



**USAVolleyball**<sup>®</sup>

## MEDIA GUIDE



## MEN'S INDOOR



**USA**Volleyball.



## U.S. Men's Team Fast Facts

**Headquarters:** The American Sports Centers in Anaheim, Calif.

**Address** 1500 Anaheim Blvd., Suite. 200, Anaheim, CA 92805

**Phone:** (714) 917-3535

**Fax:** (714) 917-3536

**Web site:** USAVolleyball.org

**Head Coach:** John Speraw

**World Ranking:** Fifth

**2016 Record:** 11-4

**2015 Record:** 23-7

**2014 Record:** 26-7

**2013 Record:** 10-9

**Media Inquiries:** B.J. Hoepfner Evans

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### USA Volleyball Fast Facts

**CEO:** Doug Beal

#### National Office:

4065 Sinton Road, Suite 200

Colorado Springs, CO 80907

(719) 228-6800

**International Federation:** The FIVB (Federation Internationale de Volleyball — fivb.org)

**Regional Confederation:** NORCECA (North and Central America and Caribbean — norceca.net)



Founded in 1928, USA Volleyball is a Colorado incorporated non-profit organization recognized by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and the Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) as the National Governing Body for the sport of Volleyball in the United States. USA Volleyball is responsible for both the Olympic disciplines of indoor volleyball, beach volleyball and sitting volleyball.

USA Volleyball has 350,000 registered members, 12,000 teams and 5,300 clubs nationwide. With an annual budget in excess of \$25 million dollars, USA Volleyball supports the USA men's and women's senior national team programs, youth and junior national teams, national championship events, coaching education and certification programs, grassroots development, and programs for the disabled and Paralympic Teams.

USA Volleyball has a rich tradition of success as evidenced by winning an Olympic medal in every Olympic Games since 1984 and capturing numerous World Cup, World Championship and Continental Championship titles. USA Volleyball is committed to and works toward opportunity for all to participate. It is an advocate for all Americans endeavoring to assure universal access to opportunities at all levels of the game. For more information please visit [www.usavolleyball.org](http://www.usavolleyball.org).

### 2016 Results (includes all senior level men's teams)

#### USAV Cup in Southern California

5-6: Loss v Japan, 3-1  
5-11: Win v Japan, 3-0

#### U.S. Men vs. Cuba in Havana

6-4: Win v Cuba, 3-1  
6-6: Win v Cuba, 3-1

#### FIVB World League

6-16: Win v Argentina, 3-1  
6-17: Win v Iran, 3-1  
6-18: Loss v Brazil, 3-1  
6-24: Win v Belgium, 3-2  
6-25: Win v Australia, 3-0  
6-26: Win v Italy, 3-0  
7-1: Win v Bulgaria, 3-1  
7-2: Win v Australia, 3-0  
7-3: Win v Russia, 3-0  
7-14: Loss v Italy, 3-1  
7-15: Loss v Brazil, 3-2

### 2015 Results (includes all senior level men's teams)

#### NORCECA Champions Cup in Detroit (World Cup Qualifier)

5-21: Win v Mexico, 3-0  
5-22: Win v Cuba, 3-1  
5-23: Loss v Canada, 3-2

#### FIVB World League

5-30: Win v Iran, 3-1  
5-31: Win v Iran, 3-1  
6-5: Win v Russia, 3-1  
6-6: Win v Russia, 3-0  
6-12: Win v Poland, 3-2  
6-13: Win v Poland, 3-1  
6-19: Loss v Iran, 3-0  
6-21: Loss v Iran, 3-0  
6-26: Win v Russia, 3-0  
6-27: Win v Russia, 3-1  
7-3: Loss v Poland, 3-2  
7-4: Win v Poland, 3-1

#### Final Round

7-16: Loss v Brazil, 3-1  
7-17: Win v France, 3-1  
7-18: Loss v Serbia, 3-2  
7-19: Win v Poland, 3-0 (3rd place)

#### USAV Cup in Southern California

8-23: Loss v Brazil, 3-2  
8-25: Loss v Brazil, 3-0  
8-26: Win v Brazil, 3-2  
8-29: Loss v Brazil, 3-1



## U.S. Men's Team Fast Facts

### FIVB Rankings as of Aug. 1, 2016

1. Brazil 305
2. Poland 268
3. Russia 266
4. Italy 246
5. USA 238
6. Argentina 168
7. Germany 138
8. Bulgaria 132
9. Serbia 125
10. Iran 116
11. France 115
12. Canada 105
13. Australia 92
14. Japan 66
15. Finland 63
16. Belgium 60
17. Cuba 55
18. Tunisia 53
19. China 50
20. Egypt 47
21. Venezuela 43
22. Republic of Korea 42
23. Netherlands 37
24. Turkey 36
25. Portugal 35
26. Mexico 34
27. Czech Republic 33
28. Slovakia 29
29. Puerto Rico 28
29. Slovenia 28

### 2015 Results Continued

#### FIVB World Cup (Olympic Qualifier)

- 9-8: W v Australia, 3-0
- 9-9: W v Japan, 3-1
- 9-10: W v Canada, 3-0
- 9-12: W v Italy, 3-0
- 9-13: W v Egypt, 3-0
- 9-16: W v Venezuela, 3-0
- 9-17: W v Iran, 3-1
- 9-18: W v Tunisia, 3-0
- 9-21: L v Poland, 3-1
- 9-22: W v Russia, 3-0
- 9-23: W v Argentina, 3-1 (1st place)

### Story ideas for the U.S. Men's National Team

1. U.S. Head Coach John Speraw does double duty as the head coach for Team USA and head coach for the men's volleyball program at UCLA. After two Olympic cycles as an assistant coach, Speraw came in as a head coach and immediately set his sights on getting younger players in the mix. He brought in Micah Christenson as the team's starting setter when he still had two years of eligibility at USC. He also brought in Aaron Russell and Taylor Sander immediately following their collegiate careers and Thomas Jaeschke before he had finished his career at Loyola.

2. Matt Anderson (West Seneca, N.Y.) is a four-time USA Volleyball Male Indoor Player of the Year and MVP of the 2015 World Cup, in which the U.S. won and qualified for the 2016 Olympic Games. He is considered one of the most versatile players in the world, excelling at both the outside hitter and opposite positions. In 2014, Anderson was playing for a Russia club team when he took a break from the sport to deal with homesickness and renew his love for the game. He returned in 2015 and was named MVP as the U.S. won the FIVB World Cup and qualified for the 2016 Olympic Games.



3. Outside hitter Reid Priddy (Richmond, Va.) came back from a torn ACL at the beginning of the 2014 season to make his fourth Olympic Team in 2016. The road to recovery was not easy, as he had a ligament removed in his good knee to replace the one in his injured knee. Priddy played college volleyball at Loyola Marymount, which disbanded its men's volleyball program the year after he graduated. The loss of Division I college programs is a problem faced by many Olympic men's sports in the United States.

4. Libero Erik Shoji (Honolulu, Hawaii) and his brother, setter Kawika Shoji (Honolulu, Hawaii), are the first brothers to play on the same U.S. Olympic Men's Volleyball Team. They are the sons of Dave Shoji, the winningest coach in women's volleyball at the University of Hawaii. The only other brothers to play on Olympic volleyball teams were Ernie Suwara (1964) and Rudy Suwara (1968).

5. Micah Christenson (Honolulu, Hawaii) became the U.S. men's starting setter while he was still playing in college at the University of Southern California; part of Coach John Speraw's youth movement. Christenson was named Best Setter of the 2015 World Cup, and played this winter with one of Italy's top professional teams. His middle name is Makanamaikjalani, which means "Gift from Heaven." Micah's parents gave him that name because his mother had to have surgery while pregnant with Micah and it was not known if he would survive.

6. Outside hitter Thomas Jaeschke (Wheaton, Ill.) led Loyola of Chicago to the NCAA men's volleyball championship in 2014 and 2015. In 2015, he was also named the AVCA Player of the Year. Jaeschke chose to postpone his senior season of volleyball and instead played for a top professional team in Poland during the winter of 2015-16 in hopes of improving his skills and making the 2016 Olympic Team.

7. Middle blocker David Smith was born with almost total hearing loss and wears aids and reads lips. When U.S. Head Coach John Speraw was Smith's head coach at UC Irvine, he had the "David Smith Rule." Because Smith cannot necessarily hear when another player calls for the ball, "if David wants the ball, David gets it."



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## 2016 U.S. Olympic Men's Volleyball Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Age	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	College
1	Matt Anderson	Opp	29	6-9	195	West Seneca, N.Y.	Penn State
2	Aaron Russell	OH	23	6-9	225	Ellicott City, Md.	Penn State
3	Taylor Sander	OH	24	6-4	180	Huntington Beach, Calif.	BYU
4	C David Lee	MB	34	6-8	231	Alpine, Calif.	Long Beach State
7	Kawika Shoji	S	28	6-3	194	Honolulu, Hawaii	Stanford
8	Reid Priddy	OH	38	6-4	196	Richmond, Va.	Loyola Marymount
9	Murphy Troy	Opp	27	6-8	235	St. Louis, Mo.	USC
10	Thomas Jaeschke	OH	22	6-6	185	Wheaton, Ill.	Loyola of Chicago
11	Micah Christenson	S	23	6-6	190	Honolulu, Hawaii	USC
17	Max Holt	MB	27	6-10	200	Cincinnati, Ohio	Penn State
20	David Smith	MB	31	6-7	200	Saugus, Calif.	UC Irvine
22	Erik Shoji	L	27	6-0	160	Honolulu, Hawaii	Stanford

### Alternates

5	James Shaw	S	22	6-8	215	Woodside, Calif.	Stanford
6	Paul Lotman	OH	30	6-7	205	Lakewood, Calif.	Long Beach State
12	Russell Holmes	MB	34	6-8	210	Fountain Valley, Calif.	BYU
13	Dan McDonnell	MB	27	6-7	198	Glendale, Ariz.	UC Irvine
15	Carson Clark	Opp	27	6-6	200	Santa Barbara, Calif.	UC Irvine
18	Garrett Muagututia	OH	28	6-5	225	Oceanside, Calif.	UCLA
19	Jonah Seif	S	21	6-6	215	Thousand Oaks, Calif.	UC Santa Barbara
21	Dustin Watten	L	29	6-0	180	Long Beach, Calif.	Long Beach State

**Head Coach:** John Speraw (Los Angeles, Calif.)

**Team Manager:** Erik Sullivan (Encinitas, Calif.)

**Assistant Coach:** Matt Fuerbringer (Costa Mesa, Calif.)

**Assistant Coach:** Mike Wall (Santa Barbara, Calif.)

**Assistant Coach/Sport Psychologist:** Andrea Becker (Martinez, Calif.)

**Technical Coordinator:** Nate Ngo (San Francisco, Calif.)

**Athletic Trainer:** Aaron Brock (Storm Lake, Iowa)

**Assistant Technical Coordinator:** David Dantes (San Francisco, Calif.)

**Scout Coach:** Anton Brams (Berlin, Germany)

**Scout Coach:** Charlie Sullivan (Springfield, Mass.)

## Pronunciation Guide

7 ka-VEE-ka SHOW-jee

8 reed PRID-dee

10 Thomas JAY-shkee

11 MY-ka CHRIS-chen-son

17 Max HOLT (rhymes with bolt and colt)

18 GARE-ett mu-ONG-goo-too-TEE-ah

19 JOAN-nah SAFE

22 Erik SHOW-jee

John sper-AW (Speraw rhymes with hurrah)

Matt FUR-bring-er

Nate N-go

David DAN-tez



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## 2016 Olympic Men's Volleyball Schedule

### 2016 Olympic Games Men's Indoor Volleyball Pools

Pool A: Brazil, Canada, France, Italy, Mexico, USA

Pool B: Argentina, Cuba, Egypt, Iran, Poland, Russia

### 2016 Olympic Games Men's Indoor Volleyball Pool Schedule

All times local

Aug. 7

Italy v France, 9:30 a.m.

Brazil v Mexico, 11:35 a.m.

Poland v Egypt, 3 p.m.

**USA vs. Canada, 5:05 p.m. (4:05 p.m. ET)**

Russia vs. Cuba, 8:30 p.m.

Argentina v Italy, 10:35 p.m.

Aug. 9

Russia v Argentina, 9:30 a.m.

France v Mexico, 11:35 a.m.

**Italy v USA, 3 p.m. (2 p.m. ET)**

Poland v Iran, 5:05 p.m.

Cuba v Egypt, 8:30 p.m.

Brazil v Canada, 10:35 p.m.

Aug. 11

Iran v Cuba, 9:30 a.m.

Russia v Egypt, 11:35 a.m.

Poland v Argentina, 3 p.m.

Canada v France, 5:05 p.m.

Italy v Mexico, 8:30 p.m.

**Brazil vs. USA, 10:35 p.m. (9:35 p.m. ET)**

Aug. 13

Iran v Egypt, 9:30 a.m.

Argentina vs. Cuba, 11:35 a.m.

Poland v Russia, 3 p.m.

**USA v France, 5:05 p.m. (4:05 p.m. ET)**

Canada v Mexico, 8:30 p.m.

Brazil vs. Italy, 10:35 p.m.

Aug. 15

Argentina v Egypt, 9:30 a.m.

**USA v Mexico, 11:35 a.m. (10:35 a.m. ET)**

Russia v Iran, 3 p.m.

Poland v Cuba, 5:05 p.m.

Italy v Canada, 8:30 p.m.

Brazil vs. France, 10:35 p.m.

Aug. 17

10 a.m. Quarterfinal

2 p.m. Quarterfinal

6 p.m. Quarterfinal

10:15 p.m. Quarterfinal

Aug. 19

1 p.m. Semifinal

10:15 p.m. Semifinal

Aug. 21

9:30 a.m. Bronze medal

1:15 p.m. Gold medal





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## 2016 Olympic Preview

The United States has an Olympic legacy of success in men's volleyball. The U.S. Men won the first Olympic medal for USA Volleyball when they took gold in Los Angeles in 1984 and repeated as champions in 1988 in Seoul. They took bronze in 1992 in Barcelona and returned to the top spot on the podium in 2008 in Beijing. The team finished fifth in 2012 in London.

In 2013, California native John Speraw took over as head coach, while still serving as the head men's volleyball coach for UCLA, and began making changes. While several London Olympians – outside hitters Matt Anderson and Reid Priddy along with middle blockers David Lee and David Smith – stayed with the team, Speraw also recruited younger players into the gym. Micah Christenson took over as the team's starting setter in 2013 when he still had two more years to go at the University of Southern California.

When Priddy, a three-time Olympian and 2008 gold medalist, was injured at the start of the 2014 World League, Taylor Sander, who had only recently finished his career at BYU, helped lead the team to the World League title and was named MVP. In 2015, outside hitter Aaron Russell joined the starting rotation less than a week after finishing at Penn State. Also in 2015, Thomas Jaeschke joined the team shortly after being named the AVCA Player of the Year with Loyola of Chicago. Jaeschke gave up his senior season with Loyola to play overseas in Poland and work to make the Olympic Team.

Priddy returned to the team in 2016 and quickly showed that he was back to 100 percent. He is one of four returning Olympians on the team along with Anderson (2012), Lee ('08, '12) and Smith ('12).

As the veterans and younger players bought into Speraw's systems and methods, the team began to find success. Besides winning the 2014 World League, it finished third at the 2015 World League and went on to surprise the volleyball world by winning the 2015 FIVB World Cup and qualifying for the Olympic Games. Anderson, who moved from outside hitter to opposite in 2013, was named MVP, Christenson was named best setter and Erik Shoji, another new player to the team, earned best libero honors.



The victory puts the U.S. Men, ranked fifth in the world, among the favorites at the 2016 Olympic Games, but they should expect strong challenges from several other countries.

The top challenge will come from Brazil itself, which is ranked No. 1 in the world and will no doubt want to give its home crowd a gold medal in its home arena and in one of its favorite sports. Other teams who have performed well over the last quadrennial include Poland (2014 World Champion), Russia (2012 Olympic champion), France (2015 World League champion) and Italy (2015 World Cup runner-up). Other teams that have given the U.S. problems in the past are Argentina, Canada and Iran.



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## 2016 U.S. Men's Player/Staff Bios





Personal: Mother is Nancy Anderson. Father, Michael Anderson, died in January 2010... Has three older sisters, Jennifer, Joelle and Amy and one older brother Joshua... Has a tattoo on his wrist in honor of his nephew Tristin, who is autistic. Hosts an annual volleyball tournament to benefit autism awareness... Anderson is single... Interested in professional sports, cars and fashion

**Career Highlights**

- Named MVP of the 2015 FIVB World Cup as the U.S. Men won the tournament and qualified for the 2016 Olympic Games
- Four-time USAV Male Indoor Player of the Year (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015)
- Was 2008 AVCA Co-Player of the Year with Paul Lotman of Long Beach State after leading Penn State to the NCAA Men’s Division I Championship and being named the tournament’s Most Outstanding Player
- Left college following his junior year to play professionally with the Hyundai Capital Skywalkers in Korea

**Did you know?**

- At 25, was the youngest player on the 2012 U.S. Men’s Olympic Volleyball Team
- Has been the U.S. Men’s leading scorer every season since 2011
- Named Best Outside Hitter at the 2015 NORCECA Champions Cup
- Was moved from left-side outside hitter to opposite (right side) in 2013 and has started there the majority of the time ever since
- Named MVP of the 2013 NORCECA Continental Championship and also named to All-Star Team
- Had a serious case of pneumonia during the 2009 summer season that left him hospitalized for 14 days
- Has played for Russia’s Zenit Kazan each winter since 2012
- Has played professionally in Russia, Italy and Korea
- Left college following his junior year to play professionally with the Hyundai Capital Skywalkers in Korea
- Was 2008 AVCA Co-Player of the Year with Paul Lotman of Long Beach State after leading Penn State to the NCAA Men’s Division I Championship and being named the tournament’s Most Outstanding Player
- 2007 Men’s Junior National Team (finished seventh at the FIVB Men’s Junior World Championship in Rabat, Morocco)
- 2006 Men’s Junior National Team (finished second at the NORCECA Men’s Junior Continental Championship)
- 2005 U.S. Boys Youth National Team (Four Nation Tournament in Cabo Frio, Brazil)

**The Big Blurb**

“So here’s a guy who is one of the best outside hitters in the world and we’re asking him to move away from his comfort zone (from outside hitter to opposite). His willingness to embrace that really speaks to his character and commitment to the team. If your best player is willing to sacrifice his own self-interest for the betterment of the team, that speaks wonderfully to the lessons he’s teaching to the younger players.” – U.S. Men’s Head Coach John Speraw in The Buffalo News

**The Quote**

“I still think I have a lot to improve on, personally. But I’m definitely not the young guy on the team anymore. We have guys who are still in college playing with us. But I’m embracing the role. I like it. I’m in the middle, so I can relate to a lot of the veterans on the team, and I can relate to the young guys. So I feel I can bridge the gap a little bit and be a central piece of that.” – Matt Anderson in The Buffalo News





**Personal:** Full name is Micah Makanamaikalani Christenson. Makanamaikjalani means “Gift from Heaven.” Micah’s parents gave him that name because his mother had to have surgery while pregnant with Micah and it was not known if he would survive... Father Robert played basketball at the University of Hawaii-Hilo... Mother Charlene played volleyball at Hilo, where she won three national championships and was named a two-time All-American

**Career Highlights**

- Named Best Setter at the 2015 FIVB World Cup as the U.S. Men won and qualified for the 2016 Olympic Games
- Named Best Server and Best Setter in his debut with the U.S. Men’s National Team at the 2013 NORCECA Continental Championship. He was also named to the all-star team
- In 2009, became the youngest setter ever to play for the United States in a world championship when he played with the U.S. Boys’ Youth Team at age 16

**Did you know?**

- Was the starting setter for the U.S. Men as they won the 2014 FIVB World League and finished third in 2015
- Named Best Setter and Best Blocker at the 2015 NORCECA Champions Cup
- Named Best Setter and served as team captain as the 2012 U.S. Men’s Junior Team won the NORCECA Men’s Junior Continental Championship and qualified for 2013 FIVB U21 World Championship
- Four-year starter at USC. Three-year co-captain. Three-time AVCA All American (2012, 2014, 2015). Two-time winner of the Off The Block Lloy Ball Award (2014, 2015) presented to the nation’s top men’s collegiate setter
- Team captain of the U.S. Men’s Junior National Team that finished fourth at the 2011 FIVB Men’s Junior World Championship in Brazil.
- Was named AVCA and MPSF Newcomer of the Year after his freshman season at USC. Also an AVCA Second Team All-American
- 2011 Volleyball Magazine All-American first team, Volleyball Magazine Fab 50 list and Honolulu Star-Advertiser All-State Player of the Year as a senior at Kamehameha-Kapalama High in Honolulu
- Played volleyball and basketball at Kamehameha High School. Led his teams to three state championship titles (basketball in 2009 and 2011, and volleyball in 2011) and played in a total of six state championship games
- Began playing club volleyball in 2005 with Asics Quicksilver

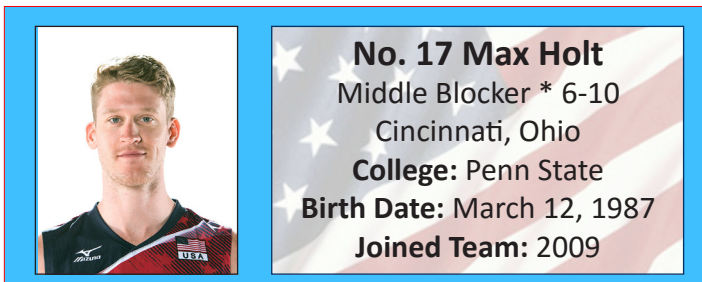
**The Big Blurb**

“Micah has a bright future with the U.S. team. He plays with poise and resolve. He listens well and is easily coached.” – Lloy Ball, four-time Olympic setter with the U.S. Men’s Team and 2008 gold medalist

**The Quote**

“I just tried to do my job and work as hard as I could. I don’t like just coming in and expecting any type of respect from anybody. I think you have to earn it. I tried to keep my head down and work as hard as I could and do the best that I could to earn my teammates’ trust and support.” – Micah Christenson on starting with the Men’s National Team at a young age





### Career Highlights

- Helped the U.S. Men win the 2015 FIVB World Cup and qualify for the 2016 Olympic Games
- Named Best Middle Blocker as the U.S. Men finished third at the 2015 FIVB World League
- Helped the U.S. Men win the 2014 FIVB World League
- Won the 2008 NCAA National Championship with Penn State

### Did you know?


- Finished the 2014 season as the U.S. Men's leading blocker and server and was their third-leading scorer (268 points on 160 kills, 67 blocks, 41 aces in 100 sets).
- Finished the 2013 season as the U.S. Men's second-leading scorer (177 points; 3.05 points per set) and leading blocker (54 blocks; .93 blocks per set)
- Named No. 1 blocker on the 2014 all-star team at the FIVB Grand Champions Cup after finishing with 17 blocks (.85 blocks per set)
- Named USAV's 2013 Male Indoor Most Improved Player
- Was an alternate on the 2012 U.S. Olympic men's volleyball team
- Played on the 2009 Pan American Cup team that won the gold medal in Chiapas, Mexico
- Two time AVCA first team all-American at Penn State
- 2007 Men's Junior National Team (finished seventh at the FIVB Men's Junior World Championship in Rabat, Morocco)
- 2006 Men's Junior National Team (finished second at the NORCECA Men's Junior Continental Championship)
- Has played overseas in Italy and Russia

**Personal:** Parents are Kim and Angie Holt... Has two older siblings, Megan and Nick, and a younger brother, Sam, who also plays professional volleyball... Max names Ben Harper as favorite musical entertainer, history as favorite school subject, the Cincinnati Bengals as favorite pro sports team and Chad Johnson as favorite athlete... Enjoys playing guitar and singing

### The Quote

"Barely missing out on London really fueled my fire. My dream was to go to the Olympics, but you don't know what to expect, really. Having that four years of experience definitely helped." - Max Holt in the Cincinnati Enquirer



	<p><b>No. 10 Thomas Jaeschke</b>          Outside Hitter * 6-6          Wheaton, Illinois  <b>College:</b> Loyola of Chicago  <b>Birth Date:</b> September 4, 1993  <b>Joined Team:</b> 2008</p>
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**Career Highlights**

- Helped Loyola win the 2014 and 2015 NCAA Men's DI-II National Championships
- 2015 AVCA Player of the Year
- Left Loyola after his junior year to play for Asseco Resovia, one of the leading teams in Poland's professional league

**Did you know?**

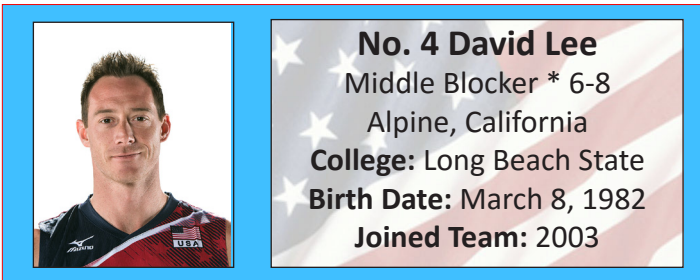
- Made his national team debut at the 2015 NORCECA Champions Cup in Detroit and also played on the 2015 FIVB World League team that won the bronze medal
- 2014 and 2015 MIVA Player of the Year and AVCA First Team All-American
- 2013, 2014 MIVA All-Conference First Team and Academic All-Conference
- Led Wheaton Warrenville South High School to the 2012 national championship, wrapping up an undefeated season (42-0)
- 2012 Chicago (high school) Area Player of the Year and Chicago Sun-Times Player of the Year
- Played for Sports Performance B18 Mizuno club team, earning a spot on the 2012 USAV Boys' Junior National Championship All-Tournament Team
- Member of the 2013 Men's Junior National Team that competed at the FIVB World Championship

**Personal:** Son of John and Danielle Jaeschke. Thomas has a twin sister named Jaime and a brother named Joseph (1990)...Played for his high school golf team and still has a 5 handicap

**The Quote**

"There is still a lot to be determined. I guess I want to be remembered as a player my teammates could always count on and someone who left it all on the floor." - Thomas Jaeschke





**The Big Blurb**

“David has a good feel for blocking and he’s very quick with his feet and hands. He’s very efficient as a blocker. He’s also a big, strong lad and can hit a heavy ball as well.” Former U.S. Men’s Head Coach Hugh McCutcheon

**The Quote**

“We came here to win the tournament. The stars aligned and we were able to take the gold for the first time in 30 years. I can’t say enough now about how the team played and took it one point at a time. It was a great performance.”  
 - David Lee following the U.S. Men’s 2015 World Cup victory

**Career Highlights**

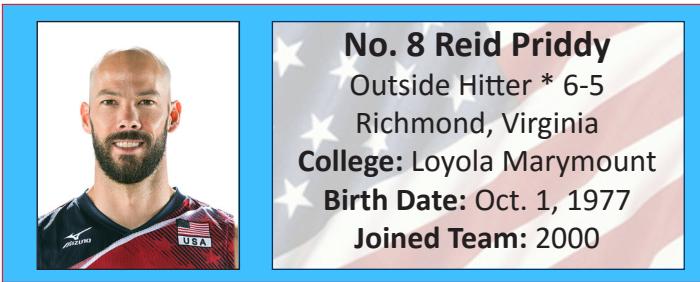
- Two-time Olympian who won a gold medal in 2008 in Beijing
- Served as team captain as the U.S. Men won the 2016 FIVB World Cup and qualified for the 2016 Olympic Games
- Won FIVB World League gold medals in 2008 and 2014 and was named Best Blocker at the 2014 FIVB World League
- Has played for international clubs in Russia, China, Italy, Puerto Rico, Portugal and Indonesia

**Did you know?**

- Won World League silver medal in 2012 and bronze in 2007 and 2015
- In the United States’ 2008 Olympic Games semifinal match against Russia, scored four of the final five points of the match, including two blocks and two kills
- Named Best Blocker at the 2012 NORCECA Men’s Continental Olympic Qualifier with 11 blocks in 14 sets played (.79 blocks per set)
- Led the U.S. team in blocks from 2009-11
- Moved from backup to part-time starter (sharing time with Tom Hoff) in 2007
- Scored 20 points as the U.S. Men captured the bronze medal at the 2003 World University Games with a 3-2 win over France in Daegu, South Korea
- Named first team AVCA All-American in 2004, his senior year at Long Beach State
- Helped Long Beach State to the 2004 NCAA championship match, where the team lost to BYU in the longest championship match in NCAA men’s volleyball history
- Played high school volleyball at Granite Hills High School in El Cajon. Played club volleyball for Seaside Volleyball Club

**Personal:** Parents are Mac and Robin Lee. Also has two older brothers named Nathan and Mark...Is the tallest member of his immediate family...Enjoy surfing and scuba diving in his spare time





### Career Highlights

- Helped the U.S. Men win the gold medal at the 2008 Olympic Games and finished fourth among all scorers and second among U.S. scorers with 112 points on 93 kills, 10 blocks and nine aces
- Won a gold medal at the 2008 FIVB World League. Took silver in 2012 and bronze in 2007
- Was named to the all-star team as the U.S. Men won the 2013 NORCECA Championship

### Did you know?

- Suffered an ACL tear during the second pool play match of the 2014 FIVB World League and is working to return to the team in 2016
- Finished the 2012 Olympic Games with 55 points on 37 kills, 10 blocks and eight aces in 18 sets. His eight aces put him sixth among Olympic players
- Named the USAV Male Player of the Year in 2012
- While training for the NORCECA Men's Continental Championship, was elbowed in the face during practice while coming down from a block. The injury and its resulting complications required two surgeries and he was not able to play in the tournament
- Has played professionally in Turkey, Russia, Greece and Austria
- Was the United States' leading scorer in 2007 with 525 points scored in 121 sets for an average of 4.34 points per set
- Was the United States' scoring leader in the 2007 World Cup, World League and NORCECA Continental Championship
- Led the 2006 team in overall scoring in 2006 with 416 and in overall kills with 343
- Made his Olympic debut in Athens, Greece as the U.S. Men finished fourth overall. Priddy finished second on the team and 11th overall in total scoring with 86 points on 72 kills, 11 blocks and three service aces
- One of four USA Men's Volleyball team alternates for the Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia
- Earned American Volleyball Coaches Association first-team All-America honors as a senior at Loyola Marymount University
- Graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a degree in communication studies in 2000
- The first All-American in LMU school history

**Personal:** Full name is William Reid Priddy... Married Lindsay Pierce in March 2007. The couple lives in Southern California and has a son, Caden (2010) and a daughter, Scarlett (2015)... Parents are Ken and Sharon Priddy also has three sisters: Brooke, Kara and Dylan... Parents are Ken and Sharon... Priddy also has three sisters: Brooke, Kara and Dylan... Enjoys wakeboarding, surfing and making videos... Started playing volleyball after his family moved from Richmond to Florida where he tried it in a summer-school PE class... When his family later moved to Phoenix, Ariz., in 1994, he played for Mountain Pointe High School, participating in the first year of varsity volleyball in the state... Helped start an internet radio show called The NET Live devoted to volleyball... Has played beach volleyball professionally

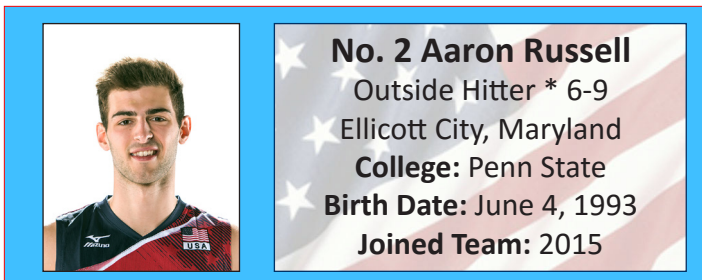
### The Big Blurb

"He had a potential career-ending injury two years ago. It was even more unfortunate because at that point in time, before that injury happened, he was, in my mind, playing some of the best volleyball I've ever seen him play. ... To come back from that in two years and still have the drive, still have the motivation, speaks to his character and his support system." - Matt Anderson on Reid Priddy

### The Quote

"At this point, it's been consuming to try and get back to the top level. That's more the focus, especially now that we're here to this summer. It seems like for the last two years it's been a progression. I needed to do all of these steps to get to here. Now that we're here, it's very exciting that there's no more 'I need to cross this threshold.' I've crossed all the thresholds." - Reid Priddy in an Associated Press story about returning to the national team after his ACL injury.





then moved to outside. They both have the ability adapt to whatever role the team needed of them.” – Penn State Head Coach Mark Pavlik comparing Aaron Russell and Matt Anderson

### The Quote

“It was relieving. And the way we did it too, winning World Cup... that whole summer our main goal was to win so we can accomplish that and also qualify for the Olympics. So after we did that, I mean it was definitely a great moment for us and it was a difficult tournament, too. I think we really discovered how good we are and how good we can be.” - Aaron Russell on qualifying for the Olympic Games

### Career Highlights

- The leading scorer for the U.S. Men in the final three matches of the 2015 FIVB World Cup as the U.S. won and qualified for the 2016 Olympic Games
- Won a gold medal and was the youngest member of the U.S. Men’s Team for the 2014 NORCECA World Championship Qualifier
- Named Best Spiker at the 2014 World Championship Qualifier where he made his national team debut

### Did you know?

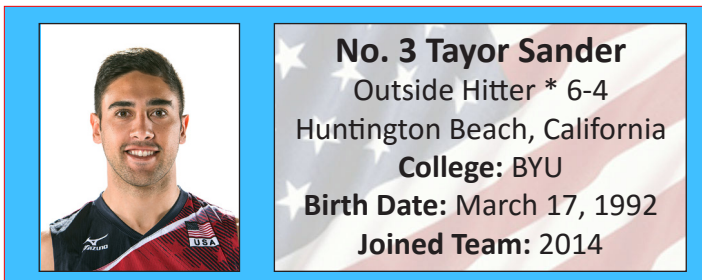
- In 2015, won the inaugural Karch Kiraly Award, presented by Off the Block blog, as the best outside attacker in NCAA DI-II men’s volleyball
- Helped Penn State reach the 2013, 2014 and 2015 NCAA Men’s DI-II National Championship tournaments
- Named 2014 and 2015 AVCA First Team All-American and 2013, ‘14 and ‘15 Uvaldo Acosta Memorial EIVA Player of the Year
- A member of the 2013 Men’s Junior National Team that competed at the FIVB U21 World Championship
- A member of the 2011 Boys’ Youth National Team that won a bronze medal at the U19 Pan American Cup; scored a team-best 45 points
- A member of the 2010 Boys’ Youth National Team that finished second at the NORCECA U19 Championship. Russell was named best blocker
- Was a top soccer player for Centennial High in Ellicott City, Md. The school did not have a volleyball team. He helped the girls’ team train
- Played club volleyball for the Maryland Volleyball Club under Olympic gold medalist Aldis Berzins. Credits Berzins, Ric Lucas and his father for helping him succeed in the sport
- Began playing both beach and indoor volleyball in 2008

**Personal:** Parents are Stewart and Marian Russell... Aaron is the second-oldest of five brothers. The other brothers are Peter (1992), Samuel (1995), Tim (1999) and Paul (2002)... Peter also plays volleyball professionally... Names going to the beach and beach volleyball as his favorite hobbies... His favorite food is chocolate chip cookies.

### The Big Blurb

“There are some similarities. They both move similarly, they follow the same path. Matty played middle in high school,





and plays at BYU

**The Big Blurb**

“He really is enthusiastic and enjoys the game. He’s fun to coach. He fits in really well, and he’s playing with better players so it allows him to use his gifts. Now he gets the ball every time where he needs it. It’s impressive to see what he can do with it under those conditions.” – U.S.Men’s Head Coach John Speraw in a 2014 Press-Enterprise story

**The Quote**

“I think whatever my role is, I’m going to embrace it. That’s exactly how everybody on our team is going about it. We all want to play, but again, we want our team to be successful. However that is, that’s how we’ve got to support each other. I think that’s how we’ve been the last four years.” – Taylor Sander discussing the 2016 Olympic Games in the Salt Lake City Tribune.

**Career Highlights**

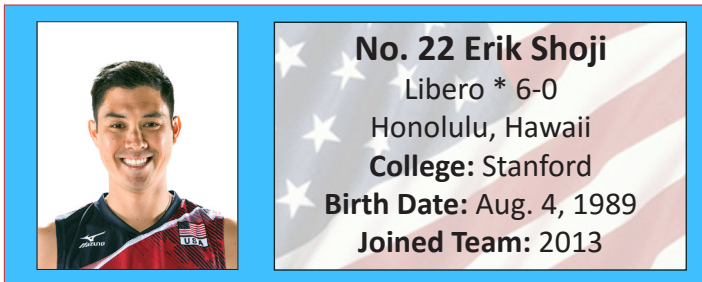
- Most Valuable Player and Best Spiker of the 2014 FIVB World League Final Round as the U.S. Men won the gold medal
- Helped the U.S. Men win the 2015 FIVB World Cup and qualify for the 2016 Olympic Games
- 2014 AVCA Player of the Year
- Four-time AVCA All-American, three-time first team

**Did you know?**

- Named 2014 USAV Men’s Indoor Rookie of the Year
- Made his national team debut at the 2014 World Championship Qualifier and was named Best Server as the U.S. Men won the gold medal
- Became a starter for the U.S. Men in his first year with the team in 2014
- MVP at the 2012 Pan American Cup in the Dominican Republic where he helped U.S. men’s volleyball team win gold
- 2013 and 2014 MPSF Player of the Year for BYU
- 2013 and 2014 MPSF Tournament MVP for BYU
- Four-time All-MPSF First Team for BYU
- Led BYU to back-to-back NCAA tournament appearances (finishing in the finals in 2013 and semifinals in 2014) and four-straight MPSF tournament appearances
- Helped the Cougars win back-to-back MPSF regular-season titles (2013 and 2014) and back-to-back MPSF tournament titles (2013 and 2014)
- Member of the 2011 and 2010 Men’s Junior National Teams
- Member of the 2008 and 2009 Boys’ Youth National Teams
- Plays professionally in Italy
- Played high school volleyball for Norco HS (‘10)
- Two-time Big VIII All-League MVP and Inland Empire All-Tournament team and CIF DIII Player of the Year
- Played club volleyball for Orange Coast VC
- 2006-07 15U Boys’ Junior Nationals All-Tournament team
- Won every junior beach tournament with partner John Caroompas from 14-18 years old



**Personal:** Married Rachel McQuivey, who ran track at BYU, in 2015... Parents are Steve and Kera Sander. Has one brother, Brenden (1995), and one sister, Britney (1989)... Brenden played on the 2014 and 2015 Men’s Junior National Teams



### Career Highlights

- Named Best Libero as the U.S. Men won the FIVB World Cup and qualified for the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro
- Started every set of the 2014 World League Final Round where the U.S. Men won the gold medal
- Became the first four-time first-team All-America in the history of AVCA honors

### Did you know?

- Named Best Receiver at 2015 NORCECA Champions Cup
- Named tournament MVP, Best Libero, Best Digger and Best Receiver at the 2014 NORCECA World Championship Qualifier
- Started all 39 sets of the 2013 FIVB World League and led all players in pool play with 118 digs
- Named the libero on the Pac-12 All-Century Men's Volleyball roster, released in 2016. He is the only current player to make the roster
- Has played professionally in Germany
- Received the Biff Hoffman Award as the school's Outstanding Male Senior, by the Stanford Athletic Board.
- While at Stanford, Erik and brother Kawika became the first brothers ever to earn AVCA all-America first-team honors in the same year
- While playing for Stanford, had a "kick set" featured on ESPN's Plays of the Week
- Set the unofficial national record for digs in a season (2008), with 447 (the NCAA began to keep official records in 2009)
- Competed for the United States at the World University Games in Shenzhen, China
- Member of the Men's Junior National Team that took bronze at the NORCECA Continental Championships in El Salvador and was named Best Passer, Best Defender, and Best Libero of the Tournament
- Member of the Boys' Youth National Team that took silver in the NORCECA Continental Championships in the Dominican Republic
- Graduated from Punahou School in 2008. Won three consecutive state titles with the school before losing in the finals to Iolani in 2008
- Two-time, all-state tennis player at Punahou and won

the 2007 state doubles title

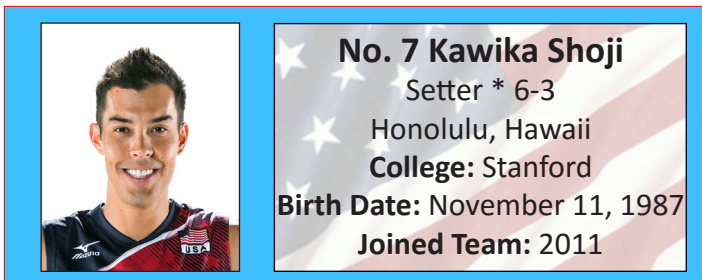
- Member of 17s runner-up Outrigger Canoe Volleyball Club in 2006 and named to all-tournament team

**Personal:** Parents are Dave and Mary Shoji. Dave has been women's volleyball coach at the University of Hawaii for more than 40 years and is the winningest coach in NCAA DI women's volleyball history. Mary played basketball at the University of Hawaii... Older brother Kawika also played volleyball for Stanford and also plays on the U.S. Men's National Team. The brothers also have an older sister named Cobey... Began playing volleyball in 1998 with Outrigger Canoe Club... Favorite book is To Kill a Mockingbird... Favorite food is sushi... Favorite athletes are Marat Safin and Serena Williams.... Majored in human biology at Stanford

### The Quote

"Growing up you never know if you can get this far but it was always my dream. Now that the team has qualified, I need keep working to make the roster. There's always competition and young guys coming up, so you always have to be ready to work hard. You always have to be prepared because there's always someone who wants to come and take your job." - Erik Shoji on volleyverse





**No. 7 Kawika Shoji**  
 Setter \* 6-3  
 Honolulu, Hawaii  
**College:** Stanford  
**Birth Date:** November 11, 1987  
**Joined Team:** 2011

We've been able to recruit talented players around him, but he makes the whole thing work." Stanford Head Coach John Kosty in the SFGate

**The Quote**

"I think we've always had the dream. But I don't know if I could have told you 10 or 15 years ago that we'd be playing together on the national team." Kawika Shoji on playing with his brother Erik

**Career Highlights**

- Helped the U.S. Men win the 2015 FIVB World Cup and qualify for the 2016 Olympic Games
- Helped the U.S. Men win the 2014 FIVB World League title
- Named 2010 AVCA Men's DI-II Player of the Year as he led Stanford to the NCAA National Championship
- Co-Most Outstanding Player along with teammate Brad Lawson at the 2010 NCAA tournament, also on the All-Tournament Team

**Did you know?**

- Helped the U.S. Men win bronze at the 2015 FIVB World League
- Has played professionally in Germany and Turkey
- Served as team captain for the 2011 U.S. Pan American Cup team that won the gold medal in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- Competed with the 2011 U.S. A2 Team that finished second at the Pan American Cup in Quebec
- Played libero for the 2007 Men's Junior National Team that finished seventh at the FIVB World Championship
- Was the starting setter for the 2006 Men's Junior Team that finished second at the NORCECA Continental Championship in Mexico
- Was named Best Setter at the 2004 NORCECA Boys' Youth Championship as the U.S. won gold in Mexico City
- Two-time AVCA First Team All-American at Stanford
- Lettered four years in volleyball and golf and three years in basketball at Iolani School in Honolulu
- Four-time Junior National Championship all-tournament choice with the Outrigger Canoe Volleyball Club



**Personal:** Parents are Dave and Mary Shoji. Father is University of Hawaii women's volleyball coach and has won four national titles in 34 seasons. He also has the most wins in NCAA DI women's volleyball history. Mother played basketball at Hawaii... Married wife Megan in 2014... Has a brother, Erik (1989) and a sister Cobey (1979). Erik plays libero for the U.S. Men's National Volleyball Team... Also plays golf

**The Big Blurb**

"He earned the respect of coaches around the country by leading the Stanford program back to national prominence. He's been the core guy to get this program turned around.



woven in the fabric of the game and there are so many ways to score points without trying to put a hole in the floor.” - David Smith on NBCOlympics.com

### Career Highlights

Member of the 2012 Olympic Team  
 Helped the U.S. Men win the 2015 FIVB World Cup and qualify for the 2016 Olympic Games  
 Named 2007 AVCA first team All-American, All-MPSF and NCAA All-Tournament as he helped UC Irvine win its first NCAA National Championship

### Did you know?

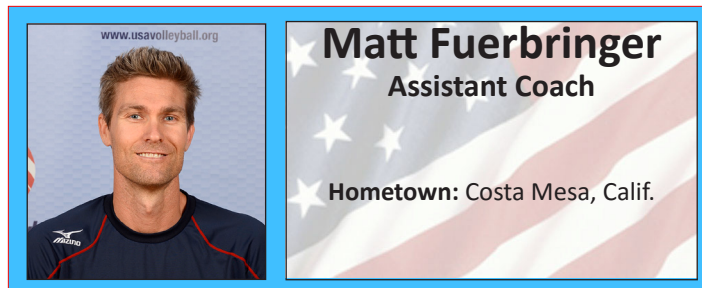
Competed at the 2014 FIVB World Championship  
 Helped the U.S. Men win the FIVB World League silver medal in 2012  
 Has competed for clubs in Spain and France and won several league championships with his French team Tours  
 Played on the 2011 Pan American Cup team that took silver  
 Played on the 2010 Pan American Cup team that won gold  
 Won the Best Blocker award at the World Championship Qualifier on Aug. 15-17 in Irvine, Calif., as the U.S. Men won the event  
 Played on U.S. Men’s Team that won the bronze medal at the World University Games in Bangkok, Thailand  
 Played on the U.S. Men’s Junior National Team that finished eighth in the 2005 FIVB Men’s U-21 World Volleyball Championships in Andhra Pradesh, India  
 Helped the U.S. Men’s Junior National Team to a second place finish at the 2004 NORCECA Junior Men’s Volleyball Championship in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada  
 Attended Saugus High School (1999-2003) where he played both volleyball and soccer

**Personal:** Born David Smith in Panorama City, Calif... Parents are Rick and Nancy... Has an older brother, Robert, and a younger sister, Kristen... David married wife, Kelli in 2008. Son Cohen was born in 2012... David was born with mild-to-severe hearing loss. He wears hearing aids to assist him on and off the court. He also reads lips... Mexican is his favorite food... The Bible is his favorite book... Favorite bands are Supertones and Switchfoot... Enjoys music, golf, watching sports and hanging out with his family... Admires his parents for their unwavering support and love

### The Quote

“I think especially with the men’s game, people just assume that the person who hits that ball the hardest gets the most points. There is so much technique and finesse





John Speraw, a two-time Olympic assistant coach for the U.S. Men's National Volleyball Team, was named the program's head coach for the Olympic Games quadrennial culminating at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Games, on March 25, 2013.

In his first season in 2013, Speraw guided the U.S. Men to a 13-11 record, including the team's first NORCECA Championship title since 2007. In 2014, the U.S. Men finished the season at 28-9 and won the FIVB World League title for the second time in the team's history.

In 2015, Speraw saw the U.S. Men place third at the FIVB World League and win gold at the FIVB World Cup, a finish which also qualified the team for the 2016 Olympic Games. The team finished the season with a record of 23-7.

Speraw, 44, also continues as the head men's volleyball coach at UCLA in a dual role with the U.S. Men's National Volleyball Team. He accepted the head job at his alma mater in June 2012.

Speraw joined the U.S. Men's staff in 2007 under then head coach Hugh McCutcheon. In 2008, he traveled with the U.S. Men to the Olympic Games in Beijing where they won the gold medal. After 2008, he worked with the U.S. Men as needed, including a stint as the head coach of a young team that finished fifth at the 2011 Pan American Games.

In 2012, Speraw returned as the assistant coach for the FIVB World League and filled in as head coach for the 2012 World League team for four overseas pool play matches while then head coach Alan Knipe was dealing with a family emergency. The U.S. Men went on to win the silver medal in the FIVB World League Final Round.

Speraw assisted Knipe at the 2012 Olympic Games in London where the U.S. Men placed fifth after winning its preliminary pool with a 4-1 record.

Speraw served as head coach of the U.S. Men's Junior National Team that won the silver medal at the NORCECA Men's Junior (U-21) Continental Volleyball Championship in 2004 and the team that placed sixth at the 2005 FIVB Junior World Championship. He served as an assistant for the U.S. Boys' Youth National Team (1998 and 2001), the World University Games Team (1997 and 1999) and the Pan American Games Team (1999, 2007).

John and wife Michelle have a daughter named Brooklyn.

Matt Fuerbringer joined the U.S. Men's National Volleyball Team staff as an assistant coach on April 1, 2013.

Fuerbringer, 42, has almost 10 years of experience coaching junior club volleyball and has spent the last year as the volunteer assistant coach under Speraw at UCLA. He is well-known for being a pro beach volleyball player and came close to making the 2012 U.S. Olympic Beach Volleyball Team. He played indoor volleyball for Stanford University and also professionally overseas.

U.S. Men's Head Coach John Speraw has known Fuerbringer since the two played against each other in college. Speraw was a middle blocker at UCLA and Fuerbringer played outside hitter at Stanford.

Prior to working with Speraw at UCLA, Fuerbringer coached at Mizuno Long Beach, a program directed by his wife Joy McKenzie-Fuerbringer, and founded Team Rockstar three years ago.

Fuerbringer grew up in Costa Mesa, Calif., and played volleyball and basketball at Estancia High School.

At Stanford, Fuerbringer was a four-time AVCA All-American and a member of the 1997 NCAA National Collegiate Men's Volleyball Championship team. His final block sealed the first NCAA men's volleyball title for Stanford.

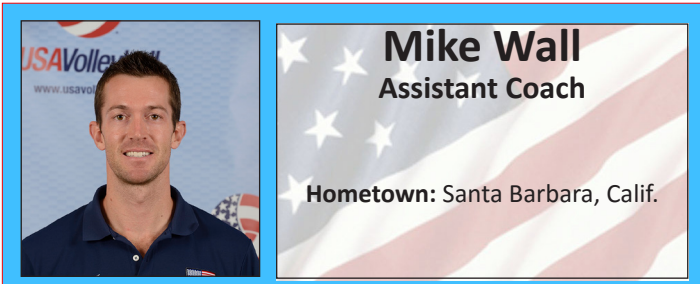
After Stanford, Fuerbringer played professional indoor volleyball from 1999-2003.

Fuerbringer has played pro beach volleyball since 2003. In 2012, he and partner Nick Lucena were edged out for the United States' final Olympic Games berth in a battle that came down to the final qualification tournament.

Fuerbringer and Lucena finished fifth in the FIVB Olympic rankings and were the highest ranked team not to go to London because the United States was limited to two teams per gender.

During the summer of 2013, Fuerbringer went back to the beach to compete at the Manhattan Beach Open with former partner Casey Jennings and the pair won the title.

Matt Fuerbringer and Joy Fuerbringer-McKenzie have two children, a daughter named Charlie and a son named Mateo.



Mike Wall (Santa Barbara, Calif.) came to USA Volleyball from the Arizona State women’s volleyball team where he served as an assistant coach. He has also been a part of the Gold Medal Squared Volleyball Program since 2003.

“Mike has high-level experience both in volleyball and in business,” U.S. Head Coach John Speraw (Los Angeles) said. “His talents will be invaluable to us both on the court and in the office as we work to build the U.S. Men’s National Team program.”

Wall first worked with the team during its 2013 FIVB World League matches.

“I’m honored and excited to be joining John, Matt Fuerbringer and the USA men’s volleyball program for the next three years,” Wall said. “Our staff is committed to working hard for this group of athletes. I’m looking forward to the challenge.

From 2006-2008 Wall served as the first assistant coach for Arizona State University women’s volleyball. In 2012, Wall rejoined the program, helping Arizona State reach the NCAA Division I Women’s National Championship Tournament.

In 2005, Wall served as the first assistant coach at the University of Utah. The Utes won the MWC Tournament, and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

Before Utah, Wall coached at Saint Mary’s College. While on the Gaels’ staff, he helped the team to a 24-4 overall record. Prior to his stint at Saint Mary’s, Wall was an assistant coach at UC-San Diego in 2003-04. There he helped UCSD to its best season in program history.

Wall has played volleyball at the international level as well. He participated in the 2001 FIVB World League Tournament with the U.S. Men’s National Team. After finishing his senior campaign at Brigham Young, Wall returned to the U.S. National Team to take part in the Dallas and Italian tours. From 2002-04, Wall played volleyball overseas. He began playing in the Swiss National League A in 2002-03 and spent part of 2004 playing for San Sebastian Volleyball Club in Puerto Rico.

Wall played college volleyball at Brigham Young where he was an opposite from 1997-2002 and was a part of two NCAA National Championship squads. In 2001 and 2002, Wall was named an AVCA First Team All-American. After beating UCLA in three sets to take the 2002 NCAA championship, Wall was named the Final Four MVP and BYU’s Most Competitive Athlete.

Wall and his wife Erin have a daughter named Skylar.



Andrea Becker, joined USA Volleyball as a consultant coach in March, 2013.

Becker, 36, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Kinesiology at Cal State Fullerton. She took a sabbatical from that role in 2012-15 to work as an assistant coach under U.S. Men’s Head Coach John Speraw at UCLA. She returned to teaching for the 2015-16 school year.

In 2012, Becker helped UC Irvine capture the NCAA championship. UCI finished with a 26-5 record, won the MPSF Tournament crown and defeated top-ranked USC in three sets to capture its third national championship in six years.

Becker received her PhD in Sport Studies from the University of Tennessee in 2007 where she also worked in the Volunteer athletic department providing sport psychology services to athletes, coaches and teams. In her final year at Tennessee, she was honored with the Edward A. Capen Research Award and the Extraordinary Professional Promise Award.

She received her BS and MS degrees in Kinesiology and Sport Performance from Sacramento State, where she was honored with the A.W. Hobt Teaching Award for the 2004-05 academic year.

A native of Martinez, Calif., Becker played four seasons for the Sacramento State Hornets (1997-01), serving as a team captain each of her final two years. She appeared in 118 career games with the Hornets, including 102 starts (63 at second base, 39 at shortstop). Always one of the toughest players on the squad, Becker played her entire career with a herniated disc and degenerative disc disease, an injury which forced her to redshirt in 2007.

Becker is an active member of the Association of Applied Sport Psychology and the National Assn. for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity. She has published her research in The Sport Psychologist, where she also serves on the editorial board. She is also co-author of Focused For Fastpitch, a softball-specific mental training book. She has written extensively about successful coaches, and coaching techniques and behaviors. In addition, she has several papers in progress, including a study of the role of optimism in coaching effectiveness.

On the public speaking circuit, Dr. Becker has given numerous lectures and scholarly presentations both locally and nationally on successful coaching methods, sport research and training, and the practice of sport and exercise psychology.



**Aaron Brock**  
**Athletic Trainer/  
 Director of Sports Medicine  
 and Performance**  
**Hometown:** Storm Lake, Iowa

Aaron Brock of Storm Lake, Iowa, is in his 11th year in 2016 as the full-time certified athletic trainer for the U.S. Men’s National Team at its headquarters at the American Sports Centers in Anaheim, Calif.

In 2009, he added the title of Director of Sports Medicine and Performance to the U.S. National Teams. He oversees sports medicine for both the U.S. Men’s and Women’s National Teams.

In 2008, he was working with the U.S. Men’s Team as it won the Olympic gold medal in Beijing and its first FIVB World League title. The 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro will be his third working with the Men’s Volleyball Team and his fourth overall.

Before joining the U.S. Men’s Team in 2006, Aaron worked with the U.S. Water Polo Team at the 2003 Pan American Games and the 2004 Olympic Games. He also has experience with high school and NCAA Division I and Division III sports teams as well as professional football and basketball teams.

Aaron, who was a four-sport high school athlete in Storm Lake, Iowa, went to the University of Iowa for both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

Aaron lives in Tustin, Calif., with his wife Kelly and their three children, Noah, Cameron and Bayla.



**Nate Ngo**  
**Technical Coordinator**  
**Hometown:** San Francisco, Calif.

Nate Ngo joined USA Volleyball in February of 2015 to serve as technical coordinator for the U.S. Men’s National Team.

Ngo came to USAV, most recently, from the University of Portland (Ore.) where he served as an assistant coach for the women’s volleyball team. Prior to that, Ngo served as the graduate manager of the University of Nebraska women’s volleyball team while earning a Master’s of Science degree in statistics. He was also a volunteer assistant coach for the women’s team at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (Calif.).

Ngo served as technical coordinator for the U.S. Women’s Junior National Team in 2013 and 2014 and also for the SVS Post professional club team in Vienna, Austria in 2011

Additionally, Ngo was the VIS (Volleyball Information System) supervisor at various international volleyball events, including the 2009 Women’s Pan Am Cup, multiple weekends of FIVB World League in 2010 and 2011, and the NORCECA Men’s Olympic Qualifier in 2012.

Ngo’s duties include keeping track of statistics for the U.S. Men using DataVolley and scouting for the team at tournaments.

Ngo is originally from San Francisco, Calif., and graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 2010.





**USA**Volleyball.



# All-Time U.S. Men's Indoor Volleyball Olympians

**1964 (Tokyo)**

**9th Place**

Mike Bright  
Barry Brown  
Keith Erickson  
William Griebenow  
Richard Hammer  
Jacob Highland  
Ron Lang  
Charles Nelson  
Mike O'Hara  
Ernie Suwara  
John Taylor  
Pete Velasco, Jr.  
Head Coach: Harry Wilson  
Assistant Coach: Burt DeGroot

**1968 (Mexico City)**

**7th Place**

John Alstrom  
Mike Bright  
Wink Davenport  
Smitty Duke  
Tom Haine  
John Henn  
Butch May  
Danny Patterson  
Larry Rundle  
Jon Stanley  
Rudy Suwara  
Pete Velasco, Jr.  
Head Coach: Jim Coleman  
Assistant Coach: John Lowell  
Trainer: Joe Abrahams

**1984 (Los Angeles)**

**Gold Medal**

Aldis Berzins  
Craig Buck  
Rich Duwelius  
Dusty Dvorak  
Karch Kiraly  
Chris Marlowe  
Pat Powers  
Steve Salmons  
Dave Saunders  
Paul Sunderland  
Steve Timmons  
Marc Waldie  
Head Coach: Doug Beal  
Assistant Coach: Bill Neville  
Assistant Coach: Tony Crabbe  
Team Manager: Mark Miller

**1988 (Seoul)**

**Gold Medal**

Craig Buck  
Bob Ctvrtlik  
Scott Fortune  
Karch Kiraly  
Ricci Luyties  
Doug Partie  
Jon Root  
Eric Sato  
Dave Saunders  
Jeff Stork  
Troy Tanner  
Steve Timmons  
Head Coach: Marv Dunphy  
Assistant Coach: Gary Sato  
Assistant Coach: Jim Coleman  
Team Manager: Gary Moy

**1992 (Barcelona)**

**Bronze Medal**

Nick Becker  
Carlos Briceno  
Bob Ctvrtlik  
Scott Fortune  
Dan Greenbaum  
Brent Hilliard  
Bryan Ivie  
Doug Partie  
Bob Samuelson  
Eric Sato  
Jeff Stork  
Steve Timmons  
Head Coach: Fred Sturm  
Assistant Coach: John Cook  
Assistant Coach: Gary Sato  
Team Manager: Kevin Ring

**1996 (Atlanta)**

**9th Place**

Lloy Ball  
Bob Ctvrtlik  
Scott Fortune  
John Hyden  
Bryan Ivie  
Mike Lambert  
Dan Landry  
Jeff Nygaard  
Tom Sorensen  
Jeff Stork  
Ethan Watts  
Brett Winslow  
Head Coach: Fred Sturm  
Assistant Coach: Rudy Suwara  
Assistant Coach: Rod Wilde  
Team Manager: Eric Daly

**2000 (Sydney)**

**11th Place**

Lloy Ball  
Kevin Barnett  
Tom Hoff  
John Hyden  
Mike Lambert  
Dan Landry  
Chip McCaw  
Ryan Millar  
Jeff Nygaard  
George Roumain  
Erik Sullivan  
Andy Witt  
Head Coach: Doug Beal  
Assistant Coach: Marv Dunphy  
Assistant Coach: Rod Wilde  
Team Leader: Jim Coleman

**2004 (Athens)**

**4th Place**

Lloy Ball  
Kevin Barnett  
Brook Billings  
Phil Eatherton  
Gabe Gardner  
Tom Hoff  
Ryan Millar  
Reid Priddy  
Riley Salmon  
Clay Stanley  
Erik Sullivan  
Donald Suxho  
Head Coach: Doug Beal  
Assistant Coach: Hugh McCutcheon  
Assistant Coach: Rob Browning  
Assistant Coach: Carl McGown  
Team Consultant: Marv Dunphy  
Team Leader: Al Monaco  
Trainer: Nick Metskas

**2008 (Beijing)**

**Gold Medal**

Lloy Ball  
Gabe Gardner  
Kevin Hansen  
Tom Hoff  
Rich Lambourne  
David Lee  
Ryan Millar  
Reid Priddy  
Sean Rooney  
Riley Salmon  
Clay Stanley  
Scott Touzinsky  
Head Coach: Hugh McCutcheon  
Assistant Coach: John Speraw  
Assistant Coach: Ron Larsen  
Technical Consultant: Marv Dunphy  
Technical Consultant: Carl McGown  
Technical Coach: Jamie Morrison  
Team Doctor: Chris Koutures  
Athletic Trainer: Aaron Brock

**2012 (London)**

**5th Place**

Matt Anderson  
Sean Rooney  
David Lee  
Rich Lambourne  
Paul Lotman  
Donald Suxho  
Reid Priddy  
Brian Thornton  
Russell Holmes  
Clay Stanley  
David McKenzie  
David Smith

Head Coach: Alan Knipe  
Team Manager: Rob Browning  
Assistant Coach: John Speraw  
Assistant Coach: Gary Sato  
Assistant Coach: Ron Larsen  
Technical Coordinator: Chris Jackson  
Medical Support: Aaron Brock  
Scout Coach: Andy Read  
Scout Coach: Mike Sealy



**USA**Volleyball.



## International Volleyball Fact Sheet

**Introduction:** Volleyball has major international competitions every year and, at its highest level, is a physically demanding sport played by some of the world's most elite athletes. Of course, volleyball is also a popular recreational activity enjoyed by more than 38 million persons in the United States (more than any team sport but basketball) and more than 800 million persons globally, making it the world's most popular participant sport. This fact sheet is designed to provide more understanding about international volleyball and its major competitions, including the Olympic Games.

**International Governing Body:** The international governing body for volleyball is the Federation Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB), headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland. The FIVB is the world's largest sports federation, with more than 200 member nations. Under the direction of its president, Dr. Ruben Acosta of Mexico, the FIVB oversees the administration of volleyball throughout the world and is responsible for producing several major events, including the Olympic Games, World Championships, World Cup, World League and World Grand Prix.

**National Governing Body:** The national governing body (NGB) for volleyball in the United States is USA Volleyball, formerly known as the United States Volleyball Association. Founded in 1928, USA Volleyball is responsible for the administration of all forms of volleyball in the United States, including producing the annual USA Open Volleyball Championships, Junior Olympic Championships and the USA Outdoor National Championships. As mandated by the 1978 Amateur Sports Act, USA Volleyball is responsible to the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) and the FIVB for training and nominating the teams which represent the United States in the Olympic Games and other important volleyball competitions worldwide.

**Major Competitions:** The four major events on the international volleyball calendar are the Olympic Games (men and women, indoor and beach), World Championships (men and women, indoor and beach), World Cup (men and women, indoor), World League (men, indoor) and World Grand Prix (women, indoor). All events are conducted quadrennially, with the exceptions of the annual World League/Grand Prix and the biennial Beach World Championships.

**World Rankings:** Following the decision of the FIVB Board of Administration, a new system of point attribution based on a new scale has been implemented for the FIVB World Ranking of Volleyball National Teams. The following competitions are now included:

- Senior World Championships included for four years - 25 percent reduction each year. Points are also granted for the qualification matches, to the best non-qualified teams.
- Olympic Games included for four years - 25 percent reduction each year. Points are also granted for the qualification matches, to the best non-qualified teams.
- World Cup included for two years - 50 percent reduction the second year.
- Senior Continental Championships included for two years - 50 percent reduction the second year; points are also granted for the qualification matches to the best non-qualified teams.
- Men's World League / Women's World Grand Prix included for one year.

Top 40 teams in the FIVB World Ranking:

**Women (Points)** - as of 8/1/16

1. USA (315)
2. Brazil (280)
3. China (278)
4. Russia (218)
5. Japan (208)
6. Serbia (192)
7. Dominican Republic (158)
8. Italy (150)
9. Republic of Korea (120)
10. Turkey (101)
11. Netherlands (78)
12. Argentina (71)
13. Germany (69)
14. Thailand (68)
15. Belgium (64)
16. Bulgaria (56)
17. Puerto Rico (49)
18. Croatia (46)
19. Canada (45)
20. Kazakhstan (41)
21. Poland (39)
22. Cuba (38)
23. Algeria (36)
24. Azerbaijan (33)
25. Czech Republic (32)
26. Kenya (30)
26. Mexico (30)
- 28T. Cameroon (25)
- 28T. Tunisia (25)
30. Peru (24)
31. Colombia (18)
31. Romania (18)

**Men (Points)** as of 8/1/16

1. Brazil (305)
2. Poland (268)
3. Russia (266)
4. Italy (246)
5. USA (238)
6. Argentina (168)
7. Germany (138)
8. Bulgaria (132)
9. Serbia (125)
10. Iran (116)
11. France (115)
12. Canada (105)
13. Australia (92)
14. Japan (66)
15. Finland (63)
16. Belgium (60)
17. Cuba (55)
18. Tunisia (53)
19. China (50)
20. Egypt (47)
21. Venezuela (43)
22. Republic of Korea (42)
23. Netherlands (37)
24. Turkey (36)
25. Portugal (35)
26. Mexico (34)
27. Czech Republic (33)
28. Slovakia (29)
29. Puerto Rico (28)
29. Slovenia (28)
31. Cameroon (27)
32. Spain (20)



**USA**Volleyball.



## International Volleyball Fact Sheet

Olympic Games: Volleyball made its debut in the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo. Twelve teams in both the men's and women's draw earn the right to compete:

### Past Olympic Champions (Men)

1964: Soviet Union (USA, ninth)  
1968: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1972: Japan, (USA, DNQ)  
1976: Poland (USA, DNQ)  
1980: Soviet Union (USA, DNQ)  
1984: USA  
1988: USA  
1992: Brazil (USA, third)  
1996: Netherlands (USA, ninth)  
2000: Yugoslavia (USA, 11th)  
2004: Brazil (USA, fourth)  
2008: USA  
2012: Russia (USA, fifth)

### Past Olympic Champions (Women)

1964: Japan (USA, fifth)  
1968: Soviet Union (USA, eighth)  
1972: Soviet Union (USA, DNQ)  
1976: Japan (USA, DNQ)  
1980: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1984: China (USA, second)  
1988: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1992: Cuba (USA, third)  
1996: Cuba (USA, seventh)  
2000: Cuba (USA, fourth)  
2004: China (USA, fifth)  
2008: Brazil (USA, second)  
2012: Brazil (USA, second)

**World Championships:** The World Championships are held every four years in the second year after the Olympics. The site, usually separate for the men's and women's competitions, is determined by the FIVB based on bids received from interested cities. The 24 berths for the men and women are gained in the following manner:

- Host country
- Performance at FIVB World Championship Qualifiers

### Past World Champions (Men)

1949: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1952: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1956: Czechoslovakia (USA, sixth)  
1960: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1962: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1966: Czechoslovakia (USA, 11th)  
1970: East Germany (USA, 18th)  
1974: Not held  
1978: Soviet Union (USA, 19th)  
1982: Soviet Union (USA, 13th)

1986: USA  
1990: Italy (USA, 13th)  
1994: Italy (USA, third)  
1998: Italy (USA, ninth)  
2002: Brazil (USA, ninth)  
2006: Brazil (USA, 10th)  
2010: Brazil (USA, sixth)  
2014: Poland (USA, seventh)

### Past World Champions (Women)

1952: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1956: Soviet Union (USA, ninth)  
1960: Soviet Union (USA, sixth)  
1962: Japan (USA, DNP)  
1966: Japan (USA, second)  
1970: Soviet Union (USA, 11th)  
1974: Japan (USA, 12th)  
1978: Cuba (USA, fifth)  
1982: China (USA, third)  
1986: China (USA, 10th)  
1990: Soviet Union (USA, third)  
1994: Cuba (USA, sixth)  
1998: Cuba (USA, 13th)  
2002: Italy (USA, second)  
2006: Russia (USA, ninth)  
2010: Russia (USA, fourth)  
2014: USA

**World Cup:** The World Cup is held every four years, in the year prior to the Olympic Games. Though originally held at various sites, it has been hosted by Japan since 1977. Prior to 1991, the World Cup took place in the year immediately following the Olympics. The 12 berths in the World Cup for men and women are gained in the following manner:

- Host country (Japan- Men and Women)
- Top two teams from each of the zonal qualifiers

### Past World Cup Champions (Men)

1965: Soviet Union (USA, DNP)  
1969: East Germany (USA, DNP)  
1973: Soviet Union (USA, seventh)  
1977: Soviet Union (USA, 10th)  
1981: Soviet Union (USA, DNQ)  
1985: USA  
1989: Cuba (USA, fourth)  
1991: Soviet Union (USA, third)  
1995: Italy (USA, fourth)  
1999: Russia (USA, fourth)  
2003: Brazil (USA, fourth)  
2007: Brazil (USA, fourth)  
2011: Russia (USA, sixth)  
2015: USA



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## International Volleyball Fact Sheet

**Zone Championships:** The volleyball world is divided into five international zones. The United States is in the NORCECA (North America Central America Caribbean) Zone, with championships held every other year at various sites. The other zones are Europe, Asia, Africa and South America. The frequency of zone championships competition varies in each of the five sections. Any nation in a particular zone may participate in its zone championships whenever such a competition is conducted.

### Past NORCECA Champions (Men)

- 1969: Cuba (USA, third)
- 1971: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1973: USA
- 1975: Cuba (USA, third)
- 1977: Cuba (USA, fifth)
- 1979: Cuba (USA, fifth)
- 1981: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1983: USA
- 1985: USA
- 1987: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1989: Cuba (USA, third)
- 1991: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1993: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1995: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1997: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1999: USA
- 2001: Cuba (USA, second)
- 2003: USA
- 2005: USA
- 2007: USA
- 2009: Cuba (USA, second)
- 2011: Cuba (USA, second)
- 2013: USA
- 2015: Cuba (USA Did not compete)

### Past NORCECA Champions (Women)

- 1969: Mexico (USA, bronze)
- 1971: Mexico (USA, DNP)
- 1973: Cuba (USA, third)
- 1975: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1977: Cuba (USA, third)
- 1979: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1981: USA
- 1983: USA
- 1985: Cuba (USA, second)

- 1987: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1989: Cuba (USA, third)
- 1991: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1993: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1995: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1997: Cuba (USA, second)
- 1999: Cuba (USA, second)
- 2001: USA
- 2003: USA
- 2005: USA
- 2007: Cuba (USA, second)
- 2009: Dominican Republic (USA, fourth)
- 2011: USA
- 2013: USA
- 2015: USA

### World League and World Grand Prix:

The World League is the top annual men's volleyball competition while Grand Prix is the women's version.

### World League Champions

- 1990: Italy (USA, fourth in pool)
- 1991: Italy (USA, third in pool)
- 1992: Italy (USA, third overall)
- 1993: Brazil (USA, fifth in pool)
- 1994: Italy (USA, fourth in pool)
- 1995: Italy (USA, fourth in pool)
- 1996: Netherlands (USA, DNP)
- 1997: Italy (USA, DNP)
- 1998: Cuba (USA, DNP)
- 1999: Italy (USA, DNP)
- 2000: Italy (USA, sixth)
- 2001: Brazil (USA, tied-ninth)
- 2002: Russia (USA, DNP)
- 2003: Brazil (USA, DNP)
- 2004: Brazil (USA, DNP)
- 2005: Brazil (USA, DNP)
- 2006: Brazil (USA, third in pool)
- 2007: Brazil (USA, third in finals)
- 2008: USA
- 2009: Brazil (USA, sixth)
- 2010: Brazil (USA, eighth)
- 2011: Russia (USA, seventh)
- 2012: Poland (USA, second)
- 2013: Russia (USA, 12th)
- 2014: USA
- 2015: France (USA, third)
- 2016: Brazil (USA, fifth)

### World Grand Prix Champions

- 1993: Cuba (USA, seventh regular season)
- 1994: Brazil (USA, fifth regular season)

- 1995: USA
- 1996: Brazil (USA, fifth)
- 1997: Russia (USA, eighth)
- 1998: Brazil (USA, eighth)
- 1999: Russia (USA, DNP)
- 2000: Cuba (USA, sixth)
- 2001: USA
- 2002: Russia (USA, sixth)
- 2003: China (USA, third)
- 2004: Brazil (USA, third)
- 2005: Brazil (USA, eighth)
- 2006: Brazil (USA, seventh)
- 2007: Netherlands (USA, eighth final, seventh preliminary)
- 2008: Brazil (USA, fourth)
- 2009: Brazil (USA, ninth)
- 2010: USA
- 2011: USA
- 2012: USA
- 2013: China (USA, fourth)
- 2014: Brazil (USA, fifth)
- 2015: USA
- 2016: Brazil (USA, second)



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