



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Sports Teams Are Recognizing the Importance of Climate Action: U.S. Equestrian Vaulting Joins the Global Climate Pledge

Solana Beach, CA— The U.S. Equestrian Vaulting Team has acknowledged their ability to take climate action and has joined individuals and organizations from around the world in creating their own video. In the video, they proclaim their commitment to the Global Climate Pledge, in partnership with the U.S. Green Chamber of Commerce (USGCC).

For the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, a growing cooperative of organizations worldwide began a project to have 2 Billion individuals and companies join in a <u>Global Climate Pledge</u> by 2022.

The most notable part of this endeavor, however, is that this young and impressive group of athletes has taken it upon themselves to increase public knowledge and saliency about this issue. This recent wave of environmentalism has been spurred by the rising generation, and the vaulting team was similarly inspired.

One young member of the team, Haley Smith commented on why she chose to take the Pledge. She said, "I feel very passionate about supporting our earth and the environment we live in. It is very important as young millennials to aspire to passionately support bettering the world around us. By doing small actions and taking initiative, large change can be seen very quickly."

The Global Climate Pledge prides itself on being the first climate movement to take an inclusive and ambitious approach, breaking boundaries and engaging billions of people around the world in climate action. Smith concurred, describing how "The pledge was very easy to complete. With any pledge such as this one comes responsibility to act as you say, though the actions we are speaking to complete are entirely doable by nearly anyone."

Despite the cancellation of almost every sports-related event on the planet, the team decided to use their platform to create change. The Global Climate Pledge was the perfect way for these

athletes to get involved because, unlike many climate-related efforts, its focus has been shifted from reiterating the problem to guiding individuals on how to act to be part of the solution.

"Climate change sounds overwhelming to most people and they don't know where to begin which is why the Global Climate Pledge was created," said Michelle Thatcher, CEO of the U.S. Green Chamber of Commerce. "It is designed to engage far beyond the environmental choir. You don't need to be an expert to start helping the planet, as shown by the amazing dedication of these rugby teams."

The Global Climate Pledge consists of an individual and organizational pledge, both of which can be taken online at the official <u>website</u>. Besides pledging, interested groups can partner with the USGCC, including NGOs, communities, governments, or organizations that are inspired to help lead the charge, just like these ambitious young athletes. In addition, individuals and households can find toolkits on USGCC's website to guide them on the way to greener habits.

Quote from a member of the Vaulting team, about how easy it was to get started. A second note about the video, highlighting how the actions they mentioned were simple and fun.

The Individual Pledge includes small changes that one can easily apply to their daily lives to make the world a greener place. These include participating in Meatless Mondays and ACTION, as described by NAME. In addition, participants can pledge to support local climate organizations, recycle, and go vegetarian.

The Pledge highlights how every signature, every person, and every small climate-sensitive action matters. Push yourself like the U.S. Equestrian Vaulting Team and sign the Pledge today!

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The U.S. Green Chamber of Commerce represents the voice of hundreds of thousands of small, mid sized and large American businesses and global corporations who understand that:

- Business success and sustainability go hand-in-hand
- Shareholder value and social consciousness co-exist side-by-side
- Long-term business profits, global leadership and environmental stewardship are inseparable from each other.

The organization's goal is to achieve the "Triple Bottom Line": Profitable Financials, Prosperous People, and a Healthy Planet. Helping both established and emerging companies, the USGCC improves operational efficiency, implements environmentally sustainable practices, and taps into unexplored markets and opportunities.

Michelle Thatcher is the CEO and co-founder of the U.S. Green Chamber of Commerce. Under her leadership and direction, USGCC has inspired, educated, and connected thousands of sustainability leaders around the nation helping them to build a more sustainable and competitive business. With six chapters, USGCC and its members know that businesses offer the best solution to a healthier planet, more fulfilled lives, and a thriving economy.