

New York  
Athletic Club  
**TEAM  
GUIDE**



# PARIS 2024

Olympic Games

July 26<sup>th</sup> – August 11<sup>th</sup>

Paralympic Games

August 28<sup>th</sup> – September 8<sup>th</sup>



# Team NYAC in Paris

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## Boxing

### Omari Jones

**Boxing -71kg**

**Hometown: Orlando, FL**

**DOB: November 7th, 2002**

**A** first-time Olympian, Omari Jones secured his place on Team USA with a win in the welterweight division at the first World Qualification Tournament in Busto Arsizio, Italy in early March, 2024. Since winning the -71kg title at the US Elite National Championships in 2020 and a silver medal at the Elite World Championships in 2021, his first international tournament, Omari, now 21, has been regarded as one of the brightest young talents in the nation. In 2023, the year that he joined the NYAC's Elite Boxing Program, he also won the USA Boxing International Invitational and the GeeBee International Tournament. Having taken up the sport of boxing when he was eight years old, Omari quickly showed talent; at 15, he earned a silver medal at the National Junior Olympics, a feat that he points to as the turning point in his career and the moment when his Olympic dream was born.



Aufrichtig, also claimed the NCAA team title. Among Anne's other career highlights is the épée team silver medal that she – and Team USA – earned at the 2023 Vancouver World Cup, the best US women's épée team finish since the 2018 World Championships, at which the USA won the gold medal. When she isn't fencing, Anne is a runway fashion model for Elite New York City. The Paris Games will be her first Olympic appearance.

### Kat Holmes

**Epée**

**Hometown: Washington, DC**

**DOB: July 15th, 1993**

**O**ne of the most experienced fencers on Team USA, Paris will be Kat's third Games. She will contest the épée team event as a replacement athlete, joining a trio of first-time Olympians, including NYAC teammate Anne Cebula. In Rio in 2016, Kat was a member of the US team that placed fifth, after she finished 25th individually. In Tokyo in 2021, she placed 18th in the individual competition and contributed to the USA team that, again, placed fifth. In addition to her four gold medals – two individual and two team – from the 2015 and 2019 Pan Am Games, Kat was a member of the US team that won the world épée team title in 2018, the first ever world championships medal for a US women's épée team. That same year, she anchored the US team to its first ever World Cup gold medal.



*In Paris, Kat Holmes will be contesting her third Olympic Games.*

## Fencing

### Anne Cebula

**Epée**

**Hometown: Brooklyn, NY**

**DOB: July 3rd, 1998**

**A**nne began fencing at age 15, then attended Barnard College and competed for Columbia University, with whom she claimed the 2019 NCAA Division I épée title, becoming the first Barnard student-athlete to secure an individual NCAA DI national title in any sport. Icing on the cake was that the Columbia fencing squad, coached by the NYAC's Michael



Prior to the 2016 Olympic Games, Kat took two years off from her studies at Princeton University in order to train. Following those Games, she returned to Princeton, graduating magna cum laude with departmental honors in 2017. While at Princeton, she was the 2017 individual Ivy League champion and team Ivy League champion in 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2017. She also competed on the team that, in 2013, won Princeton's first NCAA Fencing Championship.

Following the US team's fifth place finish at the 2016 Olympic Games, Kat decided to develop her senior thesis at Princeton around why the team had fallen short of winning the gold medal. In 2017 she published her conclusions, entitled "How Risk Preference and Perception of Action Riskiness in Fencing Affect Learning and Strategy of Fencing Play." Her research involved analyzing videos of fencers in order to create a predictive model for results and developing a computer program that simulated common fencing situations. "In the end, I found that fencers actually attack less than what is optimal. I adjusted my approach in one-touch overtimes, and my win percentage went from 60% to 88%." Presently, Kat is studying at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City and hopes to graduate in 2025.

## Mitchell Saron

**Saber**

**Hometown: Ridgewood, NJ**

**DOB: December 6th, 2000**

**M**itchell fought his way onto the Paris team, his first Olympic appearance, after he finished as one of the top three saber fencers in the USA Fencing point standings. His ability as a world class fencer is illustrated by the fact that, in 2023, he was a key member of the US men's saber team that claimed a bronze medal at the 2023 World Fencing Championships in Milan. While attending



Saron contests the 2023 World Championships. Scan the QR code to watch.

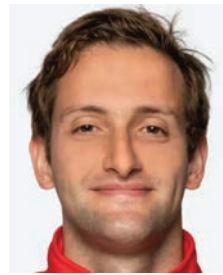
Harvard, Mitchell was a two-time individual Ivy League saber champion (2020, 2022), a three-time first-team All-Ivy League selection and a two-time All-American. He takes a holistic approach to his daily training, focusing on the mental aspects as well as the physical and incorporating meditation, journaling, ice baths, red light therapy and a strict dietary regimen, including raw dairy, grass fed meat and no alcohol. Mitchell's love for fencing, and particularly the slashing elements of the sabre, was inspired by the Star Wars movies. His hobbies include skiing, practicing piano and guitar, and playing video games.

## Shaul Gordon (CAN)

**Saber**

**Hometown: Montreal, Canada**

**DOB: July 11th, 1994**



**H**aving been born in Tel Aviv, Israel, and growing up in Italy and Canada, Shaul represented the latter nation at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, at which he placed 25th in the individual saber competition. He began fencing at the age of seven and quickly began

to display his ability. His first major championship medal came in 2015, when he earned a team sabre silver at the Pan Am Games, a feat he replicated in 2019, while adding an individual bronze. Between 2015 and 2024, he earned five team sabre silver medals at the Pan Am Championships. Shaul attended Penn State University before transferring to the University of Pennsylvania (Class of 2016). After UPenn, he attended McGill Law (Class of 2019) and subsequently earned his Master of Laws in Air and Space Law, also at McGill (Class of 2021).

## Pascual Di Tella (ARG)

**Saber**

**Hometown: Buenos Aires, Argentina**

**DOB: September 16th, 1995**

**A**lthough Paris will be Pascual's first Olympic Games, it may have been his destiny to become an Olympian. His mother, grandmother and aunt were all Olympic skiers, while his father was an Olympic fencer and his sister has contested multiple world fencing championships. With such a family tradition, it seems only appropriate that Pascual will be representing his home nation of Argentina once the Paris Games begin.



Having spent his early childhood in the USA, Pascual moved to Argentina at the age of eight, beginning fencing at age 14 and, ultimately, returning to the USA to attend Duke University, where he became one of the most decorated Blue Devils in recent fencing history. With his assistance, in 2018 the men's fencing team won the Duke program's first ever ACC team title. Pascual was also a three-time ACC Fencer of the Year, the 2017 ACC saber champion, the 2017 ACC men's Scholar-Athlete of the Year and qualified for NCAAs and NCAA Mid-Atlantic/South Regional four times. Notably, he won 78.0 percent of his collegiate career bouts (163-46).

Not to be overlooked is Pascual's prowess as a musician; he plays guitar, bass, drums, piano and saxophone.

# Judo

## Angie Delgado

-52kg

Hometown: Miami, FL

DOB: December 14th, 1990

Angie is among the most experienced judokas on Team USA, Paris being her third outing at the Olympic Games. In Rio in 2016, she placed 17th, a position she improved to ninth at the Tokyo Games in 2021. Other career highlights include three Pan Am Games bronze medals [2011, 2015, 2023], five Pan Am Championships silvers [2015, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2024], and three Pan Am Championships bronze medals [2011, 2016, 2017]. Angie graduated from Florida International University in 2021 with a Bachelor's degree in psychology and is married to her former Senior World Championships teammate, Alex Turner. It was her father, Miguel, however, who introduced her to the sport of judo. A former member of the Cuban national team, he fled to the US in the 1980s and, when Angie was nine years old, began to teach her in the backyard, instilling in her the dream of becoming an Olympian.



## Jack Yonezuka

-73kg

Hometown: West Long Branch, NJ

DOB: May 29th, 2003

To say that the sport of judo is in the DNA of the Yonezuka family may be an understatement. Although, Jack has made the team for these, his first, Olympic Games, he is treading a path previously walked by his grandfather, Yoshisada, a legendary two-time Olympic coach, and by his father, Nick, a 1980 judo Olympian. Jack's brother, Nic, is also an accomplished judoka. In 2022, Jack became the first US man to claim a medal at the Junior World Championships, when he secured the -73kg bronze medal. The following year, he went one better, claiming a silver medal and taking the first steps towards securing a place on Team USA for these Olympic Games. Ironically, despite the family history, Jack will be the first Yonezuka to actually compete at an Olympics, his father having been a victim of the 1980 US boycott and narrowly missing selection for 1984.



## Maria Laborde

-48kg

Hometown: Kenosha, WI

DOB: August 2nd, 1990

Born in Cuba, Maria enjoyed significant international success before moving to the USA, including a barnstorming 2014 season that saw her claim

an IJF Grand Prix gold medal in Havana, a Pan Am Championships gold and a world championships bronze. The ensuing years were quiet as Maria handled relocation to the USA; but, having gained citizenship in 2022, she quickly proved that she remained a force with which to be reckoned, within one year becoming the second-highest ranked US judoka in the world rankings. At that year's IJF Grand Prix in Perth, she secured a gold medal, to which she added a bronze at the Pan Am Championships. The following year, 2023, brought a silver medal at the World Masters' Championship in Budapest and bronze medals at the Pan Am Championships and Pan Am Games. That momentum has continued into this Olympic year, with Maria claiming a bronze medal at the Pan Am Championships in Rio de Janeiro, and with her sights on more hardware at her first Olympic Games.

# Modern Pentathlon

## Jess Davis

Hometown: Bethlehem, CT

DOB: January 31st, 1992

Jess Davis battled her way on to her first Olympic team by placing fourth at the Pan American Games in Santiago, Chile last October. The modern pentathlon is a five-sport event created by Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympic Games, and comprising fencing, swimming, equestrian show jumping, pistol shooting and running. As a child, Jess competed in equestrian eventing, in which a horse



*In contesting the modern pentathlon in Paris, Jess Davis will run, swim, fence, shoot and ride a horse.*

and rider compete in three disciplines: dressage, cross-country and show jumping; in that, she

followed in the footsteps of her mother, a professional eventer. In high school, Jess took up pole vaulting, an event she continued while on the track and field team at Central

Connecticut State University. Upon graduation, she took part in triathlons - her father competed in the Kona Ironman - before finally turning to the modern pentathlon. The NYAC's powerful fencing program has been influential to the point that Jess now counts that sport, rather than equestrianism, as her strongest. She may be right; in July 2023, she won the national Division 1A épée title, which is one level below elite. Other accolades include the 2023 US national title and a 35th place finish at the 2021 World Modern Pentathlon Championships.

## Rowing

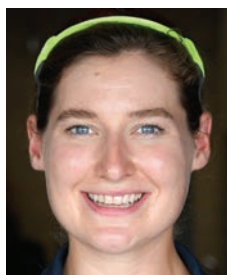
### Charlotte Buck

**Women's Eight**

**Hometown: Nyack, NY**

**DOB: February 15th, 1995**

In the fall of 2014, Charlotte Buck walked on to the crew team at New York's Columbia University. Three years later, she was the captain and MVP, an honor she repeated in 2018. Renowned for her competitive drive, Charlotte ultimately made the national squad and placed fourth in the eight at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. In 2023, she secured her first major championship medal, a silver in the eight at the 2023 World Championships.



### Teal Cohen

**Women's Quadruple Sculls**

**Hometown: Dallas, TX**

**DOB: May 7th, 1999**

With her grandfather, mother and uncle all accomplished rowers, it may have been inevitable that Teal would also follow that path. Success

does not come inevitably, but Teal's has been considerable with a bronze medal in the women's four at the 2019 world under-23 championships, and gold and silver medals in the eight and four at the 2021 under-23 world champs. Never to be overlooked is her 2019 NCAA Championships victory in the varsity eight while rowing for the University of Washington. The Paris Games will be Teal's first, but her experience of contesting the 2022 world championships, where she was a member of the US four that placed 12th, will be invaluable.



### Olivia Coffey

**Women's Eight**

**Hometown: Watkins Glen, NY**

**DOB: January 29th, 1989**

Olivia Coffey was already an accomplished veteran before she went to the Tokyo Olympic Games in 2021. In 2013, 2015 and 2018 she had claimed world championships gold medals in the four, quad sculls and eight, respectively. Add to that tally world championships bronze medals in the quad sculls (2014) and eight (2019), and the evidence of a fearsome competitor is clear. Possibly that is a trait that she inherited from her father who was an Olympic silver medalist in the men's pair in 1976. At the Tokyo Games, however, Olivia finished out of the medals, being in the eight that placed fourth. When she isn't training, Olivia works as an investment professional at One Equity Partners, a private equity firm.

### Claire Collins

**Women's Eight**

**Hometown: McLean, VA**

**DOB: November 29th, 1996**

After placing seventh in the women's four at the 2020 Tokyo Games, Claire secured a bronze medal in the pair at the following year's world championships (2022). At the 2023 world championships, she was a member of the boat that placed fourth in the four. At Princeton, Claire was a three-time All-American and four-time All-Ivy recipient and won the 2019 Otto von Keinbusch Award, given annually to Princeton's top senior female athlete. She was also nominated as the NCAA Woman of the Year in 2019. When she isn't training, Claire is a consultant for Orange Vista, a market research consultancy firm.



### Meghan Musnicki

**Women's Eight**

**Hometown: Naples, NY**

**DOB: February 5th, 1983**



Meghan Musnicki approaches the Paris Games as one of the most accomplished members of Team USA. A two-time Olympic gold medalist in the eight (2012, 2016), Paris will be her fourth Games, having also competed in Tokyo where the eight placed fourth.

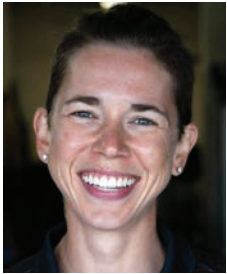




Scan the QR code to see Meghan Musnicki in action at the Hambledon Pairs Challenge at Royal Henley.

Adding to her resumé, Meghan is a five-time world champion (all in the eight). Fittingly, in 2022, she was inducted into the NYAC Hall of Fame, the same year that she partnered with Australia's Jessica Morrison to win the prestigious Hambledon Pairs Challenge at the Henley Royal Regatta. Staying with the pair, in

2023 Meghan contested that event at the world championships, placing sixth.



## Molly Reckford

**Women's Lightweight Double Sculls**

**Hometown: Short Hills, NJ**

**DOB: October 9th, 1992**

Molly made her first Olympic appearance at the Tokyo 2020 Games, at which she placed fifth in the lightweight double sculls. That same

year, she and her sculls partner, Michelle Sechser (non-NYAC), were awarded USRowing's Ernestine Bayer Award, presented in recognition of outstanding contributions to women's rowing and/or to an outstanding woman in rowing. The following year (2022; the Tokyo 2020 Games were held in 2021), Molly earned a silver medal in the same boat at the world championships, while also claiming the prestigious Stonor Challenge Trophy at the Henley Royal Regatta.

## Kelsey Reelick

**Women's Four**

**Hometown: Brookfield, CT**

**DOB: November 6th, 1991**

Kelsey began rowing in 2005 in New Zealand where her sister, Erin, was a multiple-time national champion. Just three years later, she contested the quad sculls at the world junior championships in Linz, Austria and has continued on an upward trajectory ever since. At the most recent world championships, in 2023, she was a member of the US boat that placed fourth in the women's four. One year previously, she had also placed fourth, that time in the eight. Paris, her first Olympics, may be the occasion on which she makes the podium.



## Regina Salmons

**Women's Eight**

**Hometown: Methuen, MA**

**DOB: April 21st, 1997**

At the Tokyo Olympic Games in 2021, Regina was a member of the boat that placed fourth in the women's



eight, a position that she duplicated at the following year's world championships. One year later, however, in 2023, she made it on to the podium at those championships when the US boat claimed silver medals. Regina is no stranger to the medal ranks, having

won gold medals in the four and the eight at the 2016 world under-23 championships. While rowing at the University of

Pennsylvania, Regina

was named to the

2018 All-Ivy League

First Team, in ad-

dition to being recog-

nized as 2017 and

2018 Scholar Athlete Award winner for maintaining above a

3.5 GPA and participating in more than 75% of varsity

races. She also earned honors for her thesis in creative

writing and served as editor-in-chief of a feminist literary

magazine on campus.

*Regina Salmons won gold medals in both the four and the eight at the 2016 under-23 world championships.*

## Maddie Wanamaker

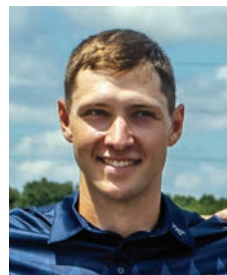
**Women's Eight**

**Hometown: Neenah, WI**

**DOB: February 14th, 1995**

At the Tokyo Games of 2021, Maddie was a member of the boat that

placed seventh in the women's four, a placing she is hoping to improve as a member of the eight in Paris. She has been a fixture at the World Rowing Championships over the past six years, finishing sixth or better each time out, including a gold medal in the four in 2018 and a bronze in the pair in 2022. Last year, 2023, she secured fourth place as a member of the four. Rowing is unquestionably in Maddie's genes; both of her parents rowed at the University of Wisconsin, which Maddie also attended, walking on to the crew team in 2013 and subsequently leading it to top 10 finishes at the NCAA championships in 2016 and 2017.



## Chris Carlson

**Men's Eight**

**Hometown: Bedford, NH**

**DOB: March 14th, 1997**

Paris will be Chris' first Olympics. His career highlights include a sixth-place finish in the men's eight at the 2023 World Rowing Championships and

being a member of five national teams (Under 23: 2017-

2019; Senior: 2022-2023). His fine 2024 form is indicated by his second place finish in the eight at the World Rowing Cup III and his victory [also in the eight] at the World Rowing Final Olympic & Paralympic Qualification Regatta. Having first enrolled at Marist College in the rowing mecca of Poughkeepsie, NY, he transferred after a year to the University of Washington. "I wanted to be surrounded by the best," he explained."

## Nick Mead

**Men's Four**

**Hometown: Strafford, PA**

**DOB: March 12th, 1995**

**N**ick Mead hails from a rowing dynasty, his father having rowed at

Princeton ('81) and his mother and brother both having

*"Everyone here has 100 people behind them who support them unconditionally."*



Scan the QR code to hear more from Nick Mead as he prepares for the Paris Games.

taken to the water in the colors of the University of Pennsylvania. Nick himself has already savored the Olympic experience; he competed in the Tokyo Games of 2021, placing fourth in the men's eight. Nick's major championship success stretches back as far as 2017 when he was in the eight that claimed the silver medal at the world championships in Sarasota, FL. Last year, 2023, in Belgrade, Serbia, he replicated the placing, this time in the coxless four. Fittingly, US Rowing recognized Nick as its Athlete of the Year for 2023.



University in West Virginia, Perry was signed by the Philadelphia Eagles before a knee injury forced him to give up that dream. He then turned to rugby, where he quickly established himself as a standout player after making his debut in 2014. His remarkable skill and stunning turn of speed have enabled him to become the USA's all-time leading try scorer, a record that he set after just three years with the team. Perry was named World Rugby Sevens Player of the Year in both 2017 and 2018. His retirement plans center around spending more time with his wife and their three sons, while also remaining involved in rugby as a coach.



"He's got rockets on his feet." To see Perry "The Flash" Baker in action, scan the QR code.

## Lucas Lacamp

**Center**

**Hometown: Hong Kong**

**DOB: June 4th, 2001**

**B**orn in Hong Kong, Lucas began playing rugby when he was eight years old. After moving to England when he was 13, he continued playing, as he did after subsequently moving again, this time to the USA. Lucas represented Hong Kong at the 2019 World Rugby under-20 tournament, but also played for the USA High School All-Americans. After high school, he attended UCLA, playing for the UCLA Bruins and was a finalist for the Rudy Scholz Award, given to the best men's collegiate rugby player. Lucas debuted for the US Eagles Sevens at the December 2021 World Rugby Sevens tournament in Dubai, and the following May at the France Sevens was nominated as one of the impact players of the tournament.



# Rugby Sevens



## Perry Baker

**Wing**

**Hometown: New Smyrna Beach, FL**

**DOB: June 29th, 1986**

**A** three-time Olympian (2016, 2020, 2024) and one of the greatest players ever to take the field for the US sevens team, Perry, 38, has stated that the Paris Olympics will be the last international tournament of his career. That said, his intention is to lead the US Eagles Sevens to an Olympic medal, the first for a US rugby team since 1924. A football player at Fairmont State



## Steve Tomasin

**Utility**

**Hometown: Santa Rosa, CA**

**DOB: September 25th, 1994**

**S**teve grew up playing rugby with his uncles and cousins and became involved in the organized sport when he was 16 years old. His ability was quickly evident, and he made his debut with the US sevens team in 2013 while still a teenager. In 2016, aged 21, he was the youngest of the 26 players vying for a place on the US 12-man roster for the Rio Olympic Games, but missed out on selection. Despite intermittent injury in the 2017-18 tournament season, he powered back for the 2018-

19 Sevens Series, playing in every match en route to the USA's best ever second-place finish. He was a member of the US squad that placed sixth at the Tokyo Games in 2021

*Steve Tomasin made his debut for the US Sevens team while still a teenager.*

and, in 2022, was selected to represent the United States at the Rugby World Cup

Sevens in Cape Town. This year, at his second Olympic Games, Steve will be a linchpin of the team hoping for medals in Paris.

**Kevon Williams**  
**(Captain) Halfback/Wing**  
**Hometown: Houston, TX**  
**DOB: June 7th, 1991**

**K**evon has served as captain of the Eagles Sevens since 2021 and, in Paris, will be making his second Olympic appearance. Like his NYAC teammate, Perry Baker, Kevon played football in college before turning to rugby after graduation. He was first selected for the US sevens team in November 2016 for that year's Sevens Series in Dubai and South Africa. From that point on, he has been a mainstay of the team, making over 50 -international tournament appearances. As captain, Kevon leads the squad to what they hope will be the first Olympic medal for a US rugby team since the last time the Games were held in Paris in 1924. On that occasion, a full 15-man team won the gold medals. Rugby, in a sevens format, returned to the Olympics in 2016, when the US finished ninth, followed by sixth in Tokyo in 2021.



2019 as the top-ranked recruit in the country, she enjoyed a tremendous collegiate career at the University of Virginia (where she competed alongside her future NYAC teammate Paige Madden), becoming a 15-time NCAA champion and being named the 2023 ACC Women's Swimming & Diving Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

Tallying her accomplishments in both long and short course competitions, Kate is a 26-time world championships medalist, with 11 gold medals, nine silvers and six bronzes. At the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, she contested the 200m individual medley, swimming the fastest times in both the prelims and the semis, and then taking the bronze medal in a personal best time of 2:09.04. At the 2024 US Olympic Trials, Kate competed in the 100m freestyle, 200m breaststroke and 200m individual medley, winning all three, breaking the championship record in the 200m breaststroke, and setting a new US mark of 2:06.79 in the 200m individual medley.

**Paige Madden**  
**Hometown: Mobile, AL**  
**DOB: October 22nd, 1998**  
**400m Freestyle 800m Freestyle**  
**4x200m Freestyle Relay**

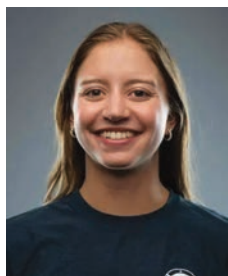


**A**t the 2024 US Olympic Swimming Trials in Indianapolis in June, Paige enjoyed a remarkable week, setting personal bests in the 200mFS (3rd, 1:56.36), 400mFS (2nd, 4:02.08) and 800mFS (2nd, 8:20.71) and thereby securing places on Team USA for the 400mFS, 800mFS and 4x200mFS relay. Paige's Trials accomplishments are all the more impressive set against the backdrop of what she has had to overcome. Having been the Atlantic Coast Conference Swimmer of the Year in both 2020 and 2021 while competing at the University of Virginia, in 2022 she was forced to miss the world championships due to being stricken by Hashimoto's disease, an inflammation of the thyroid gland that causes intense fatigue. That autumn, after taking the summer off to focus on her mental and physical health, Paige moved to Loughborough University in England, where she pursued a master's degree in clinical exercise physiology while also rebuilding her fitness. Her resilience has paid off wonderfully with gold medals at the 2023 Pan Am Games in the 400m freestyle, 800m freestyle and 4x200m freestyle relay. It is not unreasonable to foresee results in Paris that exceed those from Tokyo where she claimed a silver medal in the 4x200m freestyle relay and finished seventh in the 400m freestyle.



Sky-diving, meeting Taylor Swift. What else is on Kate Douglass' bucket list? Scan the code to see.

## Swimming



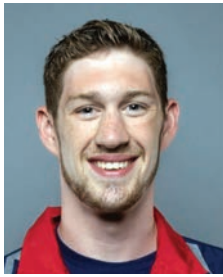
**Kate Douglass**  
**Hometown: Pelham, NY**  
**DOB: November 17th, 2001**  
**100m Freestyle 200m Breaststroke**  
**200m Individual Medley**  
**4x100m Freestyle Relay**

**H**er parents being members of the NYAC, it is appropriate that Kate spent many of her early summers logging miles in the pool at Travers Island. Those formative seasons paid dividends. After graduating from Pelham Memorial High School in



## Hunter Armstrong

**Hometown:** Dover, OH  
**DOB:** January 24th, 2001  
**100m Backstroke**  
**4x100m Freestyle Relay**



**H**unter is a 17-time world championships medalist, eight of which are gold. At the Tokyo Olympic Games in 2021, he claimed a gold medal as a member of the US men's 4x100m medley relay team. For the upcoming Paris Games, he secured his place on Team USA by finishing second in the 100m backstroke at the US Olympic Trials, held in Indianapolis in June, recording a time of 52.72 seconds. He followed that up with a fourth place finish in the 100m freestyle, clocking a personal best time of 47.78 seconds and securing a place as a member of the men's 4x100m freestyle relay squad. Hunter has earned the nickname "The Magic Man" because of his skill as a magician. He also enjoys musical theater.



## Nic Fink

**Hometown:** Morristown, NJ  
**DOB:** July 3rd, 1993  
**100m Breaststroke**

**T**o say that Nic Fink's competitive résumé is extensive is to understate the case. He is a six-time long course world champion (NB: Olympic swimming

in a 50m pool is long course) winning the 50m breaststroke and 4x100m mixed medley relay in 2022; earning a 4x100m medley relay gold in 2023; and claiming three more golds in the 100m breaststroke, 4x100m medley and 4x100m mixed

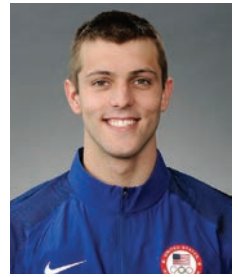
*Nic Fink has accumulated a total of 25 medals from world long and short course championships.*

medley in 2024. Not to be overlooked are his three long course world championships silver medals and four bronze medals, and the 12

medals he claimed at the short course world championships of 2021 and 2022 (seven golds, four silvers, one bronze). At the US Olympic Trials in June, Nic scored a nail-biting win by 0.08 in the 100m breaststroke final, a victory that he hopes will be the springboard to a podium place in Paris. At the Tokyo Games in 2021, he placed fifth in the 200m breaststroke. In addition to training and competing at the highest level in swimming, Nic works full-time as an engineer. He is married to Melanie Margalis, an Olympic gold medalist swimmer; they are expecting their first child in September.

## Ryan Held

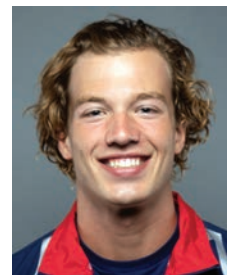
**Hometown:** Springfield, IL  
**DOB:** June 27th, 1995  
**4x100m Freestyle Relay**



**A**t the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Ryan earned a gold medal as a member of the US four-some that won the 4x100m freestyle relay. Five years later - the Tokyo Games having been delayed for one year due to the pandemic - it seemed that Ryan, then 26 years old, had earned relay selection again via a sixth place finish in the Trials' 100m freestyle.

Historically, the US had always taken six swimmers to the Games, in order to have extra competitors for the prelims. COVID-imposed roster limitations, however, meant that, this time, Held would not make the trip. "I was left off the team by a technicality," he recalled. "It was just heartbreaking. It was." Three years later and, now, Ryan is back on Team USA's 4x100mFS squad courtesy of a fifth place finish in the 100mFS at this year's Trials.

*"I was left off the team by a technicality. It was just heartbreaking."*



## Drew Kibler

**Hometown:** Carmel, IN  
**DOB:** March 9th, 2000  
**4x200m Freestyle Relay**

**A**t the US Trials in Indianapolis in June, Drew placed third in the 200m freestyle, thereby earning a place on the 4x200mFS relay team for

the Paris Games. Most certainly, he will be hoping for a position at least one place higher than the team's fourth placing at the Tokyo Games in 2021. Certainly, that would be a fine complement to the gold medals already in his possession from the 4x200mFS at both the 2022 world long and short course championships, the latter in a world record time. Not to be overlooked are his silver from the 2023 world LC champs and his bronzes from the 4x100 mixed FS relay at the '22 LC world champs and the 4x100m FS at the same year's SC champs. Also in 2022, he finished fourth in the individual 200m freestyle at the 2022 World Aquatics Championships. The Arena swimwear brand has worked with Drew to design his own signature swimsuit line, inspired by a mix of his personal style and his passion for art.

# Track and Field



## Valarie Allman

**Discus**

**Hometown:** Hershey, PA

**DOB:** February 23rd, 1995

After claiming a spectacular Olympic gold medal in the discus in Tokyo, Valarie has established herself as one of the most intimidating throwers in the world. At the 2022 world championships in Eugene, OR, she secured the bronze medal position behind arch-rivals Bin Feng (CHN) and Sandra Perkovic (CRO), a placing she improved by one at the following year's world champs in Budapest, with just the surprising Laulauga Tausaga from the USA ahead of her. In the 12 months since Budapest, however, Valarie has given every indication that she will be the one to beat once the Games begin in Paris. She dominated the Diamond League competition throughout the 2023 season (as she did in 2022) and sailed onto the US Olympic team with a Trials victory that saw her take the win by over eight meters with a mark of 70.73m/232-0. (She also threw a Trials' record of 70.89m/232-7 in qualifying). Only Cuba's Yaime Perez, the 2019 world champion, had thrown farther (73.09m/239-90) to that point in the season, signifying that the battle for gold in Paris will be a nail-biter.

## Tara Davis-Woodhall

**Long Jump**

**Hometown:** Agoura Hills, CA

**DOB:** May 20th, 1999

Between August 2023 and the end of July 2024, Tara secured one world outdoor championships silver medal, one world indoor championships gold medal and a superb victory at the US Olympic Trials, all establishing her as a medal contender once the Paris Games get under way. At the Games in Tokyo in 2021, she placed a fine sixth.

In high school in California, Davis-Woodhall (then, just



"A legitimate gold medal favorite." Scan the code to see Tara Davis-Woodhall take the US Trials title.

Davis; these days she is married to Paralympian sprinter Hunter Woodhall) was also a 100m hurdler, setting a windy US high record of 12.83. She also long jumped a state record of 6.73m/22-1, erasing the 24 year-old mark of Marion Jones. After graduating high school,

Tara attended the University of Georgia where she broke the world under-20 record in the 60m hurdles (7.98) during the 2018 NCAA Indoor Championships. After a season at Georgia, she transferred to the University of Texas where, in 2021, she long jumped 7.14m/23-5.25 to set the collegiate record and place her among the top 30 jumpers of all time. This year, she improved that mark to an altitude-aided 7.18m/23-6.75 in taking the US indoor title in Albuquerque, NM. At the US Trials, after two fouls and a little nail-biting, she reached 7.00m/22-11/75 to take the victory by two centimeters and secure her seat on the 'plane to Paris.



## Tori Franklin

**Triple Jump**

**Hometown:** Evanston, IL

**DOB:** October 7th, 1992

In Paris, Tori will seek to become the first American woman to win an Olympic medal in the triple jump. She is no stranger to setting new standards; in 2022, she became the first American woman to win a TJ medal at the world championships, claiming the bronze medal in Eugene, OR with a season's best leap of 14.72m/48-4. The 2023 season was not as kind, as she failed to advance to the final in that year's world championships in Budapest. This Olympic year, however, has seen a return to form as she showed remarkable consistency in the Olympic Trials, reaching 13.72m/45-0.25 twice, plus 13.70m, to claim the third spot on the Olympic team, albeit by just two centimeters. Tori's PB remains the since-broken US record of 14.84m/48-8.25 that she set in Guadeloupe in 2018. In 2023, Tori published a memoir entitled, "You Anthem: Stories and Reflections of Celebration." Since 2021, she has lived in Athens, Greece.

## Maggie Malone-Hardin

**Javelin**

**Hometown:** Lincoln, NE

**DOB:** December 30th, 1993

In kindergarten, Maggie broke her femur and chipped a growth plate, leading doctors to fear that her leg would not grow properly. Instead, she became a high school state long jump champion, a four-time NCAA D1 All American, an accomplished heptathlete and the US record holder in the javelin (since broken by NYAC team-mate, Kara Winger). Not to be overlooked is that, with her victory at the Olympic Trials (a meet record



of 64.58m/211-10] she is also, now, a three-time Olympian. In 2016, despite becoming the first woman ever to win the NCAA D1 and US outdoor javelin titles in the same year, she did not advance to the final in that year's Rio Olympic Games. In Tokyo in 2021 - the year in which she set the since broken US record of 67.40m/221-2, still her personal best - she had the second-best throw in the qualifying round, 63.07m/206-11, and in the final placed 10th with a mark of 59.82m/196-3. Indicators of this season are that Maggie's third Games may be her best.

Maggie's mother, Nancy Kindig-Malone was an accomplished multi-eventer, on one occasion completing a relay with a fractured bone in her leg; the team won. Competitive mettle, it seems, is a family trait. Maggie's sister, Audrey, was also a successful javelin thrower at their alma mater, Texas A&M.

## DeAnna Price

**Hammer**

**Hometown: Moscow Mills, MO**

**DOB: June 8th, 1993**

In 2019, DeAnna claimed a stunning world title when she dominated the

field at that year's world championships in Doha, Qatar, becoming the first American woman ever to win a throws medal at this meet. Her hopes of ascending to similar heights at the Tokyo Olympic Games were, unfortunately, dashed by injury. Entering the 2021 Olympic Trials, she

*With a fractured heel and shin, three torn tendons and a torn labrum, DeAnna Price still placed eighth in the Olympic Games final.*

the second best throw of all time. The following day, she could barely walk. The diagnosis was fractured talus, three torn tendons and a fractured fibula. For good measure, she had also torn the labrum in her hip. Remarkably, Price still made it to Tokyo and still made the final, ultimately placing eighth (as she had in Rio in 2016) with a remarkable throw of 73.09m/239-9. Although her defending champion status permitted her a bye into the 2022 world championships, Price waited until the 2023 edition to prove that she was back as a global force, taking the bronze medal with a throw of 75.41m/247-5. Having reached 77.16m/253-2 this season (third best in the world, as of early July), and having

already knew that something was wrong. Even so, she broke the US record three times, reaching a best mark of 80.31m/263-6, still



placed second in the US Trials with 74.52m/244-6 (world leader, Brooke Andersen stunningly failed to qualify), it is fair to say that Price is back and hoping to become the first US woman ever to win an Olympic hammer medal.



## Daniel Haugh

**Hammer**

**Hometown: Marietta, GA**

**DOB: May 3rd, 1995**

In February of this year, 2024, Daniel set a world record in the indoor weight throw, a indicator of his aptitude for the heavy implements. An experi-

enced international competitor, he contested the 2019 world championships in Doha, Qatar, reaching 72.85m/239-0 in the qualifying rounds and failing to advance. At the Tokyo Olympic Games in 2021, he reached the final, placing 11th with a heave of 76.22m/250-1. His inexorable advance continued in 2023, when he placed sixth at the world championships in Budapest (78.64m/258-0), as it did at this year's US Olympic Trials when he turned back the challenge of NYAC teammate, Rudy Winkler, to take the victory with a mighty throw of 79.51m/269-10, the ninth farthest in the world to that point in the season.

## Joe Kovacs

**Shot Put**

**Hometown: Nazareth, PA**

**DOB: June 28th, 1989**

Joe is among the greatest shot putters of all time, having won two Olympic silver medals (2016, 2020), two world championships golds (2015, 2019), two world championships silvers (2017, 2022) and one world championships bronze (2023). Put another way, Joe has contested every major outdoor international championships since 2015 and never failed to win a medal. It may not be surprising that Joe's personal best throw of 23.23m/76-2.75, which he set in 2022, is the second farthest of all time, exceeded only by the mammoth 23.56m/77-3.75 world record of US teammate, Ryan Crouser. Of the 10 farthest throws in history, Crouser owns eight and Kovacs two. At the US Trials, Crouser prevailed (22.84m/74-11.25 to 22.43m/73-7.25), setting the stage for what is certain to be an epic battle in Paris. Joe lives and trains in Tennessee with his wife, Ashley, who is also his coach, and their two children. Ashley is also part of Team USA, having been selected as the women's throws coach.





## Sam Mattis

**Discus**

**Hometown: East Brunswick, NJ**

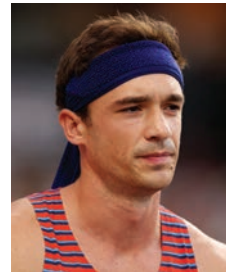
**DOB: March 19th, 1994**

Having won the US Championships in 2019, Sam continued his ascent by earning a spot on the Tokyo Olympic team in 2021. In the Games' qualifying rounds, he made it perfunctory, reaching a season's best of 63.74m/209-1 and advancing to the final, in which he improved, yet again, this time reaching 63.88m/209-7, a mark that installed him in eighth position. From an Olympic final, however, things took a turn for the worse when Sam was diagnosed with cancer in 2022. But Olympians are made of steel, and, in his own words, "I ended 2022 with a cancer diagnosis, and I ended 2023 at the world championships." It was a remarkable comeback. Having conquered his illness, Sam earned selection for the 2023 Budapest World Championships, in which he placed seventh in the qualifying round, failing to advance. He stated, "Not every day can be your day,"; but, by any measure, it was a resounding victory.

Sam started competing in the discus as a teenager in high school, ultimately attending the University of Pennsylvania where, over the course of four years, he earned three NCAA All-American honors and one NCAA title, as well as being named the USATFCCA/NCAA National Scholar of the year. He graduated in 2016 with a degree in economics from Penn's Wharton School of Business. His brother, Jake, also attended UPenn, while his father, Marlon, was captain of the William & Mary track & field team in 1985.



multiple world records. In the history of the modern Olympics, however, US men have failed to make the podium only five times; Chris does not intend to make it six. His all-time best of 6.05m/19-10.25 from 2022 makes him the equal seventh highest vaulter in history, while his 5.87m/19-3.25 second place at this year's US Trials and yearly best of 6.00m/19-8.25 (indoors) gives indication that he is in form to fly once the Games begin.



## Harrison Williams

**Decathlon**

**Hometown: Houston, TX**

**DOB: March 7th, 1996**

Harrison first made his mark on the global track and field scene when he placed sixth in the decathlon at the World Junior Championships, held in Eugene, OR in 2014. The following year, he took the gold medal at the Pan Am Under-20 Championships in Canada. In 2019, having transitioned to the senior ranks, he earned selection for the world championships in Doha, Qatar where he placed 14th, a stepping stone, it would have seemed, to gaining selection for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. At the Trials for those Games (held in 2021), all was proceeding according to plan, until Harrison tore his plan-

tar fascia during the pole vault competition. With two disciplines still remaining, the javelin and the 1500m, he fought on, ultimately placing fourth, one heartbreaking position shy of Olympic selection. Harrison's next major championship outing was the 2023 World Championships in Budapest, where he placed seventh, coming after having won his first US title in that year's Trials and setting his PB of 8630 points. Although injury forced a DNF at the World Indoor Championships in Glasgow in March of this year, his third place finish at the Olympic Trials with a score of 8384 indicates that the portents are good for Paris and his first appearance on the Olympic stage.

## Rudy Winkler

**Hammer**

**Hometown: Albany, NY**

**DOB: December 6th, 1994**

Although he made the US Olympic team in 2016, Rudy truly captured the spotlight when he set a US hammer record of 82.71m/271-4 in 2021, taking the victory at that year's US Olympic Trials. At the Tokyo



## Chris Nilsen

**Pole Vault**

**Hometown: Kansas City, MO**

**DOB: January 13th, 1998**

With a silver medal from the 2021 Olympic Games in Tokyo and another silver from the 2022 World Championships in Eugene, OR, Chris

can rightly claim to be among the top pole vaulters in the world. Added to his medal haul is a Pan Am Games gold from 2019, a World Indoor Championships bronze from 2022 and a World Outdoor Championships bronze from 2023. Standing in Chris' way in his quest to make the top step on the podium in Paris is Sweden's Mondo Duplantis, who, in recent seasons, has maintained an unassailable grasp on the world lead, winning all in sight and setting

Games, he easily advanced to the final, logging the second farthest qualifying mark; but, the final was a different affair. His best throw came on his first attempt - 77.08m/252-11, well below his US best of a few weeks prior - and he fouled three of his other attempts, ultimately placing seventh. At the 2022 world championships, Rudy again made the final, this time placing sixth (78.99m/259-2). One year later, although he was ranked #2 in the world going into the competition, he could not replicate that form in the heat of battle, ultimately placing eighth (76.04m/249-6).

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# Triathlon

## Kirsten Kasper

**Hometown:** North Andover, MA

**DOB:** August 31st, 1991

**T**hird time's the charm for Kirsten, who, at age 32, will be making her Olympic debut in Paris after missing out on the team in the 2016 and 2020 Games. Kirsten is no stranger to success on the international stage, as she is a 17-time World Triathlon podium finisher and has earned gold, silver and bronze medals, respectively, at the 2016, 2017 and 2018 World Triathlon Mixed Relay Championships. Kirsten was a star runner at Georgetown University prior to starting her triathlon career in 2014, when she earned USA Triathlon Rookie of the Year honors. She is married to Matthew Sharpe, a Canadian triathlete who competed in the Tokyo 2020 Games. They live in Boulder, Colorado.



## Taylor Knibb

**Triathlon and Cycling**

**Hometown:** Washington, DC

**DOB:** February 14th, 1998

**T**aylor Knibb is a force to be reckoned with, by any measure. In Tokyo in 2021, aged 23, she was the youngest triathlete ever to compete

for the USA at an Olympic Games, placing 16th in the individual race and earning a silver medal in the mixed team relay. With her Games duties completed, she departed Japan for Colorado, where, barely a week later,

*In Paris, Taylor Knibb will compete in both the triathlon and the cycling time trial, an almost unheard of two-sport double.*

she placed second in the Ironman 70.3 Boulder, her first outing over that distance. The following week, she headed to Montreal to contest a new eliminator format in the World Triathlon Series. In this event, she was again second, beaten only by the Olympic champ, Flora Duffy (BER). The world has come to realize that the tougher the challenge, the more Taylor enjoys it.

This Olympic year is no different, with the NYAC woman having qualified for the Paris Games, not only in triathlon, but also in cycling. To contest two sports at a single Olympics is almost unheard of. She accomplished this feat by placing fifth at the Triathlon Paris Test Event in Paris last August, thus gaining her triathlon slot, then winning the USA Cycling Time Trial National Championship on May 15th of this year, only the second time she had competed in this championship. Her Paris competitions will be riveting, as she takes on the world in two sports. Adding to her resumé, Taylor is a two-time Ironman 70.3 world champion (2022, 2023). She began competing in triathlons as a child, inspired by her mother's performances in Ironman races. Fittingly, in 2023, she was recognized as the NYAC's Athlete of the Year.

## Taylor Spivey

**Hometown:** Redondo Beach, CA

**DOB:** April 13th, 1991

**T**aylor will make her Olympic debut in Paris after she was selected by USA Triathlon to be one of three women on the US triathlon team. Like her NYAC teammate Kirsten Kasper, Taylor missed selection for the 2016 and 2020 teams, but has established herself as one of the most consistent triathletes in the world in recent years, finishing fourth overall in the World Triathlon Championship Series in 2022 and 2023. Over the course of her career, Taylor has earned 14 World Triathlon Series podiums, in addition to silver and bronze medals, respectively, at the 2020 and 2022 World Triathlon Mixed Relay Championships. Growing up in California, Taylor was the national champion at the 2011 and 2012 National Ocean Lifeguard competitions. As a collegiate swimmer at Cal Poly State, she specialized in long distance freestyle before picking up triathlon during her senior year. She lives and trains in Girona, a city in Catalonia, Spain, where she shares the same coach as her NYAC and Paris 2024 teammate, Seth Rider.





## Morgan Pearson

**Hometown:** New Vernon, NJ

**DOB:** September 22nd, 1993

At the Olympic Games Triathlon Test Event in Paris last May, Morgan secured his place on his second Olympic team courtesy of a superb sixth place finish. Ironically, he was only added to the start list at the last-minute after two competitors withdrew due to illness. He seized his opportunity with both hands, becoming one of the first NYAC athletes to qualify for the Paris Games. Into 2024, he continued his superb form, placing fourth in the US cross country championships in January, defeating several aspiring track and field Olympians in the process. On March 8th, he won the Americas Triathlon Championships Miami, and then took first place at WTCS Yokohama on May 11th, the first WTS victory for an American man since 2009.

In high school, Morgan was the NJ state 3200m champion. He ran cross country at the University of Colorado Boulder, where he was a seven-time All American. In 2017, in his first ever triathlon, he won the US 20-24 age group title, following which the triathlon became his primary focus. At the Tokyo 2020 Games, he placed 42nd in the individual race, and earned a silver medal in the mixed team relay; this time around he will be intent on improving both placings. (NB: Members of the relay team will not be announced by USAT until the Games begin).

## Seth Rider

**Hometown:** Germantown, TN

**DOB:** March 6th, 1997

Growing up in a family of triathletes, Seth began racing triathlons at age six and has never looked back. He came up through USA Triathlon's Youth and Junior elite circuits, and has been a member of the US Elite Triathlon team since 2019. Along with Paris 2024 and NYAC teammate Taylor Spivey (and two other NYAC athletes), Seth helped the US team earn a bronze medal finish at the 2022 World Triathlon Mixed Relay Championships. He has also raced off-road mountain biking triathlons, placing fourth at the 2021 XTERRA World Championships. He lives and trains in Girona, a city in Catalonia, Spain, where he shares the same coach as the aforementioned Taylor Spivey. Paris will be his first appearance at an Olympic Games.



# Water Polo

## Emily Ausmus

**Hometown:** Riverside, CA

**DOB:** December 12th, 2005

Six years ago, USA Water Polo's Chief Sport Development Officer, John Abdou, identified then 12 year-old Emily as having "a high water polo IQ." He determined that she processed situations faster than most athletes, giving her an extra



Scan the code to see 12 year-old Emily Ausmus apply her remarkable water polo IQ in the pool.

meter as she moved around the pool. Now 18, when she competes in the Paris Games, Emily will be the youngest player on the US squad. That is not to say that she is inexperienced; on the contrary. She contributed four goals to the USA's victory at this year's World Aquatics Championships, and 16 during the 2023 Pan American Games tournament, as well as being a linchpin in the US victory at the 2023 World Aquatics World Cup.



## Rachel Fattal

**Hometown:** Seal Beach, CA

**DOB:** December 10th, 1993

The Paris Olympic tournament will be Rachel's third Games appearance, each of the last two (2016, 2020) culminating in gold medals. She is no stranger to gold medals, having also claimed five in world championships (2015, 2017, 2019, 2022, 2024). As one of the strongest attackers on the US team - she logged 12 goals at the 2024 World Aquatics Championships - she will be seeking to add one more gold from the tournament in Paris.

## Jenna Flynn

**Hometown:** San Jose, CA

**DOB:** June 11th, 2004

Although presently a redshirt sophomore at Stanford University, during her freshman year Jenna and her teammates gave full illustration of their capability by taking the 2023 NCAA DI national title. That is just one among many career highlights that Jenna has accumulated, among them gold medals with the US women at the 2023 Pan American Games, the 2023 World Aquatics Cup and the 2024 World Aquatics Championships. Jenna's





ability was evident from an early age, as evidenced by the 2022 Youth World Championships, at which she was the top scorer, logging an impressive 29 goals.

## Kaleigh Gilchrist

**Hometown:** Newport Beach, CA

**DOB:** May 16th, 1992

**A**quatics is in Kaleigh's DNA. Her father, Sandy, was a member of the USC swimming team from 1964 to 1968 and competed in both the 1964 Tokyo and 1968 Mexico City Olympic Games. Evidently, anything Dad can do, Kaleigh can do better, given that Paris will be her third Olympic Games, one at which she intends to add a third gold medal to the two she already possesses from Rio and Tokyo. Those are not the sole highlights of her career; she can also point to four world titles (2015, 2019, 2022, 2024), the 2015 Pan American Games gold medal, as well as FINA World League Super Final victories in 2014, 2015 and 2016. Is that enough? Evidently not. In addition to her water polo accolades, Kaleigh is a two-time US surfing champion (2009, 2010).



Year in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2019. At the 2022 FINA World Championships, she was named Most Valuable Goalkeeper. At the 2024 World Aquatics Championships, she was named Best Goalkeeper.

## Amanda Longan

**Hometown:** Moorpark, CA

**DOB:** January 16th, 1997

**W**ith Amanda Longan and Ashleigh Johnson as goalkeepers, Team USA can boast its very own dynamic duo. Amanda jumped on to the national team's radar after being named Top Goalkeeper at the 2015 Junior World Championships and assisting Team USA to the gold medals. From there, she enjoyed a stellar career at USC, becoming a first team All American, an NCAA D1 champion in 2016 and 2018, and accumulating countless more accolades. Upon joining the US team, she continued gathering honors, culminating in a gold medal at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics, a tournament in which she tallied four saves as the back-up goalie. In 2022, she recorded 22 saves as backup at the FINA World League Super Final and, in 2023, was named Best Goalkeeper at the World Aquatics World Cup following more than 29 saves. With one Olympic gold and four world championships golds (2017, 2019, 2022, 2024) in her cupboard, so far, she may have to make room for one more.



## Ashleigh Johnson

**Hometown:** Miami, FL

**DOB:** September 12th, 1994

**A**mong the greatest goalkeepers in the world, Ashleigh helped guide the US women to back-to-back gold medals at the Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020 Games. In addition to her Olympic gold medals, her numerous career highlights include four world titles (2015, 2019, 2022, 2024), three Pan-Am Games titles (2015, 2019, 2023), and five FINA World League Super Final titles (2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2021). She was named as the top goalkeeper of the Tokyo 2020 Games, with 80 saves.

As a collegian, Ashleigh competed for Princeton University, where she finished her career as Princeton's all-time leader in saves (1362). Notably, her sister, Chelsea, had also played in goal for Princeton, a fortuitous circumstance for Team USA. "I was just copying her," observed Ashleigh. "I wasn't choosing to go in the goal because it was anything that appealed to me in particular." Swimming World named Ashleigh Female Water Polo Player of the

*Ashleigh Johnson, one of the world's greatest goalkeepers, wasn't especially interested in the position. She was just copying her sister.*

## Maddie Musselman

**Hometown:** Newport Beach, CA

**DOB:** June 16th, 1998

**M**addie was only 15 years old when she played in her first game with the US national team. That was in 2013, since which time she has been an integral member of Team USA, winning five world championships (2015, 2017, 2019, 2022, 2024) in addition to two Olympic golds (2016, 2020). Known for her offensive skills, Maddie was recognized as the world's best water polo player in 2021 and 2022 by *Total Waterpolo*. She was a four-time All-American at UCLA, where she set the school's all-time scoring record (251 goals). Her father, Jeff, was a professional baseball player, and her mother, Karen, played collegiate soccer. Maddie plans to attend Physician Assistant school in the fall of 2024.



## Ryann Neushul

**Hometown:** Goleta, CA

**DOB:** December 30th, 1999

While at Stanford, Ryann was a three-time NCAA D1 champion (2019, 2022, 2023). Certainly, there were high expectations, given that her parents, Cathy and Peter, both played water polo at UC Santa Barbara, and that her mother was a high level coach. Remarkably, both of Ryann's two sisters are Olympic water polo gold medalists (and NYAC players), Kiley having been



*If Ryann Neushul can claim gold in Paris, three Neushul sisters will have won gold medals in three consecutive Olympic Games.*

part of the team that prevailed in Rio in 2016 and Jamie reaching the same heights in Tokyo in 2021.

Were the US women to claim the gold medals in Paris (their fourth consecutive), the Neushul family would have accomplished a unique Olympic feat: three different sisters winning the same event in three consecutive Games. The portents are promising. At this year's World Aquatics Championships, Ryann notched seven goals en route to the gold medal, establishing the US women as the team to beat once the Games begin.



## Tara Prentice

**Hometown:** Temecula, CA

**DOB:** December 20th, 1997

A four-time All-American at UC Irvine, in 2022 as a graduate student Tara became the school's all-time leading scorer with 242 career goals. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in

2020 (a double major in Criminology, Law & Society, and Psychological Sciences), Tara has gone on to earn two Master's Degrees, the first in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, the second in Demographic and Social Analysis. Amidst all of that, Tara has established herself as an integral part of the USA's winning machine, assisting the team to world championships in 2022 and 2024, scoring nine goals in the latter tournament. Paris will be her first Olympic Games.



## Jordan Raney

**Hometown:** Manhattan Beach, CA

**DOB:** June 2nd, 1996

Jordan has been a member of the US women's national team since 2017. A three-time world champion (2017, 2022, 2024), she was an alternate for the 2020 Olympic team, meaning that Paris will be her first Games appearance. At Stanford, she was a four-time All-American and helped lead the team to two NCAA championships (2015, 2017). In 2022, competing for Greek water polo club Olympiacos, she assisted that team to the European Championship title. At the 2023 Pan Am Games in Santiago, Chile, she contributed 13 goals to the USA's tournament win, and scored seven during the team's winning performance at the World Aquatics Championships earlier this year. Jordan's mother, Tina, was an All-American swimmer at UCLA, and her father, Kris, played water polo at Pomona College. For good measure, Jordan has a brown belt in karate.

## Jewel Roemer

**Hometown:** Martinez, CA

**DOB:** February 8th, 2002

In high school, Jewel was a two-time Junior Olympics MVP, playing for the 680 Water Polo Club in California. That degree of ability, plus comparable academic talent, brought her to Stanford University, from which she recently graduated with a degree in Human Biology. Her time with the Cardinal also saw her assist the school in claiming the 2022 and 2023 NCAA DI titles. A member of the national squad since 2017, among her career highlights, thus far, are gold medals from the 2023 Pan American Games, the 2023 World Aquatics World Cup and the 2024 World Aquatics Championships. She also played for the US at the 2023 World Aquatics Championships, where the team finished fifth. Jewel's parents were both accomplished collegiate athletes, her father, John, as a water polo player, and her mother, Paula, as a swimmer. Paris will be her Olympic debut.



## Jovana Sekulic

**Hometown:** Belgrade, Serbia

**DOB:** November 7th, 2002

In high school, Jovana lettered in swimming and track and field, in addition to water polo. These days a rising junior at Princeton University majoring in psychology, Paris will be her first appearance on the Olympic stage. Jovana has quickly made herself an integral part of the powerhouse US team, contesting both the 2023 World Aquatics Cup and the 2024 World Aquatics Championships, at which the



USA secured gold medals. Her brother, Matej, plays on the Princeton men's water polo team.

## Maggie Steffens

**Hometown:** San Ramon, CA

**DOB:** June 4th, 1993

**M**aggie Steffens is a water polo legend. With three gold medals already in her possession (2012, 2016, 2020), if she claims a fourth in Paris, she will join an exclusive company of athletes - among them Michael Phelps, Carl Lewis and Al Oerter - who have won the same event at four consecutive Olympic Games. Maggie hails from a water polo family; her father, Carlos, played on the Puerto Rico national team, and her sister, Jessica (also an NYAC player) claimed an

*In Paris, Maggie Steffens will be seeking to win her fourth consecutive Olympic gold medal.*

Olympic silver in 2008 and joined Maggie in winning the gold medals in 2012. In addition to

her three Olympic victories, Maggie can point to five world championship titles (2015, 2017, 2019, 2022, 2024), four Pan Am Games victories (2011, 2015, 2019, 2023) and 10 FINA World League Super Final wins. At her first Olympics, in 2012, she tied the record for most goals in a single Games (21); at the Tokyo Games, she brought her cumulative tally to 56, the most goals ever scored by a woman in Olympic water polo competition. A Stanford graduate with a B.S. in Science, Technology and Society and an M.S. in Management, Science and Engineering (plus NCAA D1 titles in 2014, 2015, and 2017), Maggie will captain the US team in Paris with every intent of burnishing the team's, and her own, reputation still more.



## Alex Bowen

**Hometown:** Santee, CA

**DOB:** September 4th, 1993

**A**lex has been a mainstay of the US team for more than 10 years, in addition to being one of the squad's most ferocious shooters. With two Olympic appearances behind him (2016, 10th; 2020, sixth), this time around, he will be hoping to approach the levels of the 2008 team that claimed silver medals in Beijing. That will be no easy task, but Alex's extensive international experience will be crucial in advancing the team through each round. He has played



in seven world championships tournaments and claimed two Pan Am Games gold medals (2019, 2023), in addition to a 2023 World Cup bronze. That said, a ninth place finish at the 2024 World Championships, at which Alex scored 14 goals - indicates that the competition in Paris will be fearsome.

## Hannes Daube

**Hometown:** Long Beach, CA

**DOB:** January 5th, 2000

**H**annes made his Olympic debut in Tokyo at 20 years of age. In those Games, the team placed sixth, its highest position since winning silver medals in 2008. Hannes brings a wealth of experience to his second Games, including four world championships (2019, 2022, 2023, 2024 - he scored 14 goals in the latter), two Pan Am Games gold medals (2019, 2023) and a 2023 World Cup bronze medal. While attending the University of Southern California, Hannes and the Trojans claimed the 2018 NCAA D1 title; he was also a multi-time All-American. Hannes' mother is German and his father is from New Zealand. His sister, Eike, also played water polo for USC.



## Max Irving

**Hometown:** Long Beach, CA

**DOB:** May 21st, 1995



**R**enowned as a fearsome shooter, at the Tokyo Olympic Games, his first, Max tallied eight goals, assisting Team USA to its eventual sixth place finish. In 2023, he indicated that his shooting arm is more powerful than ever with 15 goals at the World Aquatics World Cup in Los Angeles, another 15 at the World

Aquatics Championships in Fukuoka, and 25 at the Pan American Games in Santiago, the second highest on Team USA. This year has seen that momentum continue, with nine goals at the World Aquatics Championships in Doha. That is the firepower that Max will be bringing to Paris and that he, and the team, hope will take them to the podium. Max's father, Michael Irving, is a men's college basketball referee.



## Alex Obert

**Hometown:** Loomis, CA

**DOB:** December 18th, 1991

Alex made his debut for the US men's team when he was selected to contest the FINA World League Super Final in 2013. Since that time, he has become an integral part of the squad, with appearances at both the 2016 and 2020 Olympic Games, as well as three Pan Am Games gold medals (2015, 2019, 2023) and participation in five world championships (2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2024). Alex was a three-time All-American at the University of the Pacific and was a member of the team that claimed the 2013 NCAA D1 title.



in the 130kgGR division at the 2018 World Championships, an accomplishment he followed with a 2019 Pan-American Championships title, and a 2020 Pan-American Championships silver medal. Although never having played football in college, in the summer of 2021 Adam was signed by the Tennessee Titans as an offensive lineman; in January 2023, he signed as an offensive guard for the Seattle Sea Dragons of the XFL. Adam was an alternate on the 2016 US Olympic team, and missed selection in 2020; thus, Paris will be his first Games.

## Sarah Hildebrandt

**50kg Freestyle**

**Hometown:** Granger, IN

**DOB:** September 23rd, 1993

Sarah is one of the most accomplished wrestlers on the US roster, having claimed medals at every major championship, all the way up to the Olympic level. Her Games success came in 2021 in Tokyo, when she secured a bronze medal by defeating 2018 World Championships bronze medalist, Oksana Livach of Ukraine. Two months later, Sarah claimed a 50kg silver medal at the World Championships held in Oslo, Norway. This added to the 53kg silver she has earned at that event in 2018. She also has two World Championships bronzes, both at 50kg, from 2022 and 2023. Not to be overlooked are the 2019 Pan Am Games gold medal (53kg) and the seven Pan Am Championships victories (55kg – '13, '15, '18, '19; 50kg – '21, '22, '23). Sarah lives and trains at the US Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO.



# Wrestling

## Darian Cruz (PUR)

**57kg Freestyle**

**Hometown:** Allentown, PA

**DOB:** February 5th, 1995



Currently ranked #30 in the world by United World Wrestling, Darian attended Lehigh University, class of 2018, where he was the 2017 NCAA champion at 125lbs and a three-time

All-American. His other career highlights include a 2020 Pan-Am Championships bronze medal, two Pan-Am Championships silver medals (2022, 2023), ninth and 17th place finishes at the 2022 and 2023 World Championships, and a 2023 Pan-Am Games bronze medal. The Paris Olympics will be his first appearance at the Games.

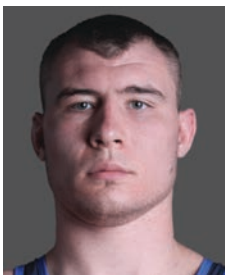
## Adam Coon

**130kg Greco-Roman**

**Hometown:** Fowlerville, MI

**DOB:** November 14th, 1994

While majoring in aerospace engineering at the University of Michigan, Adam also found time to claim two NCAA D1 silver medals at 285lbs (2015, 2018). In 2014, he contested the 120kg divisions in both freestyle and Greco-Roman at the World Junior Championships, claiming bronze in both, a rare double. Four years later, at the senior level, he won the silver medal



# Paralympic Games Track and Field

## Tatyana McFadden

**T54 100m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, Marathon**

**Hometown:** Baltimore, MD

**DOB:** April 21st, 1989

If there is a legend in the world of Paralympic sport, it must certainly be Tatyana McFadden. The Paris Para-



lympic Games will be Tatyana's seventh (2004, 2008, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2020, 2024), from which she has garnered 20 medals, eight of which are gold. Notably, one of those was a silver medal from the 2014 Winter Paralympic Games. In addition to her success at the Games, Tatyana is a 13-time world champion (and a 20-time world championships medalist), a five-time NYC marathon wheelchair champion and a 2015 recipient of the Laureus World Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability award. Born with spina bifida in St. Petersburg, Russia, Tatyana was adopted at the age of six by American parents. She became involved with sports as a child and made her Olympic debut at the age of 15 at the 2004 Athens Games. Her sister Hannah is also a Paralympian, having competed on Team USA with Tatyana in 2012, the first time siblings had ever competed at the same Paralympic Games. In Paris, Tatyana will contest a remarkable five events: the 100m, 400m, 800m, 1500m and marathon, having been selected for the latter following the November 2023 New York City Marathon and having contested the four track events at the Paralympic Trials in Miramar, FL in July.



## Hunter Woodhall

**T64 100m, T62 400m**

**Hometown: Syracuse, UT**

**DOB: February 17th, 1999**

**H**unter Woodhall was born with fibular hemimelia, a condition necessitating that his lower legs were amputated at 11 months old. In high school, however, he gave evidence of his sprinting prowess, earning a place on the US team for the 2016 Paralympic Games, at which he won a silver medal in the T44 200m and a bronze in the T44 400m. (He had made his international debut one year earlier at 2015 IPC World Championships, taking a silver in the T44 400m and a bronze in the T44 200m). After high school, Hunter attended the University of Arkansas, becoming the first double amputee to receive an NCAA Division I track and field scholarship. At the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, he won a T62 400m bronze medal, meaning that, as he approaches the Paris Games, his third, Hunter needs a gold medal in order to complete his collection. Earlier this year, he claimed silver medals in the T64 100m and T62 400m races at the Para World Championships in Kobe, Japan, following that with US records in the T64 100m (10.75) and T62 400m (46.09) at the Paralympic Track and Field Trials in July. Hunter is married to NYAC athlete Tara Davis-Woodhall, the 2023 world championships silver medalist in the long jump, who will contest that event at the Paris Olympic Games.

## Mikey Brannigan

**T20 1500m**

**Hometown: Northport, NY**

**DOB: November 12th, 1996**

**A** Long Island native, Mikey Brannigan was diagnosed with autism at age three and was non-verbal until age five. His running ability quickly became evident when he began training with the Rolling Thunder Special Needs Program, enabling him, as an eighth grader, to claim a place on his high school varsity team. From there, it was onward and upward. Mikey twice earned high school All-America honors and, in February 2015, was named Sports Illustrated's High School Athlete of the Month. Such an honor was prescient: little more than one year later, Mikey was the Paralympic Games champion, having claimed the gold medal in the T20 1500m. There have been plentiful other laurels, among them seven world championships medals (four golds and three silvers), including the 2024 1500m crown, and the first ever sub-four minute mile by an ambulatory Paralympian. At the Paralympic Games in Tokyo in 2021, Mikey placed fourth in the T20 1500m. Recent form suggests that he may be set to return to the podium in Paris, his third Paralympic Games.



# Triathlon

## Grace Norman

**PTS5**

**Hometown: Jamestown, OH**

**DOB: March 9th, 1998**

**G**race Norman is one of the most intimidating competitors on the international para triathlon circuit. At the Rio Games in 2016, she claimed the gold medal in the PT4 triathlon and also took a bronze in the T44 400m on the track. Five years later, at the COVID-delayed Para Games in Tokyo, she secured the silver medal in the PTS5 triathlon. Grace was born with congenital constriction band syndrome in her left leg, necessitating the amputation of her right big toe and of her left leg below the knee. The PTS5 classification refers to triathletes who have an absence of limbs, are affected to a low degree in one leg, a moderate level in both forearms, or a high degree in one foot or ankle. Grace is a five-time world champion (plus, two silver medals and four bronze medals), and is a two-time USA Paratriathlon national champion (2014, 2019). In high school, she competed in cross country and track and field. Notably, she became the first female amputee to make the podium at a US high school track and field state championships.





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