

## U.S. NATIONAL SLED HOCKEY TEAM GAME NOTES

2016 IPC Sled Hockey Pan-Pacific Championship

USA (0-0-0-0) vs. Team Pan-Pacific (0-0-0-0) Preliminary Round Game #1

Tuesday, March 29, 2016 • 7:00 p.m. ET • Buffalo, New York • HARBORCENTER

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## **TONIGHT'S GAME**

The United States faces Team Pan-Pacific at HARBORCENTER (capacity: 1,800) to open preliminary round play here tonight at the 2016 IPC Sled Hockey Pan-Pacific Championship. The game will be streamed live on Paralympic.org/Buffalo-2016.

#### ABOUT THE TOURNAMENT

Four teams are set to compete in the first-ever IPC Sled Hockey Pan-Pacific Championship: Canada, Korea, Team Pan-Pacific and the United States. Team Pan-Pacific will be comprised of players from Canada, Japan and the United States. Tournament play will include a round-robin preliminary round in which the top two teams will advance to a winner-take-all championship game on Saturday, April 2.

#### CAPTAIN AMERICA

Josh Sweeney is serving as captain for the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team for the second consecutive season. Also returning are alternate captains Nikko Landeros and Josh Pauls. A year ago, the trio led Team USA to an undefeated season and a gold medal on home ice at the 2015 IPC Sled Hockey World Championship in Buffalo, New York.

#### **LEADING THE WAY**

Jeff Sauer, former men's ice hockey head coach at the University of Wisconsin and 2014 U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame inductee, is in his fifth season as head coach of the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team. Last season, Sauer led Team USA to an undefeated 12-1-0-0 (W-OTW-OTL-L) record that culminated with a gold medal at the 2015 IPC Sled Hockey World Championship here in Buffalo, New York. Since taking the helm in 2011, Sauer has guided Team USA to a 44-4-2-11 (W-OTW-OTL-L) record that includes reaching the championship game of every major international competition and titles in six major international events, including the 2016 World Sled Hockey Challenge in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia: the 2015 IPC Sled Hockey World Championship in Buffalo, New York; the 2015 World Sled Hockey Challenge in Leduc, Alberta; the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia; the 2012 World Sled Hockey Challenge in Calgary, Alberta; and the 2012 IPC Sled Hockey World Championship in Hamar, Norway.

#### **TEAM USA SCHEDULE**

Tuesday, March 29	Preliminary Round						
vs. Team Pan-Pacific	7:00 p.m.						
Wednesday, March 30	Preliminary Round						
vs. Canada	7:00 p.m.						
Friday, April 1	Preliminary Round						
vs. Korea	7:00 p.m.						
Saturday, Apr2	Third Place/Championship						
TBD	1:00 p.m./5:00 p.m.						
All times Eastern. All games will be streamed live on Paralympic.org/Buffalo-2016							

## SEEKING FIFTH STRAIGHT INT'L TITLE

A victory this week would give the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team its fifth straight international tournament title. Team USA, which aims to reach its 10th straight international championship game, has claimed the 2016 World Sled Hockey Challenge in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, in January; the 2015 IPC Sled Hockey World Championship in Buffalo, New York; the 2015 World Sled Hockey Challenge in Leduc, Alberta; and the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

# TEAM USA IN LAST 10 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Year	Tournament	<b>Finish</b>
2016	World Sled Hockey Challenge	First
2015	IPC Sled Hockey World Championship	Gold
2015	World Sled Hockey Challenge	First
2014	Paralympic Winter Games	Gold
2013	World Sled Hockey Challenge	Second
2013	IPC Sled Hockey World Championship	Silver
2012	World Sled Hockey Challenge	First
2012	IPC Sled Hockey World Championship	Gold
2011	World Sled Hockey Challenge (Nov.)	Second
2011	World Sled Hockey Challenge (Apr.)	Third

## 2016 WORLD SLED HOCKEY CHALLENGE

The U.S. National Sled Hockey Team opened the 2016 campaign by claiming the 2016 World Sled Hockey Challenge in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia. After outscoring opponents 16-6 in preliminary round play, the U.S. defeated Russia, 2-1, the semifinals and went on to face Canada in the championship game where **Josh Pauls** scored the championship-clinching goal for the second consecutive year. The title gave Team USA back-to-back titles in the event for the first time and third overall title in the last four tries. Forward **Declan Farmer** finished as the tournament leader in goals (7) and points (13) while **Kevin McKee** led all skaters in assists (8).





#### TEAM USA VISITS SABRES LOCKERROOM

Yesterday (March 28), the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team received a tour of the Buffalo Sabres' locker room at First Niagara Center. This is the second consecutive year a professional sports team in Buffalo has hosted Team USA after the Buffalo Bills welcomed the team to a spring practice last April.

#### **COACH SERTICH JOINS TEAM USA**

Mike Sertich (Duluth, Minn.), who coached at the University of Minnesota-Duluth (1982-2000) and Michigan Tech University (2000-03), joined the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team here in Buffalo today. A longtime friend and coaching rival of Team USA head coach Jeff Sauer (Madison, Wis.), Sertich will be with the team throughout the tournament providing additional support to the Team USA coaching staff.

#### **COACH PAULS**

Last week, U.S. National Sled Hockey Team alternate captain **Josh Pauls** was a guest camp coach at USA Hockey's National Team Development Program Evaluation Camp at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth, Michigan. The camp, which helps select the 2016-17 U.S. National Under-17 Team, included 48 of the top American hockey players born in 2000.

#### PAGE VISITS KNOXVILLE'S NEW PROGRAM

Buffalo native and Team USA member **Adam Page** visited Knoxville, Tennessee, on March 19 to take part in a free sled hockey clinic with the Knoxville Amateur Hockey Association (KAHA). KAHA has been chosen as one of ten programs across the country to receive a \$25,000 grant as part of Labatt USA's "Pass It Forward" initiative to help create new sled hockey programs across the country.

#### RECAPPING LAST SEASON

The 2014-15 campaign saw Team USA go undefeated (12-1-0-0/W-OTW-OTL-L) and end the season as world champions on home ice. After defeating Russia, 2-1, in overtime to win the 2015 World Sled Hockey Challenge in Leduc, Alberta, the U.S. outscored its opponents 29-1 while going a perfect 5-0 to claim the gold medal at the 2015 IPC Sled Hockey World Championship. The U.S. finished both tournaments as leaders in goals per game, goals against per game, power play percentage and shutouts. In 13 games, Team USA scored 59 goals, allowed just six goals and set 12 team records to finish the season undefeated for the second time in team history. Declan Farmer paced all skaters in goals (10) and points (21) and goaltender Steve Cash finished with a career-best 0.45 goals against average and .950 save percentage.

#### **TEAM FIRST**

Members of Team USA are already teammates on club teams with Buffalo Sabres (Adam Page, Paul Schaus), Colorado Avalanche (Tyler Carron, Nikko Landeros, Bo Reichenbach), DASA St. Louis Blues (Steve Cash, Billy Hanning, Josh Pauls), RIC Blackhawks (Kevin McKee, Brody Roybal) and San Antonio Rampage (Luke McDermott, Rico Roman).

#### SIX PURPLE HEARTS

Six members of Team USA are Purple Heart recipients. Last year, former Marines Luke McDermott, Josh Misiewicz, Paul Schaus and Josh Sweeney helped Team USA to an undefeated season and the 2015 IPC Sled Hockey World Championship. Retired Army staff sergeant Rico Roman is back with the national team after helping Team USA claim gold at the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. Additionally, former Navy Seal Bo Reichenbach spent last season as an alternate captain for the U.S. Developmental Sled Hockey Team before being named to his first U.S. National Sled Hockey Team.

## LABATT USA'S PASS IT FORWARD INITIATIVE

On November 5, 2015, USA Hockey unveiled the 10 sled hockey programs that will equally share \$250,000 in grants provided by Labatt USA through its Pass it Forward initiative. The funding will assist five newly created programs this year and five other previously established USA Hockey sled programs. Each of the 10 programs will receive \$25,000 to be used for items such as sleds, stick, ice time and uniforms.

#### GRANT WINNING PROGRAMS

Boston Shamrocks Sled Hockey (Boston, Mass.)
Eagle Mount-Great Falls (Great Falls, Mont.)
DASA St. Louis Blues (St. Louis, Mo.)
Hero Sports (Sioux Falls, S.D.)
Palm Beach Tiger Sharks Sled Hockey (Lake Worth, Fla.)
Knoxville Amateur Hockey Association (Knoxville, Tenn.)
Rochester Sled Hockey (Rochester, Minn.)
Rochester Sled Hockey Organization (Rochester, N.Y.)
Winterhawks Sled Hockey (Portland, Ore.)
WASA Lightning Sled Hockey Team (Milwaukee, Wis.)

Of the 10 programs selected by USA Hockey, five are new for this season. U.S. National Sled Hockey Team captain **Josh Sweeney** is leading the creation of the Winterhawks Sled Hockey Program in Portland, Oregon, while U.S. National Sled Hockey team members **Steve Cash**, **Billy Hanning** and **Josh Pauls** are members of the DASA St. Louis Blues organization in St. Louis, Missouri. Additionally, Team USA doctor, **Mike Uihlein**, is overseeing the newly created program in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.





#### NUMERICAL ROSTER

No. 1 4 5 6 11 13 14 15 16 17 19 20 23 24 27	Name Bo Reichenbach Brody Roybal Billy Hanning Luke McDermott Tyler Carron Josh Sweeney Dan McCoy Nikko Landeros Declan Farmer Chris Douglas Kevin McKee Adam Page Rico Roman Josh Misiewicz Josh Pauls	Position Goaltender Forward Defense Forward Defense Forward Forward Defense Forward Forward Forward Forward Forward Forward Forward Defense Forward Defense
27	Josh Pauls	Defense
28	Paul Schaus	Forward
34	Steve Cash	Goaltender

## **ROSTER BREAKDOWN**

<b>Home States</b>		Birth Year	
Illinois	3	1988	3
New York	3	1989	3
Colorado	2	1987	2
Florida	2	1990	2
Missouri	2	1992	2
Arizona	1	1981	1
Montana	1	1985	1
New Jersey	1	1994	1
Oregon	1	1997	1
Pennsylvania	1	1998	1

Average Age: 25 years, 11 months

Average Height: 5'6" Average Weight: 154 lbs.

Oldest Player: Rico Roman (2/4/81) Youngest Player: Brody Roybal (5/25/98)

## **USA HOCKEY HAPPENINGS**

## 2016 IIHF WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

The U.S. Women's National Team is taking part in the International Ice Hockey Federation Women's World Championship in Kamloops, British Columbia March 28-April 4. All games will be televised on NHL Network. Team USA has captured gold at five of the last six world championships (2008, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015). For more information and a complete schedule, visit teamusa.usahockey.com.

#### 2016 IIHF U18 MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Grand Forks, North Dakota, is set to host the 2016 IIHF Under-18 Men's World Championship from April 14-24, 2016. The 10-team event, which features the top players in the world under the age of 18, will be staged at Ralph Engelstad Arena (main venue) and Icon Sports Center (secondary venue). For more information, visit grandforks2016.com.

#### 12TH ANNUAL DISABLED HOCKEY FESTIVAL

The 12th Annual USA Hockey Disabled Hockey Festival will take place at the Hockeyland Ice Arena in Fraser, Michigan, from April 7-10. The mission of the Festival is to provide a fun and exciting weekend of hockey in a grand event as well as promote and grow disabled hockey throughout the country. Bragging rights will be on the line as Team USA members will take part with their respective clubs. For more information, visit usahockey.com/2016DisabledHockeyFestival.









## 2016 U.S. NATIONAL SLED HOCKEY TEAM GAME-BY-GAME SCORING

		PAN-PACIFIC 7pm ET	CANADA 7pm ET	KOREA 7pm ET	TBD TBD
No	Name	3/29	3/30	4/1	4/2
4	Brody Roybal				
5	Billy Hanning				
6	Luke McDermott				
11	Tyler Carron				
13	Josh Sweeney (C)				
<u>14</u> 15	Dan McCoy				
	Nikko Landeros (A)				
16	Declan Farmer				
<u>17</u>	Chris Douglas				
19	Kevin McKee				
20	Adam Page				
23 24	Rico Roman				_
	Josh Misiewicz				
27	Josh Pauls (A)				
28	Paul Schaus				_
1	Bo Reichenbach				
34	Steve Cash				

# = Team USA's Player of the Game

Key: G-goal; S-shorthanded goal; P-powerplay goal; U-unassisted goal; W-game-winning goal; A-assist; asterik-assist on game-winning goal; DND-did not dress; DNP-did not play

	Team USA Tournament Statistics								2015-16 Team USA Season Statistics					<u>s</u>		
NO.	PLAYER	POS.	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM		Ο.	PLAYER	POS.	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
4	Brody Roybal	F	0	0	0	0	0	4		Brody Roybal	F	5	4	7	11	2
5	Billy Hanning	D	0	0	0	0	0	5		Billy Hanning	D	5	0	2	2	2
6	Luke McDermott	F	0	0	0	0	0	6		Luke McDermott	: F	5	0	0	0	0
11	Tyler Carron	D	0	0	0	0	0	11	1	Tyler Carron	D	5	1	0	1	0
13	Josh Sweeney	F	0	0	0	0	0	1:	3	Josh Sweeney	F	5	0	1	1	0
14	Dan McCoy	F	0	0	0	0	0	14	4	Dan McCoy	F	5	1	1	2	0
15	Nikko Landeros	D	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	Nikko Landeros	D	5	1	2	3	2
16	Declan Farmer	F	0	0	0	0	0	10	3	Declan Farmer	F	5	7	6	13	0
17	Chris Douglas	F	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	Chris Douglas	F	5	0	0	0	0
19	Kevin McKee	F	0	0	0	0	0	19	9	Kevin McKee	F	5	2	8	10	0
20	Adam Page	F	0	0	0	0	0	20	)	Adam Page	F	5	1	1	2	2
23	Rico Roman	D	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	Rico Roman	D	5	0	0	0	0
24	Josh Misiewicz	F	0	0	0	0	0	24	4	Josh Misiewicz	F	0	0	0	0	0
27	Josh Pauls	D	0	0	0	0	0	2	7	Josh Pauls	D	5	3	5	8	2
28	Paul Schaus	F	0	0	0	0	0	28	3	Paul Schaus	F	5	1	0	1	6
	Overall Team Goaltender Record						Overall Team Goaltender Record									
NO.	NAME GP	MIN	W-L	GA	SV	GAA	SV%	N	0. 1	NAME G	P MIN	W-L	GA	SV	GAA	SV%
1	Bo Reichenbach 0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	E	Bo Reichenbach 2	22:04	0-0	0	4	0	0
34	Steve Cash 0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	34	1 8	Steve Cash 5	215:27	4-1	8	46	1.67	.852