except for off-ice summer training. Not having access to quality ice virtually eliminates Team USA from using the OTCs.

If ice was available, particularly in the summer, it would be very appealing for Team USA to travel to Co Springs, utilize the OTC for meals and lodging and use the ice at the proposed Pikes Peak Regional site in Fountain. I would love the opportunity to provide to our Paralympic athletes the opportunity to train alongside the Paralympic and Olympic athletes from other sports, building within them the pride of not only being members of Team USA Paralympic Curling but also being part of the much bigger piece, that of being TEAM USA! I think solidifying that connection would pay huge dividends.

While I cannot commit to a specific number of days per year that we would commit to using the facility, I can say at this time that providing a dedicated facility with quality ice would bring Team USA to Co Springs for training. It would also go a long way in motivating other curlers to travel to Co Springs as a destination city to participate in recreational as well as competitive events. With the OTC available it is very possible that the site could host all but the largest world championship events with lodging provided at the OTC or area hotels.

Building a facility with dedicated ice would further the mission of the Broadmoor Curling Club of providing adaptive opportunities to those individuals that require accommodations to participate in sport. The club currently provides what I feel is the Gold Standard for adaptive curling as evidenced by their continued instruction at the National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic held annually in Snowmass, CO as well as their invitation and continued participation at the Hartford Ski Challenge in

Breckenridge, CO. This list could go on and on if their local events supporting those with disabilities were included. I have worked with volunteers from this club for the past 5 years in Snowmass and can attest to their professionalism, dedication and understanding of the needs of the adaptive athlete.

In conclusion, I have full confidence in the abilities of the Broadmoor Curling Club and its Board of Directors to provide a high quality, inclusive and sustainable facility supporting Curling in the Pikes Peak area. I would love to have the opportunity to bring Team USA to this facility to train with the best. It is my pleasure to write this letter on their behalf.

Please feel free to contact me at your convenience if you have questions or comments with respect to this. I can be reached at 608.697.7665 or the email addresses listed below.

Godspeed,

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