

## International Bowhunting Organization, Inc. 226 State Route 61 East Norwalk, Ohio 44857 Ph: 440-967-2137 www.ibo.net

November 14, 2024

## NASP® Board of Directors:

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your response to the IBO Board of Directors' decision on transgender participation in our programs. I am sorry you have chosen to align yourselves with an ideology that has been thoroughly rejected by the American people. President Trump made transgender participation in female sports a focal point of his campaign and the overwhelming majority of Americans agreed with his position, sending him back to the White House in a landslide election. The pendulum has clearly swung with common sense and normalcy prevailing in a big way.

I would like to point out that the IBO's position on this issue has never changed, never wavered, and has been solidly conservative from the beginning. This is the same position as the incoming administration and the majority of the American people. The NASP® position on this issue, however, has changed from first, not being able to add the IBO rule clarification in 2023 because the 2024 rules were already drafted; to, not wanting to step on the schools' toes because NASP® has always let the schools set their own rosters; to, in your last correspondence, a full-blown acceptance, affirmation, and support for those who participate in the transgender lifestyle. I was shocked, to say the least, that this position was so candidly described in your letter. The language that you used could have been taken directly from a Harris campaign ad. Using language like, "...to ensure the program remains a safe and welcoming experience for those students." And, "A rule that forces vulnerable young students to defend their identity just to participate in an educational activity is not compatible with a tournament designed to be as inclusive as possible.", is a sign that you have been led astray and have been convinced to accept this grossly liberal position. I'm sorry if this offends you or if you feel my remarks are "personal attacks" but I am only speaking the truth and, unfortunately, sometimes, the truth hurts.

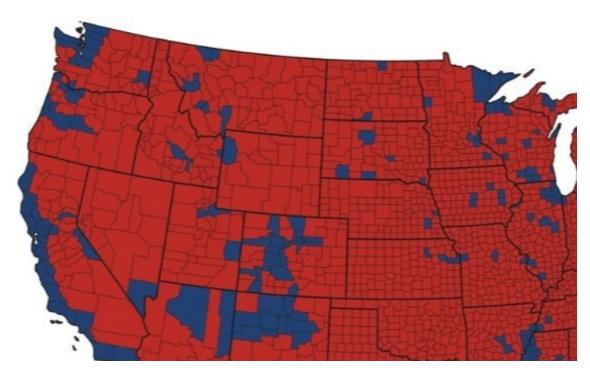
It is a shame that you have rejected all of the options that were presented to keep our partnership intact and are so willing to separate yourselves from one of the greatest partnerships in archery, one that has complimented the NASP® bullseye program for the past 10 years. I believe we should be working to find a solution that keeps a strong connection between NASP® and its many complementary partners, not trying to break up those partnerships because someone got their feelings hurt or feels like my words are pure rhetoric instead of reality.

As your decision relates to the 2025 season, the IBO, as always, will conduct itself in a professional manner at all IBO and NASP®/IBO events. We do not need to encourage others to be on our side or to be against the position that NASP® has taken - they are already there. The only people I have spoken to about this matter are, my immediate family, the IBO Board of Directors and our NASP®/IBO staff, and your current President and past President. It is obvious that someone from NASP® has been working the phones, trying to shore up support for your position. The word is starting to get back to us and the reaction to NASP®'s position is not good. Your threat to "terminate the agreement immediately" if the IBO engages in conduct that is disparaging to NASP® is unwarranted and unnecessary. Any negativity towards NASP® will be a consequence of your own doing and cannot be attributed to the IBO. We have drafted a "statement" in response to the questions we will be getting and it reads like this:

The NASP® Board has determined that the partnership with the IBO is no longer in the best interest of NASP® due to the IBO's unwavering opposition to biological males competing in female classes.

We will refrain from trying to explain the NASP® position. Instead, we will refer all questions to the NASP® Board.

This map of the United States shows the Presidential election by county. As you can see, you have your work cut out for you, trying to explain why you have terminated such a popular relationship and made the choices that you have made.



If you feel like you are in a hopeless or precarious position, you can remedy that. We can continue to work together and avoid the unpleasant issues facing us both. It is apparent that it would take a change in NASP® leadership to someone committed to uniting our organizations instead of dividing them for a reason that will be reduced to a moot point in a matter of months

when the Trump administration follows through on its promise to strengthen Title IX and prohibit transgender participation in female sports. I am having a hard time believing that your decision has been well thought out as you are worried about the IBO causing you problems in 2025 but think nothing about the problems you will be facing when you openly invite transgenders into your events. Imagine a father watching a mentally ill boy following his daughter into a restroom or changing area. I would certainly be more worried about dealing with that issue than worrying about a trusted partner making you look bad.

We are open to NASP® changing their position but are not optimistic and are resigned to the fact that we will no longer be partners beyond the 2025 season. You have no worries with the IBO during the 2025 tournament season. You do, however, have reason to be concerned about the position you have taken and the inevitable reaction and consequences you will face from all of those red areas of the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Bryan J. Marcum

IBO President/CEO