



June 13th, 2024

To the General Assembly of the Federation of Gay Games

Denver Black Ice Rugby writes to express our support for Denver's bid to host the 2030 Gay Games. Denver Black Ice Rugby is a Division 1 and Division 2 women's rugby team in the Rocky Mountain Rugby Football Union. Established in 1991, Denver Black Ice Rugby is the longest-standing women's rugby club in Colorado. We are proud to have competed in Division 1 rugby for over 30 seasons and are regarded as an integral part of the Denver rugby community. Our team consists of players who are originally from all over the United States and even the occasional player from another country. We pride ourselves in being a welcoming team to people of all identities. We play against multiple other Colorado women's teams, as well as teams from Wyoming, Utah, and Texas. We regularly compete in tournaments across the United States and recently made our international debut playing in Thailand.

Since its origin, "women's" rugby has been inherently queer. It has been a space that people who were historically marginalized and told they couldn't play "masculine" or contact sports have sought out for inclusion, empowerment, community, and acceptance. That is why we are excited to bring rugby to the Gay Games, and to bring the Gay Games to Denver, in 2030.

Rugby is a growing sport across the United States and around the world, and it has a long and rich history in Colorado that started with men's teams in the 1960's and 1970's and now consists of youth teams, collegiate teams, amateur D1, D2, and D3 teams, semi-pro, and professional teams.

Glendale, a suburb within the Denver Metro area, frequently hosts large international tournaments at their well-known rugby stadium, Infinity Park. Infinity Park has voiced their support for rugby being hosted at the Gay Games in 2030 and we are currently working with them to secure field space for the rugby tournament. We could not be more proud or excited to endorse Denver's bid. Our team is committed to helping promote the Gay Games in 2030 and also have agreed to help plan and execute the women's brackets of the rugby tournament should Denver win the bid. We look forward to seeing the sport and the city we love grow the Gay Games in 2030. Sincerely,

Kendra L. Wright

Kendra Wright | Black Ice Rugby Board of Directors | President