

2012 U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team Notes & Roster

2012 U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team Roster

Name	Ht.	Wt.	Current Residence	Hometown
Women				
Laura Bennett	5-9	130	Boulder, Colo.	North Palm Beach, Fla.
Sarah Groff	5-8	136	Hanover, N.H.	Cooperstown, N.Y.
Gwen Jorgensen	5-10	125	Milwaukee, Wis.	Milwaukee, Wis.
Men				
Manuel Huerta	5-7	126	Miami, Fla.	Miami, Fla.
Hunter Kemper	6-3	163	Colorado Springs, Colo.	Longwood, Fla.

Pronunciation Guide

Groff – Groff, not Gruff

Huerta – WHERE-ta

Jorgensen – JOR-ginn-sin, not YOUR-ginn-sin



Hunter Kemper and Manuel Huerta celebrate qualifying for the 2012 U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team.

Athlete Storylines at a Glance

The five-member U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team is not short on storylines entering the 2012 London Olympic Games:

- **Laura Bennett:** Bennett was fourth in Beijing and aims for a spot on the podium at age 37 in her second Games appearance. Her husband (and coach), Greg Bennett, was fourth in Athens in 2004 representing his native Australia. Laura's father and two brothers are very talented amateur triathletes. She qualified for the Games by placing third at the May 11 ITU World Triathlon San Diego.

- **Sarah Groff:** 2011 was a breakthrough season for Groff, who was forced to bounce back from fracturing her sacrum twice in 2010. She placed third in the ITU World Triathlon Series rankings in 2011 for the first-ever series podium finish by an American. She will make her Olympic debut after qualifying with a seventh-place finish on the same course in 2011.

- **Manuel Huerta:** The Cuban-born Huerta came to the U.S. at age 13 with his family in search of a better life and became a U.S. citizen at age 20. Earning the opportunity to represent the U.S. in the Olympic Games with a ninth-place finish at the May 12 ITU World Triathlon San Diego was a "dream come true." When training at altitude, Huerta often lives on the active Irazu Volcano in Costa Rica.

- **Gwen Jorgensen:**

A swimmer and All-American runner at Wisconsin, Jorgensen was recruited to the sport of triathlon by 2004 U.S. Olympian Barb Lindquist, who spearheads the USA Triathlon Collegiate Recruitment Program. When approached by USA Triathlon about taking up the sport, Jorgensen was working full-time as a tax accountant for Ernst & Young in Milwaukee and initially declined the offer.

Jorgensen eventually decided to give the sport a try, completed her first competitive triathlon in March 2010 and was an Olympic qualifier just 17 months later after placing second at the London test event in 2011.

- **Hunter Kemper:** With three Olympic appearances under his belt, Kemper's run at a fourth U.S. Olympic Team looked in doubt after he suffered a broken elbow in October 2011 and developed a subsequent staph infection that left him unable to train for eight weeks in early 2012. With the second and final automatic qualifier on the horizon in May, the father of three quietly worked his way back to top form and proved he is a big-race performer by finishing fifth at the ITU World Triathlon San Diego on May 12 to secure his place as the only four-time member of the U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team.

Kemper in Exclusive Company

Hunter Kemper is one of just three athletes to have qualified for all four Olympic triathlons since the sport made its debut in Sydney in 2000. Canada's Simon Whitfield and Germany's Anja Dittmer join Kemper in this exclusive club. The 36-year-old Kemper has



Gwen Jorgensen, Laura Bennett and Sarah Groff have each finished on the ITU World Triathlon Series podium over the past year.



Hunter Kemper on the run four years ago in Beijing.

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DELLY CARR/ITU

Gwen Jorgensen was a runner-up in the Olympic Games test event in London in 2011.

been the top U.S. men's finisher in each Olympic triathlon with a best showing of seventh in Beijing in 2008.

U.S. Women Finished 2011 Among the World's Best

The U.S. women will field triathlon's deepest team in London, as Sarah Groff (third), Laura Bennett (eighth) and Gwen Jorgensen (11th) all ranked among the top 11 women in the 2011 ITU World Triathlon Series rankings — a claim no other nation can boast. The ITU World Triathlon Series is an eight-race series featuring the world's top Olympic-distance athletes who will be in action in London. Additionally, all three U.S. women finished on the podium in a WTS race over an eight-event stretch in 2011-12 — Groff was third in Kitzbühel in 2011, Jorgensen was second in London in 2011 and Bennett was third in San Diego in 2012.

Americans Aim for Podium Breakthrough

After establishing itself as a consistent performer on the international scene in the sport of triathlon over the past decade, the United States is looking for a breakthrough on the Olympic podium at the 2012 Olympic Games. Susan Williams captured the 2004 bronze, and Team USA will look to add to that in London. Laura Bennett was fourth in Beijing, just missing a spot on the podium, while Hunter Kemper was not far off the mark in seventh in 2008. The U.S. has seven all-time top-10 finishes at the Olympic Games, including two from Kemper.

Bennett, Kemper Among All-Time Greats

With a combined six Olympic qualifications under their belts, Hunter Kemper and Laura Bennett rank as two of the most decorated U.S. triathletes in history. Kemper leads the U.S. men with seven all-time USA Triathlon Elite National Championship titles, 17 ITU World Cup podium finishes and shares the all-time U.S. mark with four ITU World Cup victories. Meanwhile, Bennett is second on the women's side with three career USA Triathlon Elite National Championship titles. She has amassed 13 ITU World Cup/World Triathlon Series podiums and four World Cup victories, which is tied for third all-time among Americans and tied for 13th overall.



PAUL PHILLIPS/COMPETITIVE IMAGE

Laura Bennett enters the London Olympic Games as one of the top U.S. triathletes of all-time.

History in Hyde Park

The U.S. has enjoyed success in Hyde Park over the past three years since the London stop debuted on the ITU World Championship Series slate in 2009. (The world's top Olympic-distance race series was renamed the ITU World Triathlon Series for 2012.) Gwen Jorgensen and Sarah Groff qualified for the U.S. Olympic Team with their respective second- and seventh-place finishes a year ago on the same course that will be used for the Games. Groff has been the most U.S. consistent performer in London, logging 10th- and 12th-place finishes on a slightly different course in 2009 and 2010, respectively. Laura Bennett finished fifth in London in 2010, while Manuel Huerta was 25th a year ago to lead the U.S. men.



PAUL PHILLIPS/COMPETITIVE IMAGE

Sarah Groff has posted top-12 finishes in three straight races in London.

Laura Bennett



2012 Highlights: Member of the USA Triathlon National Team • Won the Boulder Peak Triathlon on July 8 • Placed first at the June 2 Dallas ITU Pan American Cup • Winner of the May 20 Kansas City Triathlon, a 5i50 event • Qualified for her second consecutive U.S. Olympic Team with a third-place finish at the ITU World Triathlon San Diego on May 11 • Finished on the podium for the first time in a WTS event in San Diego after riding among a pack of eight leaders throughout the bike and following with a strong run to claim her spot on the London start line • Opened her season with a seventh-place showing at the Mooloolaba ITU World Cup on March 24.

Elite Triathlon Career: Won her third career and second straight USA Triathlon Elite National Championship title in 2011 • Finished eighth in the 2011 ITU World Championship Series to rank as the No. 2 American • Earned a season-best fifth-place showing at the 2011 WCS Grand Final in Beijing • Finished fifth at the 2011 Hy-Vee Triathlon Elite Cup • Placed sixth in Kitzbühel for a seventh consecutive top-10 finish on the WCS circuit • Placed eighth in Madrid • Finished sixth at the opener of the 2011 ITU World Championship Series in Sydney • Named the 2010 USA Triathlon Olympic/ITU Athlete of the Year • Captured her second career USA Triathlon elite national title in 2010 in Tuscaloosa, Ala. • Finished the 2010 ITU World Championship Series as the No. 1-ranked American and 10th overall • Placed eighth at the 2010 Grand Final in Budapest for her fourth straight top-10 finish • Also topped the 2010 ITU Best Swimmer Rankings • Recorded top-10 finishes in the ITU World Championship Series stops in Kitzbühel (eighth), Hamburg (seventh) and London (fifth) • Finished sixth and was the top

Hometown:	North Palm Beach, Fla.
Resides:	Boulder, Colo.
College:	Southern Methodist University
Height:	5-9 (175 cm)
Weight:	130 (59 kg)
Birthdate:	4/25/1975 (37)
Birthplace:	North Palm Beach, Fla.
First Year Elite:	1999
Twitter:	@LauraRBennett
Website:	BennettEndurance.com



American finisher at the 2010 Hy-Vee Triathlon • Placed 14th at the 2010 ITU World Championship Series opener in Sydney • Placed third at the Los Angeles Triathlon and the Toyota U.S. Open Triathlon in Rockwall, Texas, in 2010 • Ranked No. 43 overall (No. 4 American) in the 2009 ITU World Championship Series rankings • Top WCS finish in 2009 was 12th in Washington, D.C. • Narrowly missed a medal with a fourth-place finish at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games • Also took fourth at the 2008 Mooloolaba and Hy-Vee ITU World Cup events and the USA Triathlon Elite National Championship in Portland, Ore. • Finished 2008 at No. 28 in the final ITU World Cup rankings and was the No. 3 American • Qualified for 2008 Olympic Team with third place overall finish at 2007 ITU Beijing World Cup • Won prestigious title at Hy-Vee Triathlon ITU Des Moines World Cup in 2007 • Recorded four podium finishes at ITU World Cup events in 2006 • Placed third at the 2005 ITU World Championships in Gamagori, Japan • Attended the 2004 Olympic Games as the team alternate • Finished third at the 2004 world championships, which was a U.S. Olympic qualifying race, but didn't get the slot because U.S. teammate Sheila Taormina won the world championship • Qualified for the 2004 world championship team as the second-ranked U.S. female triathlete • Was the top U.S. finisher, second overall, at the 2003 triathlon world championship • Won her first U.S. elite national title at the Treasure Island Triathlon in 2003 • Qualified for the 2003 world championship team by being ranked third in the world by the cutoff date • Placed fifth overall in the 2001 Kia Formula 1 Triathlon Series in Australia • Was second runner-up for 2000 Olympic team after

Qualified for the 2012 Olympic Games: By placing third at the ITU World Triathlon San Diego on May 11, 2012.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Two-time U.S. Olympic Team Member (2012, 2008)
- Placed fourth at the 2008 Olympic Games
- Three-time USA Triathlon Elite National Champion (2011, 2010, 2003)
- Four-time USA Triathlon Olympic/ITU Athlete of the Year (2010, 2006, 2007, 2008)
- Four-time medalist at the ITU World Championships (2007, 2005, 2004, 2003)



PAUL PHILLIPS/COMPETITIVE IMAGE



DELLY GARRITY/TU



PAUL PHILLIPS/COMPETITIVE IMAGE



LARRY ROSAK/TU

finishing fourth at the U.S. Olympic Trials.

Amateur Triathlon Career: Participated in the IronKids Bread Triathlon Series • In 1997, after graduating from college, was the second U.S. amateur at the World Championship in Perth, Australia • In 1994, was voted the USA Triathlon and Triathlete Magazine Junior of the Year • In 1993, was a member of the USA Triathlon Junior National Team • Was second in the junior division at the Age Group National Championship at Leon's QEM Triathlon in Hammond, Ind. • Finished 22nd at the Junior World Championships in Manchester, England.

Athletic Background: Was an eight-time All-American and member of the 1997 NCAA champion 400 medley relay while swimming at SMU • Was the co-captain of the team her senior season (1996-97) • While swimming for the Mustangs, was on the team with six 1996 Olympians from six countries, including 1997 NCAA Swimmer of the Year Martina Moravcova (Slovakia) • While at Cardinal Newman High School in West Palm Beach, Fla., earned All-America honors in 1993 in swimming • Was also the 1991 and 1992 Florida high school track champion in the mile and 2-mile • Team won the 1990 and 1992 high school cross country championship • Began swimming competitively in sixth grade (age 12) • While growing up, enjoyed playing football with older brother.

Personal: Laura Marie (Reback) Bennett was born April 25, 1975, in North Palm Beach, Fla. • Parents, Paul and Sharon, reside in North Palm Beach • Was introduced to the sport by her family • Paul is a top age-group triathlete while Sharon has participated in a handful of half marathons • Older brothers, David and John, also compete in triathlon • Laura married top triathlete Greg Bennett (then of Australia) in November 2004 • Husband, Greg, finished fourth in the 2004 Olympic Games triathlon representing his native Australia • He began representing the U.S. in 2011 • Earned a B.A. in finance from Southern Methodist University in 1997 • Was a member of the SMU 3.0 Club from 1994-97 and a member of the Southwest Conference Commissioner's Honor Roll from 1994-96.



RICH CRUSE/TU

Getting to Know

Laura Bennett

- Married to fellow professional triathlete Greg Bennett
- Spends winters training and competing in Australia
- Was introduced to triathlon by her father and brothers
- Favorite meal to cook is sea scallops
- Favorite post-race meal is a cheeseburger and sweet potato fries
- Hobbies include reading and Scrabble
- Lists favorite movies as "The Hangover," "Wedding Crashers" and "Notting Hill"





Sarah Groff



2012 Highlights: Member of the USA Triathlon National Team • Finished seventh at the ITU World Triathlon Kitzbühel on June 23 • Placed 15th at the May 11 ITU World Triathlon San Diego.

Elite Triathlon Career: Named the 2011 USA Triathlon Olympic/ITU Athlete of the Year • Recorded the top season by an American in the three-year history of the ITU World Championship Series in 2011 by placing third overall to earn a spot on the series podium • Finished 10th at the 2011 WCS Grand Final in Beijing to secure her third-place finish in the series • Placed seventh at the Hy-Vee Triathlon Elite Cup • Posted five top-10 finishes in the seven WCS events in 2011 • Finished seventh at the 2011 ITU Elite Sprint World Championships • Part of the U.S. team that took fifth at the 2011 ITU Team Triathlon World Championships • Qualified for the 2012 U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team with a seventh-place finish at the 2011 London WCS event on the proposed Olympic course • Earned the first-ever podium finish in a WCS event by a U.S. woman by taking third in Kitzbühel in 2011 • Posted a then-career-best WCS finish of seventh in Madrid in 2011 • Opened the 2011 season with an eighth-place finish at the Mooloolaba ITU World Cup • Placed second at the 2010 USA Triathlon Elite National Championship in Tuscaloosa, Ala. • Wrapped up the 2010 ITU World Championship Series as the No. 3 American and 20th overall • Placed fifth at the 2010 Toyota U.S. Open Triathlon in Rockwall, Texas • Posted three straight top-12 WCS finishes in 2010 — 10th in Kitzbühel, 12th in

Hometown:	Cooperstown, N.Y.
Resides:	Hanover, N.H.
College:	Middlebury College
Height:	5-8 (173 cm)
Weight:	136 (62 kg)
Birthdate:	11/27/1981 (30)
Birthplace:	Hanover, N.H.
First Year Elite:	2005
Twitter:	@sgroff
Website:	sarahgroff.com



DELLY CARVITTO

London and eighth in Hamburg • Placed 17th at the 2010 Hy-Vee ITU Elite Cup • Took 19th at the 2010 ITU World Championship Series opener in Sydney • Finished fifth at the season-opening 2010 Mooloolaba ITU World Cup • Ranked 17th overall and second among Americans in the 2009 ITU World Championship rankings • Posted three top-10 ITU finishes in 2009, including ninth-place showings in Madrid and Washington, D.C. • Finished 2008 ranked No. 4 in the ITU World Cup rankings • Took the San Francisco Triathlon at Treasure Island title in 2008 and was second at the Huatulco ITU World Cup event • Placed seventh at the 2008 ITU World Championships in Vancouver • Won the 2007 Geneva ITU Pan American Cup • Placed fourth at Edmonton World Cup in 2007 • 2007 ITU Aquathlon World Champion.

Qualified for the 2012 Olympic Games: By placing seventh at the ITU World Championship Series stop in London on Aug. 6, 2011.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- 2012 U.S. Olympic Team Member
- 2011 USA Triathlon Olympic/ITU Athlete of the Year
- Ranked No. 3 in the 2011 ITU World Championship Series rankings
- Ranked No. 4 in the 2008 ITU rankings



JANOS SCHMIDT/ITU



PAUL PHILLIPS/COMPETITIVE IMAGE

Athletic Background: At Cooperstown (N.Y.) High School, ran cross country and track, and swam on the boys' swim team, as the school didn't have a girls' team at the time • Transferred to Deerfield (Mass.) Academy as a junior and competed on the cross country and swimming teams, earning All-New England Prep honors • At NCAA Division III Middlebury College, swam for four years as a freestyler and earned All-NESCAC and All-America honors.

Personal: Sarah Brooke Groff was born November 27, 1981, in Hanover, N.H. • Grew up the youngest child in a family of five • Daughter of Jeannine and Gerald • Both siblings are married and highly accomplished: Adam is a MD/MBA and Lauren is a New York Times bestselling author • Was a double major in conservation biology and studio art at Middlebury College, graduating cum laude and with highest honors in art.



DELLY CARR/ITU



TIMOTHY CARLSON



PAUL PHILLIPS/COMPETITIVE IMAGE



DELLY CARR/ITU



JANOS SCHMIDT/ITU

Getting to Know

Sarah Groff

- Spends the majority of her season living and training in Australia and Switzerland
- Her pre-race superstition: "I can't race with clean hair; I'm too worried that my swim cap will slip off."
- Favorite professional sports team is the Philadelphia Phillies
- Favorite band is Radiohead
- Favorite post-race meal is "something fairly unhealthy but delicious"
- Favorite all-time Olympic moment is the 4x100-meter freestyle relay in Beijing





Gwen Jorgensen



2012 Highlights: Member of the USA Triathlon National Team • Finished 11th at the ITU World Triathlon Kitzbühel on June 23 and shared the day's fastest run split (34:29) • Claimed her second career ITU World Cup victory June 17 in Banyoles, Spain • Posted the day's fastest run split of 35:10 en route to the victory • Finished fourth at the ITU World Triathlon Sydney on April 14 • Placed sixth at the season-opening Clermont ITU Sprint Pan American Cup on March 3.

Elite Triathlon Career: Continued a meteoric rise in the sport with a breakthrough 2011 season • Placed fourth at the 2011 Pan American Games in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico • Winner of the 2011 USA Triathlon Elite Race Series women's title • Locked up the series victory with a win in the series finale in Myrtle Beach, S.C. • Overcame a crash on the bike to run her way to a runner-up finish at the 2011 USA Triathlon Elite National Championship in Buffalo, N.Y. • Ranked 11th overall and finished as the No. 3 American in the final 2011 ITU World Championship Series rankings • Placed ninth and recorded the fastest run split at the Hy-Vee Triathlon Elite Cup • Finished sixth at the 2011 ITU Elite Sprint Triathlon Championship • Part of the U.S. Team that took fifth at the 2011 ITU Team Triathlon World Championships • Posted her first ITU World Cup win in Tiszaujvaros, Hungary, in 2011 thanks to the day's fastest run split at 33:49, which was 42 second faster than any other competitor • Less than two years after completing

Hometown:	Milwaukee, Wis.
Resides:	Milwaukee, Wis.
College:	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Height:	5-10 (170 cm)
Weight:	125 (57 kg)
Birthdate:	4/25/1986 (26)
Birthplace:	Milwaukee, Wis.
First Year Elite:	2010
Twitter:	@gwenjorgensen
Website:	gwenjorgensen.com



DELLY CARRUTU

her first competitive triathlon, placed second to post the best finish by an American woman in the history of the ITU World Championship Series and claim a spot on the 2012 United States Olympic Triathlon Team in London on Aug. 6, 2011 • Closed the race with a 33:43 10k run split • Posted the fifth-fastest run split at the 2011 Hamburg WCS event • Made her ITU World Championship Series debut in Madrid in 2011 • Placed fifth at the 2011 Monterey ITU World Cup • Finished 16th at the 2011 Mooloolaba ITU World Cup • Also was fifth at the 2011 Mazatlan ITU Pan American Cup • Finished third overall at the opening event of the 2011 USA Triathlon Elite Race Series in Clermont, Fla., and was the No. 2 American to earn runner-up honors in the first-ever USA Triathlon Elite Sprint National Championship • Named the 2010 USA Triathlon Rookie of the Year and Elite Duathlete of the Year after a remarkable debut season as an elite • Led the U.S. with a runner-up finish at the 2010 PATCO Pan American Championships in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico • Also finished fifth at the 2010 Huatulco ITU World Cup • Took fifth at the 2010 USA Triathlon Elite National Championship in Tuscaloosa, Ala. • Finished 13th at the 2010 ITU Duathlon World Championships in Edinburgh, Scotland • Took third at the 2010 San Francisco ITU Pan American Cup after closing strong on the run • Notched fifth-place finishes at the Kelowna and Coteau-du-Lac Pan American Cup events in 2010 • Finished second at the 2010 FISU World University Championships in Valencia, Spain, in just her second triathlon after posting the fastest run split by more than 2 minutes.

Qualified for the 2012 Olympic Games: By placing second at the ITU World Championship Series stop in London on Aug. 6, 2011.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- 2012 U.S. Olympic Team Member
- 2012 Banyoles ITU World Cup Champion
- 2011 USA Triathlon Elite Race Series Champion
- 2011 Tiszaujvaros ITU World Cup Champion
- 2010 USA Triathlon Rookie of the Year
- 2010 USA Triathlon Elite Duathlete of the Year



JANOS SCHMIDT/ITU



JANOS SCHMIDT/ITU



MARIO CANTU



JANOS SCHMIDT/ITU

Amateur Triathlon Career: Standout runner and swimmer turned triathlete after being identified by USA Triathlon's Collegiate Recruitment Program, which is led by Athens Olympian Barb Lindquist • In her first competitive triathlon, earned elite card with an eighth-place finish (second amateur) at USA Triathlon's Elite Development Race in March 2010 in Clermont, Fla. • Won three different running races in 2010.

Athletic Background: Member of the track & field, cross country and swimming teams at Wisconsin • Swam for three years in college before switching to track on a full-time basis • Earned All-America honors in both track and cross country • 2009 Big Ten champion in the 5,000m and 3,000m • Three-time NCAA Championship participant in track and two-time cross country participant • Qualified for the Big Ten Swimming Championships from 2004-07 • Six-time Academic All-Big Ten choice and recipient of the Big Ten Medal of Honor in 2009 • Standout in both swimming and track at Waukesha (Wis.) South High School.

Personal: Gwen Rosemary Jorgensen was born April 25, 1986 • Parents are Nancy and Joel Jorgensen • Has an older sister, Elizabeth • Employed as an accountant at Ernst & Young in Milwaukee • Worked full-time early in her triathlon career and is taking a leave of absence in advance of the 2012 Olympic Games • Earned master's degree in accounting from Wisconsin and passed the CPA exam • Served on the Leadership Committee for Athletes in Action at Wisconsin.



PAUL PHILLIPS/COMPETTIVE IMAGE

Getting to Know

Gwen Jorgensen

- Qualified for the Olympic Games in August 2011 after racing her first competitive triathlon in March 2010
- Worked full-time as an accountant at Ernst & Young in Milwaukee early in her triathlon career
- Enjoys cooking and baking in her free time and once won a hot dog eating contest
- Volunteers regularly with the Boys & Girls Club
- Favorite pro sports teams are the Green Bay Packers and Milwaukee Brewers



Getting to Know

Manuel Huerta

- Moved to the U.S. from his native Cuba in 1997
- Often trains and lives on the active Irazu Volcano in Costa Rica
- Favorite meal to cook is rice and beans
- Favorite professional sports teams are the Miami Heat, New York Yankees and Real Madrid
- Favorite all-time Olympic moment is the U.S. 4x100-meter freestyle relay in Beijing
- Enjoys spearfishing and surfing in the ocean

Athletic Background: Ran cross country at Florida Atlantic University • Was a swimmer and runner in high school and participated in triathlon in the summer • First triathlon was in Cuba at the Cuban IronKids National Championship, which he won.

Personal: Son of Martha Cardenas and the late Herminio Huerta • Has two sisters, Claudia and Monica • Nickname is Manny • Born March 22, 1984, in Havana, Cuba • Moved to the U.S. from his native Cuba at age 13 in 1997 with his mother and sister and became a U.S. citizen at age 20 • Is passionate about representing the U.S. since the country has provided him with opportunities he might not have had otherwise • Does his altitude training on the Irazu Volcano (an active volcano) in Costa Rica • He often-times sleeps at a farm at higher altitude (7,217 feet) and trains at lower altitude (5,249 feet).



PAUL PHILLIPS/COMPETITIVE IMAGE



RICH CRUSE/ITU



CLAUDIA MERCADO/PATCO



PAUL PHILLIPS/COMPETITIVE IMAGE



RICH CRUSE/ITU



ITU





Hunter Kemper



Hometown:	Longwood, Fla.
Resides:	Colorado Springs, Colo.
College:	Wake Forest University
Height:	6-3 (191 cm)
Weight:	163 (74 kg)
Birthdate:	5/4/1976 (36)
Birthplace:	Charlotte, N.C.
First Year Elite:	1998
Twitter:	@hunterkemper
Website:	hunterkemper.com



JANIS SCHMIDT/ITU

2012 Highlights: USA Triathlon National Team member • Winner of the May 28 Capital of Texas Triathlon in Austin, Texas • Qualified for an unprecedented fourth U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team with a fifth-place finish at the ITU World Triathlon San Diego on May 12 • In his first race in seven months, Kemper posted a 30:27 10k split and moved his way into Olympic-qualifying position on the final lap of the run in San Diego • Kemper and Canada's Simon Whitfield are the only two men to have qualified for all four Olympic triathlons.

Elite Triathlon Career: Runner-up in the five-event 2011 USA Triathlon Elite Race Series • Suffered a broken elbow in the series finale in Myrtle Beach, forcing him to miss the 2011 Pan American Games • Won a record seventh men's USA Triathlon Elite National Championship title in Buffalo, N.Y., in 2011 • Wrapped up the 2011 ITU World Championship Series as the No. 2 American and 45th overall • Finished second at the 2011 Hy-Vee Triathlon Elite Cup • Earned his third ITU World Cup podium finish of the 2011 season, taking bronze in Edmonton • Winner of the second stop of the 2011 USA Triathlon Elite Race Series in Monroe, Wash. • Finished second at the 2011 Capital of Texas Triathlon • Earned a second straight 2011 World Cup podium finish by taking third in Monterrey, Mexico • Broke away on the run to earn gold at the 2011 Ishigaki ITU World Cup • The victory marked his first World Cup title since 2005 and the fourth of his career • Named the USOC's male Athlete of the Month for April 2011 following his win in Ishigaki • Limited by injury for much of 2010 • Winner of the 2010 Escape from Alcatraz Triathlon • Finished 10th at the 2010 ITU World Championship Series opener in Sydney • Saw limited race action in 2009 due to

injury but was still fourth among Americans and 47th overall in the 2009 ITU World Championship rankings • Posted top-five finishes in both ITU races on U.S. soil in 2009, finishing second in Oklahoma City and fifth in Washington, D.C.

• Member of the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team and was the top U.S. male with a seventh-place finish • Took third at the 2008 U.S. Olympic Trials in Tuscaloosa, Ala. • Also placed sixth at Hy-Vee and 10th at the Lifetime Fitness Triathlon in Minneapolis in 2008 • Finished 2008 ranked fourth among Americans and 50th overall in the 2008 ITU World Cup rankings • 2007 Haul to the Great Wall Series Champion • Won the ITU Longmont Continental Cup in 2007 • Won sixth USA Triathlon elite national title in 2006 • 2006 Lifetime Fitness Triathlon champion • Tied career-best with a seventh-place finish at the 2006 ITU World Championship in Lausanne, Switzerland • Earned podium finishes at three World Cup events in 2006 (Edmonton, Ishigaki, Mooloolaba) • In 2005, Kemper became the first U.S. man to be ranked No. 1 in the ITU world rankings • Named 2005 USOC SportsMan of the Year • Named 2005 USOC Male Triathlete of the Year • Recipient of 2005 Jim Thorpe All-Around Award • Qualified for the 2004 Olympic team by finishing as the first American, second overall at the Race to Athens — Honolulu • Victory at the 2003 ITU World Cup in Madrid, Spain, was the first World Cup win for a U.S. male since Wes Hobson in 1994 • Won the first gold medal ever for a U.S. male at the Pan American Games in 2003 • Named the USOC Male Triathlete of the Year for 2000 • Helped win three spots for U.S. men at 2000 Games in Sydney when he placed seventh at the ITU World Championships in Perth, Australia, a race he hadn't been planning to do

Qualified for the 2012 Olympic Games: By placing fifth at the ITU World Triathlon San Diego on May 12, 2012.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Four-time U.S. Olympic Team Member (2012, 2008, 2004, 2000)
- Seven-time USA Triathlon Elite National Champion (2011, 2006, 2005, 2003, 2001, 1999, 1998)
- Placed seventh at the 2008 Olympic Games
- Was ninth at the 2004 Olympic Games and 17th in 2000
- Ranked No. 1 in the 2005 ITU world rankings
- 2005 USOC SportsMan of the Year
- 2003 Pan Am Games Gold Medalist
- 1999 Pan Am Games Silver Medalist



PAUL PHILLIPS/COMPETITIVE IMAGE



LARRY ROSA/ITU



PAUL PHILLIPS/COMPETITIVE IMAGE

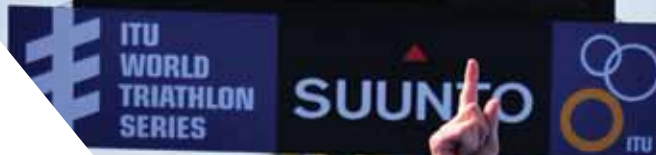


JOHN HORN/ITU

- Once the U.S. earned three country spots, Kemper earned one of them by virtue of his 11th-place finish at the ITU World Cup in Sydney
- Earned a silver medal at the 1999 Pan American Games.

Amateur Triathlon Career: In 1997, won the USA Triathlon Amateur National Championship at the Columbia (Md.) Triathlon • Won the Goodings Sprint Triathlon in Clermont, Fla. • In 1996, was the first U.S. amateur and sixth junior at the ITU World Championship in Cleveland, Ohio • Named USA Triathlon Junior Athlete of the Year and All-American by Inside Triathlon • Was the first junior and third overall at the Boulder Peak Triathlon, defeating 1997 world champion Chris McCormack who finished fourth • Was the first junior and second overall at the Monument Park Sprint Triathlon in Colorado Springs, Colo. • Member of the 1996 USA Triathlon Junior National Team • In 1993, won the junior division of the USA Triathlon National Sprint Championship in Miami, Fla. • Was the fourth junior at the USA Triathlon Amateur National Championship at Leon's QEM Triathlon in Hammond, Ind. • Was the first junior and fourth overall at the Wendy's Triathlon in Columbus, Ohio • In 1992, won the junior division at the USA Triathlon National Amateur Championship in Cleveland • From 1986-90, won five consecutive IronKids Triathlon National Championship titles from the ages of 10-14.

Athletic Background: Began swimming competitively at age 6 • Swam for Parnell Baracudas Club team in Orlando, Fla. • Was introduced to triathlon at age 10 by friends on his swim team • Ran cross country and track in college to improve his running in triathlons • Before college, running was his weakest discipline • Took 1994-95 off from triathlon to concentrate on his running • Decided to return to the sport in 1996 because it was his last chance to race as a junior at a World Championship (Cleveland, Ohio) • Four-year letterwinner in cross country and track at Wake Forest University • As a senior, was second in the 10,000m at the 1998 ACC Outdoor Track Championship (30:46) and ninth as a junior in 1997 • His 10k personal best is 30:17 • Was eighth at the 1998 ACC Indoor Track Championship • Was the 1996 Florida Cycling Time-Trial Amateur Champion.



Getting to Know

Hunter Kemper

- Ranks as the only American to qualify for all four Olympic triathlons
- Father of three sons — Davis, Hudson and Case
- Proudest moment in triathlon: "Finishing the 2005 season ranked No. 1 in the world and being named USOC SportsMan of the Year"
- Pre-race superstitions: "I usually don't train at all two days before the race and I eat pizza the night before the race."
- Favorite all-time Olympic moment: "Watching the Dream Team win the gold medal in the 1992 Barcelona Games. Amazing!!!"
- Favorite professional sports teams are the Orlando Magic, Colorado Rockies and Denver Broncos

Personal: Hunter Craig Kemper was born May 4, 1976, in Charlotte, N.C. • Moved to Longwood (Orlando), Fla., when he was one • Parents, Gretchen and Tom, live in Longwood, Fla. • Older sister Leigh is a kindergarten teacher in Orlando • On June 14, 2003, Kemper married Val Sterk, a former All-American volleyball player at Michigan State University and a former member of the U.S. national volleyball team • The two met while training at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs • Has three sons — Davis, Hudson and Case • Kemper was featured in the Dec. 11, 1989, issue of Sports Illustrated's "Faces In The Crowd" for then being the only 13-year-old

to win the Senior Division (11-14) of the IronKids Triathlon National Championship • Earned a B.A. in business from Wake Forest in May 1998 • Named to the Dean's List every semester during college • Received Wake Forest Athletic Academic Excellence Award each of his four years • Named to the ACC Academic Honor Roll, Golden Key National Honor Society, Omicron Delta Kappa (honorary leadership fraternity) • Became the first professional triathlete to be featured on the front of the Wheaties cereal box in 2007.





TICKET PUNCHED

London awaits your competitive fire, Laura Bennett.
Good luck to you and your fellow Olympians.
We're with you all the way.



photo: Michelle Jones

2012 USA Triathlon Olympic Games Team Staff

Andy Schmitz (Philadelphia, Pa.) Women's Coach/Team Leader

USA Triathlon High Performance General Manager Andy Schmitz will serve as the women's coach and team leader for the 2012 U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team.



A veteran of many international multisport events, Schmitz has directed USA Triathlon's high performance department for the last two years. During that time frame, he has served as the U.S. team leader and coach at most ITU World Triathlon Series events.

Schmitz was a member of the U.S. coaching staff for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games and served as the team leader and head coach for the 2010 and 2011 ITU World Championship Series Grand Final, as well as the 2011 Pan American Games, which saw the U.S. capture a gold and silver medal.

In his role as High Performance General Manager at USA Triathlon, Schmitz directs the operations and administrative side of the High Performance staff. Schmitz guides strategic planning, including race-related resourcing and staffing, and develops and manages the department's annual budget. He directs USA Triathlon's talent identification and athlete development programs, serves in an advisory capacity to the Elite Triathlon Academy and manages relationships with the U.S. Olympic Committee, the ITU and the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency.

Prior to joining the USA Triathlon staff as Sport Performance Manager in 2005, Schmitz was an assistant cross country and track coach at Ohio Wesleyan University. He holds a master's degree in sport & exercise studies from Ohio State University and a bachelor's from Baldwin Wallace College in business administration and sport management. He was a three-sport athlete and was named an Academic All-American in cross country at Baldwin Wallace.

Additionally, Schmitz served as the head coach for the University of California Triathlon Club from 2007-09, leading the squad team to the combined team championship in 2008 and runner-up finishes in 2007 and 2009 at the USA Triathlon Collegiate National Championship.



2012 USA Triathlon Olympic Games Team Staff



Jonathan Hall
(Colorado Springs, Colo.)
Men's Coach/Team Manager

Named USA Triathlon Performance Leader in February 2012, Jonathan Hall will serve as the men's coach and team manager for the 2012 U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team.

Since joining the USA Triathlon staff, Hall has helped guide U.S. athletes to a pair of ITU World Cup victories and an ITU World Triathlon

Series podium finish in 2012.

Hall joined USA Triathlon from the Victorian Institute of Sport in Melbourne, Australia, where he served as the triathlon head coach. He previously worked as an assistant coach and specialist coach with Triathlon Australia's national program, mentoring athletes to a number of world championship titles and an Olympic Games appearance.

Hall's duties at USA Triathlon include managing the relationships among the High Performance staff and elite athletes' individual coaches, developing team camps and training modules and implementing race-day strategy. Additionally, Hall directs the resident athlete program at the Colorado Springs Olympic Training Center and leads USA Triathlon's coaching excellence program.

Hall's expertise is focused on all areas of athlete and coach development — both systematic and strategic — in pursuit of podium finishes at world championship events and the Olympic Games. He possesses a wealth of experience mentoring coaches and has led extensive triathlon programs in Australia and Europe.

After earning Level I and Level II coaching certification from Cycling Australia in the 1990s, Hall worked his way through Levels I, II and III coaching certification from Triathlon Australia upon retiring as a competitive athlete.

As an athlete, Hall was a member of the Cycling Australia National Team before winning more than 40 duathlon events, including the 1997 ITU Duathlon World Championships title. As a cyclist, he represented Australia at a pair of UCI Road Cycling World Championships.



Dr. Alex Keith (West Palm Beach, Fla.)
• **Chiropractor**

Dr. Alexander D. Keith, DC, DACBSP, CCEP is a member of the team staff for his second Olympic Games. He graduated from Life University in 1991 and has been practicing as a chiropractor Lake Worth, Fla., for the past 21 years. He is certified in multiple soft tissue, fascial mobilization and taping techniques. For the past 12 years, Keith has worked with USA Triathlon as a sports chiropractic physician. Keith was the chiropractor for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.



Kim Kirkland (Colorado Springs, Colo.)
• **Massage Therapist**

Colorado Springs-based massage therapist Kim Kirkland is a member of the U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team staff for the first time in 2012. She has traveled internationally with USA Triathlon to a number of events and worked with the squad most recently at the 2012 ITU World Triathlon San Diego.



Joe Santos (Davis, Calif.)
• **Bicycle Mechanic**

Owner of Davis (Calif.) Wheelworks since 2005, Joe Santos is making his first appearance on the U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team staff. He has served as the primary USA Triathlon National Team mechanic and fit specialist over the past four years. He worked with the team at the 2010 and 2011 ITU Grand Finals and the 2011 Pan American Games. He is a graduate of Santa Clara University and UC Davis.



John Martin (Colorado Springs, Colo.)
• **Press Attache**

John Martin is in his third year as the Communications & Media Relations Manager with USA Triathlon. He has served as the organization's press officer at a number of major international events, including the 2011 Pan American Games and the 2010 and 2011 ITU World Triathlon Series Grand Finals. The University of North Carolina graduate worked for six years in the UNC Athletic Communications department before joining USA Triathlon.



Chuck Menke (Colorado Springs, Colo.)
• **Press Attache**

Chuck Menke joined USA Triathlon as Director of Marketing & Communications in 2010, and brings more than 16 years of high-level experience in the sports industry, including the U.S. Olympic Movement, the National Hockey League and NCAA Division I athletics. Menke spent three years as a senior athletics administrator at Quinnipiac University after serving as Director of Broadcasting & Communications with the St. Louis Blues from 2004-06. At USA Hockey from 1995-2004, he served as Director of Media & Public Relations and attended the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City. Menke graduated from the University of Missouri Journalism School and has contributed to ESPN and USA Today.



An emotional Laura Bennett raced to a spot on her second straight U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team with a third-place finish at the ITU World Triathlon San Diego on May 11, 2012. She finished fourth at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.




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