

2017 WORLD SLED HOCKEY CHALLENGE | CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I., CANADA | DECEMBER 3-9

SEMIFINAL • USA (3-0-0-0) VS. ITALY (0-0-1-2) • THU., DEC. 7, 2017 • 12:00 P.M. LOCAL • MACLAUGHLIN ARENA (CAPACITY: 1,350)

#### **TODAY'S GAME**

The U.S. National Sled Hockey Team meets Italy in semifinal action today here at the 2017 World Sled Hockey Challenge in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. The two teams met on Monday (Dec. 4), where the U.S. skated to a 10-0 win. Puck drop is set for 12:00 p.m. local time (11:00 a.m. ET) and will be streamed in the United States on HockeyTV.com with updates also available on Twitter @usahockey with the hashtag #WSHC.

#### THE SERIES VS. ITALY

The U.S. and Italy are meeting for the seventh time with the U.S. having claimed all six previous matchups.

The two teams faced off on Monday, where **Declan Farmer** (Tampa, Fla.) scored three times and six other U.S. players registered multi-point games as the U.S. blanked Italy, 10-0. **Jen Lee** (San Francisco, Calif.) registered the shutout in the win and **Noah Grove** (Frederick, Md.) earned player of the game honors.

#### TEAM USA IN WSHS SEMIFINALS

A victory today would give the U.S. its seventh-straight berth in a World Sled Hockey Challenge championship game. Team USA's last WSHC semifinal loss came in the 2011 (April) World Sled Hockey Challenge, where the U.S. fell to Norway, 5-4, in London, Ontario.

Over the last six WSHC tournaments, the U.S. has gone on to win four titles (2012, 2016, 1822) 2016 (182

titles (2012, 2015, 2016 (Jan.), 2016 (Dec.) and two runner-up finishes (2011 (Nov.), 2013).

#### **LEADING THE WAY**

Through three games, Declan Farmer (Tampa, Fla.), Kevin McKee (Chicago, III.) and Brody Roybal (Northlake, III.) have each tallied at least one point. Farmer leads the way with 10 (5-5) while Roybal is second with 8 (4-4) and McKee is third with 7 (4-3). Meanwhile, through two starts goaltender **Steve Cash** (Overland, Mo.) is sporting a 1.00 goals against average, 0.933 save percentage, two wins and one shutout as Jen Lee (San Francisco, Calif.) also has a win, shutout and perfect goals against average and save percentage.

#### **IN GOAL TODAY**

Jen Lee (San Francisco, Calif.), who backstopped the U.S. to a 10-0 win over Italy on Monday (Dec. 4), is the likely starter for Team USA. Lee was a member of the gold medal-winning 2014 U.S. Paralympic Sled Hockey Team at the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. His contributions with Team USA include two medals in world championship play (gold: 2012; silver: 2013) and one World Sled Hockey Challenge title (2012). Prior to sled hockey, Lee was a sergeant in the United States Army.

# FOLLOWING FELLOW U.S. NATIONAL TEAMS

While here in Canada, members of the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team continue to follow their fellow U.S. national hockey teams.

On Tuesday, USA Hockey unveiled the 28-player preliminary roster for the 2018 U.S. National Junior Team. The group, which includes seven members of the gold medal-winning 2017 U.S. National Junior Team, is auditioning for a spot on the final 23-man roster that will represented the United States in the 2018 International Ice Hockey Federation World Junior Championship from Dec. 26, 2017 - Jan. 5, 2018, in Buffalo, New

York. The full roster can be seen at teamusa.usahockey.com.
The 2017-18 U.S. Women's National Team also skated Tuesday night in Winnipeg, Manitoba, where it fell to Canada, 2-0, at Bell MTS Place. The game marked the sixth meeting between the two teams this season. Both teams have won three each. The U.S. Women's National Team will finish the Time Is Now Tour with one more U.S.-Canada game on Dec. 15th in San Jose, Calif. The game will be broadcast live on the NBC Sports Network.

#### **GOSSELIN TIES TO 2018 U.S. NATL JR, MEN'S OLYMPIC TEAMS**

Guy Gosselin, head coach of the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team, has connections with both the 2018 U.S. National Junior Team and 2018 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team.

Á University of Minnesota Duluth graduate, yesterday's preliminary roster for the junior team saw five Duluth players (Joey Anderson, Mikey Anderson, Scott Perunovich, Dylan Samberg and Riley Tufte) named to the squad - the most of any team. A two-time U.S. Olympian, Gosselin also skated with Team USA's assistant coach, Greg Brown (Scituate, Mass.), at the 1988 and 1992 Olympic Winter Games.

Gosselin also grew up in Rochester, Minn., with Jim Johannson (Colorado Springs, Colo.), who is USA Hockey's assistant executive director of hockey operations and general manager for both the 2018 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team and 2018 U.S. National Junior Team. Johannson also skated with Gosselin and Brown in the 1988 and 1992 Olympic Winter Games.

#### **LAST GAME: USA 5, CAN 2**

Steve Cash (Overland, Mo.) stopped 20 shots and Declan Farmer (Tampa, Fla.), **Kevin McKee** (Chicago, Ill.), **Josh Misiewicz** (La Grange, Ill.) and **Brody Roybal** (Northlake, Ill.) all scored as Team USA edged Canda, 5-2, yesterday. Misiewicz (1-2--3) and Roybal (2-1--3) each tallied three points in the victory as Farmer, McKee and Roybal extended their point streaks to three games. Cash earned player of the game honors.

#### **TEAM USA WSHC SCHEDULE**

#### DATE

Sunday, December 3

vs. Korea

U.S. Player of the Game

Monday, December 4

vs. Italy

U.S. Player of the Game

Wednesday, December 6

vs. Canada

U.S. Player of the Game

Thursday, December 7

vs. Italy

Saturday, December 9

Third Place Game

Championship Game

**TIME (Local/ET) Round Robin** 

W, 8-0

Jack Wallace

**Round Robin** 

W, 10-0

Noah Grove

**Round Robin** 

W, 5-2

Steve Cash **Semifinals** 

12:00 p.m./11:00 a.m.

**Finals** 

1:00 p.m./12:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m./4:00 p.m.

All games except the championship game will be streamed live on HockeyTV.com

#### MEDIA CONTACT: Jon Gomez $\cdot$ Manager, Communications $\cdot$ 973.723.5744 $\cdot$ jong@usahockey.org

All media availability must be arranged through Jon Gomez. All team members, including head coach Guy Gosselin, will be available for post-practice interviews in the designated media area. Other media requests may be submitted through Jon Gomez. Members of the media are not allowed in the U.S. dressing room.

#### 2018 PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES

The 2018 Paralympic Winter Games will take place in PyeongChang, South Korea, from March 9-18, 2018. The U.S. Paralympic Sled Hockey Team, which is expected to be named on or around January 1, 2018, will represent the United States in sled hockey. Team USA will play in Group B alongside the Czech Republic, Japan and host South Korea. Group A will include Canada, Italy, Norway and Sweden.

The United States enters the Paralympic Winter Games as two-time defending Paralympic gold medalists. After going undefeated and unscored upon to claim the gold medal at the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games in Vancouver, British Columbia, Team USA became the first nation of claim back-to-back Paralympic gold medals in sled hockey when it

to claim back-to-back Paralympic gold medals in sled hockey when it defeated Russia, 1-0, in the gold-medal game of the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

# **GOSSELIN LEADING TEAM USA**

Guy Gosselin (Grafton, Wis.), who led Team USA to a silver medal at the 2017 Para Sled Hockey World Championship in Gangneung, South Korea, is serving as head coach of the 2017-18 U.S. National Sled Hockey Team and 2018 U.S. Paralympic Sled Hockey Team. Gosselin previously served as an assistant coach for the gold-medal winning 2014 U.S. Paralympic Sled Hockey Team alongside head coach Jeff Sauer (Madison, Wis.), who passed away last February.

This is Gosselin's third stint with the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team. In addition to serving as head coach for Team USA in last year's world championship, Gosselin also worked alongside Sauer as an assistant coach from 2011-15. During his time with Team USA, Gosselin helped the U.S. claim gold medals at the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia, and the 2012 IPC Sled Hockey World Championship in Hamar, Norway, as well as a silver medal at the 2013 IPC Sled Hockey

Hamar, Norway, as well as a silver medal at the 2013 IPC Sled Hockey World Championship in Goyang City, South Korea.

A two-time U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team member (1988, 1992) and three-time U.S. Men's National Team member (1986, 1990, 1991), Gosselin is currently a regional manager of USA Hockey's American Development Model.Gosselin played professionally for parts of six seasons, including a stint with the NHL's Winnipeg Jets following the 1988 Olympic Winter Games. The University of Minnesota Duluth arealists played parts of five seasons (1982-87) with the Buildogs' men's graduate played parts of five seasons (1982-87) with the Bulldogs' men's ice hockey team. A 2013 UMD Athletic Hall of the hockey team of the back-to-back (1984, 1985) Western Collegiate Hockey Association championships and Example 1997. Hockey Association championships and Frozen Four appearances.





# **2017 WORLD SLED HOCKEY CHALLENGE DETAILS**

# 2017 WORLD SLED HOCKEY CHALLENGE OPPONENT BREAKDOWN

#### **KOREA**



# DEC. 3: USA 8, KOREA 0

The U.S. National Sled Hockey Team topped Korea, 8-0, behind two-goal performances from **Kevin McKee** (Chicago, III.) and **Jack Wallace** (Franklin Lakes, N.J.) and an eight-save shutout effort by **Steve Cash** (Overland, Mo.). Wallace received player of the game honors.

## **ITALY**



#### **DEC. 4: USA 10, ITA 0**

**Declan Farmer** (Tampa, Fla.) scored three times and six other U.S. players registered multi-point games as the 2017-18 U.S. National Sled Hockey Team blanked Italy, 10-0. Jen Lee (San Francisco, Calif.) registered the shutout in the win and Noah Grove (Frederick, Md.) earned player of the game honors.

#### **CANADA**



#### **DEC. 6: USA 5, CAN 2**

Steve Cash (Overland, Mo.) stopped 20 shots and four other U.S. Players scored as Team USA edged Canda, 5-2. **Brody Roybal** (Northlake, III.) (2-1--3) and **Josh Misiewicz** (La Grange, III.) (1-2--3) each tallied three points in the victory. Cash earned player of the game honors.

#### **ITALY (SF)**



#### **LAST APPEARANCE**

**USA 8, KOR 1:** Eight different players provided goals to lead Team USA to an 8-1 win over Korea in last year's 2016 (Dec.) World Sled Hockey Challenge. Adam Page netted the game-winner with 3:20 left in the opening period. Paul **Schaus** tallied two points (1-1) and was named U.S. Player of the Game.

## **CHAMPIONSHIP**



# **LAST APPEARANCE**

Last Championship Appearance: The U.S. netted five goals in the second period to defeat Canada, 5-2, in the championship game at the 2016 (Dec.) World Sled Hockey Challenge at MacLauchlan Arena. **U.S. Championship Game Record: 4-2** 

#### 2017 WORLD SLED HOCKEY CHALLENGE PRELIMINARY ROUND STANDINGS

TEAM	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	PTS	GF	GA
United States	3	3	0	0	0	9	23	2
Canada	3	2	0	0	1	6	19	8
Korea	3	0	1	0	2	2	6	19
Italy	3	0	0	1	2	1	2	31

# **2017 WORLD SLED HOCKEY CHALLENGE TOURNAMENT LEADERS**

#### **SKATERS**

Points			Goa	ls		Assists		
Declan Farmer	USA	10	Brad Bowden	CAN	5	Declan Farmer	USA	5
Greg Westlake	CAN	8	Declan Farmer	USA	5	Greg Westlake	CAN	5
Brody Roybal	USA	8	Jack Wallace	USA	4	Tyler Carron	USA	4
Kevin McKee	USA	7	Kevin McKee	USA	4	Liam Hickey	CAN	4
Jack Wallace	USA	7	Brody Roybal	USA	4	Brody Roybal	USA	4

#### **GOALTENDERS**

Wins			Goals Agai	Goals Against Avg.				
Steve Cash	USA	2	Jen Lee	USA	0.00	Jen Lee	USA	1.00
Corbin Watson	CAN	1	Steve Cash	USA	1.00	Steve Cash	USA	0.93
Jen Lee	USA	1	Dom. Larocque	CAN	1.66	S. Stillitano	ITA	0.83
Dom. Larocque	CAN	1	Corbin Watson	CAN	3.40	Man Gyun Yu	KOR	0.81

# **KEY TEAM USA WSHC STATISTICS**

<b>ALL-TIME WSHC FINISHES</b>								
<u>Year</u>	<b>Finish</b>	Record*						
2016 (Dec.)	First	4-1-0-0						
2016 (Jan.)	First	3-1-1-0						
2015	First	4-1-0-0						
2013	Second	3-0-0-2						
2012	First	4-0-0-1						
2011 (Nov.)	Second	3-0-0-2						
2011 (April)	Third	3-0-0-2						
2009	First	2-1-0-2						
2008	Third	2-0-0-2						
2007	Third	2-0-0-2						
*(W-OTW-OTL-L)								

#### **ALL-TIME WSHC RECORD VS. OPPONENT**

<b>Opponent</b>	GP	Record <sup>^</sup>	GF	<u>GA</u>
Canada	17	4-3-1-9	51	42
Germany	2	2-0-0-0	11	2
Italy	1	1-0-0-0	10	0
Japan	7	7-0-0-0	46	5
Korea	7	7-0-0-0	49	3
Norway	10	7-0-0-3	43	20
Russia	6	5-1-0-0	19	88
TOTAL	50	33-4-1-12	210	80
^(W-OTW-OTL-L)				

#### SINGLE WSHC ILS. RECORDS

CHICLE WORLD CHOI RECORDS								
<b>Statistic</b>	<u>Player</u>	Record (WSHC)						
Goals	Declan Farmer	8 (2016 Dec.)						
Assists	Declan Farmer	9 (2016 Dec.)						
Points	Declan Farmer	17 (2016 Dec.)						
GAA	Steve Cash	0.66 (2015)						
SV%	Steve Cash	0.936 (2015)						

# **CAREER WSHC U.S. RECORDS**

<b>Statistic</b>	<u>Player</u>	Record
Games	Josh Pauls	46
	Adam Page	46
Goals	Declan Farmer	27
Assists	Declan Farmer	32
Points	Declan Farmer	59
Wins	Steve Cash	29
GAA	Bo Reichenbach	0.47
	Jen Lee	0.47
Shutouts	Steve Cash	10
Minutes	Steve Cash	2.048



# U.S. NATIONAL SLED HOCKEY TEAM GAME NOTES VS. ITALY (SEMIFINAL)



# 2017-18 U.S. NATIONAL SLED HOCKEY TEAM ROSTER

NO.	NAME	HT (CM)	WT (KG)	BIRTHDATE	HOMETOWN	CURRENT TEAM	HOME STATES (10)	
GOAL	TENDERS (2)						California 2	
32	Jen Lee <sup>*</sup>	6-2 (188)	190 (86)	07/26/1986	San Francisco, Calif.	Chicago Blackhawks	Colorado 2	
34	Steve Cash^*	5-7 (170)	150 (68)	05/09/1989	Overland, Mo.	DASA St. Louis Blues	Florida 1	
DEFE	NSEMEN (5)	` '	,		•		Illinois 3	
3	Ralph DeQuebec	5-10 (178)	185 (84)	03/24/1983	San Pedro, Calif.	Colorado Avalanche	Maryland 1	
11	Tyler Carron^*	6-0 (183)	165 (75)	05/11/1989	Fort Collins, Colo.	Colorado Avalanche	Missouri 2	
15	Nikko Landeros^* (A)	6-1 (185)	185 (84)	04/28/1989	Johnstown, Colo.	Colorado Avalanche	New Jersey 2	
25	Billy Hanning <sup>^</sup>	5-10 (178)	160 (73)	04/18/1985	Festus, Mo.	DASA St. Louis Blues	New Mexico 1	
27	Josh Pauls <sup>^*</sup> (C)	5-8 (173)	135 (61)	12/31/1992	Green Brook, N.J.	DASA St. Louis Blues	New York 2	
	` '	3-0 (173)	100 (01)	12/01/1992	Green Brook, N.J.	DAGA GI. Louis Dides	Oregon 1	
FUKV	VARDS (10)	0.4 (0.4)	100 (5.1)	05/05/1000		01.1	BIRTH YEARS	
4	Brody Roybal^*	3-1 (94)	120 (54)	05/25/1998	Northlake, III.	Chicago Blackhawks	1981 1	
8	Jack Wallace	6-4 (193)	210 (95)	06/24/1998	Franklin Lakes, N.J.	NJ Freeze	1983	
9	Travis Dodson	4-0 (122)	150 (68)	02/14/1985	Deming, N.M.	Chicago Blackhawks	1985	
13	Luke McDermott^	5-7 (170)	155 (70)	09/01/1987	Westerlo, N.Y.	Buffalo Sabres	1986	
16	Declan Farmer^* (A)	6-0 (183)	135 (61)	11/05/1997	Tampa, Fla.	Tampa Bay Lightning	1987	
20	Adam Page^*	5-6 (167)	170 (77)	03/10/1992	Lancaster, N.Y.	Buffalo Sabres	1988	
22	Noah Grove	5-8 (173)	135 (61)	05/01/1999	Frederick, Md.	USA Warriors	1990	
23	Rico Roman*	5-9 (175)	180 (82)	02/04/1981	Portland, Ore.	Colorado Avalanche	1989	
24	Josh Misiewicz^	6-0 (183)	170 (77)	06/25/1988	La Grange, III.	Chicago Blackhawks	1992	
88	Kevin McKee^*	4-7 (140)	115 (52)	02/11/1990	Chicago, III.	Chicago Blackhawks	1997	
TEAN	1 STAFF						1998	
		ın (Colorado Sı	orings. Colo.)	Athletic Trai	ner Mike Cortese (B	oynton Beach, Fla.)	1999 1	
		in (Grafton, Wi		Equipment		olorado Springs, Colo.)	Average Height: 5'3"	
		Bottineau, N.D		Team Physic			Average Weight: 159	
, ,,,,,,,,	Lance Couch. David Holl (	,501000, 14.5	••,	Communica		orado Springs, Colo.)		
^201	15 IPC Sled Hockey Wo	rld Champioi	nship gold n		3311 4011102 (00	5.445 Spgs, 6616.)	Oldest Player: Rico Roman (36 years, 9 months) Youngest Player: Noah Grove (18 years, 7 months)	
*201	4 Paralympic Winter Ga	mes gold me	edalist				Average Age: 27 years 6 months	

# 2017-18 U.S. NATIONAL SLED HOCKEY TEAM GAME-BY-GAME SCORING

Loca	I/ET	KOREA W, 8-0	ITALY W, 10-0	CANADA W, 5-2	ITALY (SF) 12 p.m/11 a.m.	FINALS TBD
No	Name	12/03	12/04	12/06	12/07	12/09
3	Ralph DeQuebec		AA			
4	Brody Roybal	AA	PGA	GUA*		
8	Jack Wallace	GGA#	GGA*A			
9	Travis Dodson	A				
11	Tyler Carron	G	AAAA			
13 15	Luke McDermott	A	Α			
15	Nikko Landeros		Α	Α		
16 20	Declan Farmer	WAAA	WGGAA	U		
20	Adam Page	GA	Α			
22 23	Noah Grove		GAA#			
23	Rico Roman		Р			
24 25	Josh Misiewicz		DND	WAA		
25	Billy Hanning	G	<del></del>			
27	Josh Pauls	A*	A*			
88 32	Kevin McKee	PGA	GA	GA*		
	Jen Lee	DNP	W (45:00) 5/5	DNP		
34	Steve Cash	W (45:00) 8/8	DNP	W (45:00) 20/22 #		
Key:						
, toy.	G-goal A-assist W-game-winning goal A*- assist on game-winn	ing goal	P-powerplay goal S-shorthanded goal U-unassisted goal	DND-did not dress DNP-did not play # = Team USA's Play	yer of the Game	

# **TEAM USA 2017-18 STATISTICS**

# **TEAM USA CAREER STATISTICS**

	<u>Skaters</u>									
NO.	PLAYER		POS.	GP	G	Α	PTS	PIM		
3	Ralph DeQuebec		D	3	0	2	2	0		
4	Brody Roybal		F	3	4	4	8	2		
8	Jack Wallace		F	3	4	3	7	2		
9	Travis Dodson		F	3	0	1	1	0		
11	Tyler Carron		D	3	1	4	5	2		
13	Luke McDermott		F	3	0	2	2	2 2 0 2 4 4		
15	Nikko Landeros		D	333333333333233	0	1	1			
16	Declan Farmer		E	3	5	5 2 2	10	0		
20	Adam Page		E	3	1	2	3	0		
22	Noah Grove		F	3	1	2	3	0		
23	Rico Roman		F	3	]	0	1	0		
24	Josh Misiewicz		F	2	1	2	3	27		
25	Billy Hanning		D	3	1	0	1	0		
27	Josh Pauls		Ď	3	0	2	2	0		
88	Kevin McKee		F	3	4	3	/	0		
	Go	alte	nder	Stat	istic	S				
NO.	NAME	GP	MIN	W-L	. G/			A SV%		
32	Jen Lee	1	45:00	1-0	0	5	0.00			
34	Steve Cash	2	90:00	2-0	2	28	1.00	0.933		

	Skaters										
NO. 3 4 8 9 11 13 15 16 20 22 23 24 25 27 88	PLAYER Ralph DeQuebec# Brody Roybal Jack Wallace Travis Dodson# Tyler Carron Luke McDermott Nikko Landeros Declan Farmer Adam Page Noah Grove Rico Roman Josh Misiewicz Billy Hanning Josh Pauls Kevin McKee	POS. FFFDDFDFFFFDDFF	GP 3 50 13 3 93 35 114 67 144 13 79 19 37 124 90	<b>G</b> 0 33 5 0 4 3 33 63 44 2 7 6 2 36 34	<b>A</b> 2 41 4 1 20 12 44 55 35 6 16 9 6 41 50	PTS 2 74 9 1 24 15 77 118 8 23 15 8 87 84	PIM 0 38 9 0 48 110 80 222 72 0 20 31 8 22 33				
	Goalte	<u>ender</u>	Stat	tistic	S						

VO.	NAME	GP	MIN	W-L	GA	SV	GAA	SV%
	Jen Lee Steve Cash			4-0 98-39				
34	Sieve Cash	136	0110	96-39	176	1533	1.29	.697

#Making national team debut this season









# **OTHER TEAM USA TIDBITS**

# PAULS TO WEAR 'C'; LANDEROS, FARMER TABBED WITH 'A'S

Defenseman **Josh Pauls** (Green Brook, N.J.), a two-time Paralympic gold medalist at the 2010 and 2014 Paralympic Winter Games, is captain of the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team for the first time after serving as an alternate captain for three seasons (2014-17). In addition, defenseman Nikko Landeros (Johnstown, Colo.) and forward Declan Farmer (Tampa, Fla.) have been named alternate captains for the 2017-18 season. This is the fourth consecutive season Landeros will serve as an alternate captain and the first time Farmer will wear an 'A'.

#### **U.S. NATIONAL SLED TEAM WINS 2017 TEAM USA AWARDS**

On Nov. 29, the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team was named the Paralympic Team of the Year by the United States Olympic Committee after registering a 10-1-0-1 (W-OTW-OTL-L) record that included an unprecedented third straight World Sled Hockey Challenge title last December and a silver medal at the 2017 Para Sled Hockey World Championship in Gangneung, South Korea. On hand to receive the award was last season's captain, Andy Yohe (Bettendorf, Iowa).

#### INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS

Prior to its silver medal at the 2017 Para Sled Hockey World Championship in Gangneung, South Korea, the U.S. had claimed titles in six straight major international events, including the 2016 (Dec.) World Sled Hockey Challenge in Charlottetown, P.E.I.; 2016 IPC Pan-Pacific Championship in Buffalo, New York; the 2016 (Jan.) 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; and the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. Since 2011, the U.S. has reached the championship game of every major international event

#### 2016 (DEC.) WORLD SLED HOCKEY CHALLENGE

The U.S. National Sled Hockey Team won an unprecedented third-consecutive World Sled Hockey Challenge crown in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on December 10. Team USA earned a 4-1-0-0 (W-OTU-L) record over five games, including a 5-2 victory over Canada in the title game. Team USA outscored its opponents 27-4 over the five-game stretch. The victory saw the U.S. claim its sixth straight major international title, a streak that began at the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

#### NATIONAL TEAM DEBUTS

Defenseman Ralph DeQuebec (San Pedro, Calif.) and forward Travis **Dodson** (Deming, N.M.) made their U.S. National Sled Hockey Team debuts in Team USA's 8-0 victory over Korea last Sunday (Dec. 3). Both players spent the 2016-17 season with the U.S. Development Sled Hockey Team. DeQuebec served as co-captain for the squad. Meanwhile, Dodson is seeking a return to the Paralympics after competing in the biathlon at the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi.

# **FARMER RAKING IN POINTS**

Over the last three World Sled Hockey Challenges, forward Declan Farmer (Tampa, Fla.) has found himself atop the statistics leaders.

At the 2016 (Dec.) event, he tallied 17 points (8-9) after pacing all skaters at the 2015 (Jan.) event with 12 points (7-5). In 2015, Farmer became the first U.S. player to lead the tournament in scoring when he tallied nine points (3-6).

Currently, Farmer holds U.S. records in every skater statistic in the World Sled Hockey Challenge, which can be seen on page 2.

# FIVE SEEKING PARALYMPIC SLED HOCKEY EXPERIENCE

Five players - Ralph DeQuebec, Travis Dodson, Billy Hanning, Luke McDermott and Josh Misiewicz - are seeking Paralympic sled hockey debuts. DeQuebec and Dodson are making their national debuts this season, while Hanning, McDermott and Misiewicz have been members of the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team since the 2014-15 season.

2017 USA HOCKEY SLED CLASSIC, PRESENTED BY THE NHL
Tthe eighth annual USA Hockey Sled Classic, presented by the NHL took place in Plymouth, Minnesota from Nov. 16-19. The four-day event was hosted by the Minnesota Wild at the Plymouth Ice Center. The field included a record 28 teams associated with a record 20 NHL clubs.

The Chicago Blackhawks, led by national team players Travis Dodson, Jen Lee, Kevin McKee, Josh Misiewicz and Brody Roybal, won the Tier I title game by topping the Colorado Avalanche, 7-1. As Tier I champions, the Blackhawks received the inaugural O'Connor Courage Trophy as a symbol of the NHL's commitment to the sled hockey community.

# **USA HOCKEY HAPPENINGS**

#### THE TIME IS NOW TOUR, PRESENTED BY TOYOTA

The U.S. Women's National Team will finish the Time Is Now Tour with one more U.S.-Canada game on Dec. 15th in San Jose, Calif. The game will be broadcast live on the NBC Sports Network.

#### **BOSTON TO HOST 2017 U.S. HOCKEY HALL OF FAME**

The 2017 U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame Induction Celebration, which will feature the formal induction of the Class of 2017, will take place Wed., Dec. 13, at the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel. The Class of 2017 includes Kevin Collins, Jack Parker, Ben Smith, Ron Wilson and Scott Young. Also honored as part of the celebration will be Lester Patrick Trophy recipients **Peter Lindberg** and **Dave Ogrean**. To date there are 172 honored members.

#### 2018 IIHF WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP - BUFFALO. N.Y.

The 2018 IIHF World Junior Championship will take place Dec. 26, 2017 – Jan. 5, 2018, at the KeyBank Center and HarborCenter in downtown Buffalo, New York, The U.S. National Junior Team will enter the tournament as the defending gold medalist.

The U.S. and Canada will make history when the two rivals battle outdoors on Dec. 29 in a preliminary round game. The outdoor game, will be staged at New Era Field in Orchard Park, New York, home of the NFL's Buffalo Bills. Tickets are on sale now at buffaloworldjuniors.com.

#### 2018 U.S. NATIONAL JUNIOR TEAM

The 2018 U.S. National Junior Team will see **Jim Johannson**, assistant executive director of hockey operations for USA Hockey, serve as its gneral manager for the ninth consecutive year.

Bob Motzko, who guided the U.S. National Junior Team to its fourthever gold medal at the 2017 IIHF World Junior Championship in Montreal and Toronto, Canada, is returning as head coach for the 2018 U.S. National Junior Team. Motzko will be joined by the entire 2017 U.S. coaching staff in assistant coaches Greg Brown, Grant Potulny, Kris Mayotte and Steve Miller.

Overall, the U.S. has captured 10 medals in IIHF World Junior Championship history, including four gold medals (2004, 2010, 2013, 2017), one silver medal (1997) and five bronze medals (1986, 1992, 2007, 2011, 2016).

#### 2018 U.S. UNDER-18 WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM

The 2018 U.S. Under-18 Women's National Team will be looking for its fourth consecutive gold medal at the 2018 IIHF Under-18 Women's World Championship in Dmitrov, Russia, from Jan. 6-13, 2018. The 23-player roster, which was announced on Friday (Dec. 1), features

seven players of the the LS. earn gold last year in Zlin & Prerov, Czech Republic, including Taylor Heise, Lizi Norton, Gracie Ostertag, Dominique Petrie, Lindsay Reed, Ally Simpson and Madeline Wethington. Twenty-one players also participated in the 2017 Under-18 Series vs. Canada last August in Lake Placid, New York.

Overall, the U.S. has captured gold six times (2008, 2009, 2011, 2015, 2016, 2017) and silver on four occasions (2010, 2012, 2013, 2014).

#### 2018 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

The XXIII Olympic Winter Games will be held in PyeongChang, South Korea, from February 9-25, 2018. Both the Men's and Women's Olympic rosters will be unveiled on January 1, 2018.

Men: The 2018 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team will compete from Feb. 14-25. Team USA's final 25-player roster will be comprised of college players, American Hockey Leaguers, and Americans playing professionally in Furnose. Iim Johanneon is the general manager of the 2018 U.S. players, American Hockey Leaguers, and Americans playing professionally in Europe. Jim Johannson is the general manager of the 2018 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team, while Ben Smith is director of player personnel. Tony Granato will serve as head coach and will be joined by assistant coaches Keith Allain, Chris Chelios, Ron Rolston and Scott Young. The U.S. Men's Olympic Team has won two gold medals (1960, 1980), eight silver medals (1920, 1924, 1932, 1952, 1956, 1972, 2002, 2010) and one bronze medal (1936) all-time in Olympic competition.

Women: The 2018 U.S. Olympic Women's Ice Hockey Team will compete from Feb. 11-22. Reagan Carey, USA Hockey's director of women's Ice Hockey, is the general manager of the 2018 U.S. Olympic Women's Ice Hockey Team. with Robb Stauber serving as head coach.

Women's Ice Hockey Team, with Robb Stauber serving as head coach, Bret Strot filling the role of associate head coach and Paul Mara tabbed as an assistant coach. Since capturing gold in 1998, the U.S. has won three silver medals (2002, 2010, 2014) and one bronze medal (2006).

## 11TH HOCKEY WEEKEND ACROSS AMERICA

The 11th annual Hockey Weekend Across America will be held March 2-4, 2018. Hockey Week Across America will feature a theme for each 2-4, 2018. Hockey Week Across America Will feature a theme for each of the three days, including Wear Your Favorite Hockey Jersey Day on Friday (March 2); Try Hockey Day on Saturday (March 3) and Celebrate Local Hockey Heroes Day on Sunday (March 4). Hockey Weekend Across America was created by USA Hockey in 2008 to engage the hockey community in celebrating the sport of hockey at all levels and exposing the sport to new audiences.