



2017-18 U.S. NATIONAL SLED HOCKEY TEAM GAME NOTES

2018 TURIN PARA ICE HOCKEY INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT | TURIN, ITALY | JAN. 22-27, 2018

ROUND ROBIN GAME #1 • USA (0-0-0-0) VS. ITALY (0-0-0-0) • TURIN, ITALY • PALAGHIACCIO TAZZOLI • JANUARY 22, 2018

TODAY'S GAME

The U.S. National Sled Hockey Team faces host Italy in the opening game of the 2018 Turin Para Ice Hockey International Tournament. Puck drop is set for 10 a.m. local time/4 a.m. ET with a streaming link available on TeamUSA.USAHockey.com.

Team USA is 7-0-0-0 (W-OTW-OTL-L-T) all-time against Italy. The two teams last met at the 2017 World Sled Hockey Challenge, where the U.S. captured a pair of wins. After the U.S. claimed a 10-0 preliminary round win, the teams met again in the semifinal where the U.S. blanked Italy, 5-0.

TALKING POINTS

USA HOCKEY MOURNS PASSING OF JIM JOHANNSON

Yesterday, **Jim Johansson**, assistant executive director of USA Hockey and the general manager of the 2018 U.S. Olympic men's ice hockey team, passed away in his sleep at his home in Colorado Springs. Johansson, born March 10, 1964, in Rochester, Minnesota, had a life-long career in hockey and was one of the most accomplished and respected people in the sport. A childhood teammate and eventual two-time Olympic teammate with current U.S. Paralympic Sled Hockey head coach **Guy Gosselin** (Grafton, Wis.), Johansson's time with USA Hockey included 34 gold, 19 silver and 11 bronze medals; the launching and implementation of the highly acclaimed American Development Model; and securing USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth, Michigan, as a home for all U.S. teams to utilize.

2018 U.S. PARALYMPIC ROSTER UNVEILED JANUARY 1, 2018

On January 1, 2018, the 2018 U.S. Paralympic Sled Hockey Roster was unveiled during the second intermission of the 2018 Bridgestone NHL Winter Classic at Citi Field in New York City.

The 17-player roster includes 10 players who won the gold medal at the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games as well as four players (Steve Cash, Nikko Landeros, Adam Page, Josh Pauls) who have won two Paralympic gold medals (2010 - Vancouver, 2014 - Sochi). Cash also earned a bronze medal at the 2006 Paralympic Winter Games here in Torino, Italy.

On site for the announcement was general manager Dan Brennan (Colorado Springs, Colo.), captain **Josh Pauls** (Green Brook, N.J.), alternate captain **Declan Farmer** (Tampa, Fla.), goaltender **Steve Cash** (Overland, Mo.) and forward **Brody Roybal** (Northlake, Ill.).

CHICAGO RESIDENCY PROGRAM UNDERWAY

On Jan. 8, 2018, the U.S. Paralympic Sled Hockey Team relocated to Chicago where it will live and train as a team until the Paralympic Winter Games this March. The team will utilize ice time at West Meadows Ice Rink in Rolling Meadows, Illinois.

TURIN, BUFFALO ONLY REMAINING INTERNATIONAL TUNE-UPS

For Team USA, this tournament, as well as a pair of games against Canada in February, are the lone remaining international games before the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games.

"It's important we remember that we really have only six or seven games together until the Paralympics in March," said **Guy Gosselin**, head coach of the 2017-18 U.S. National Sled Hockey Team and 2018 U.S. Paralympic Sled Hockey Team. "These games matter and the effort and attention to detail we give these games will need to translate into the Paralympics if we want to achieve our goal of winning a gold medal."

RECAP: 2017 WORLD SLED HOCKEY CHALLENGE

Last December, the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team claimed an unprecedented fourth-straight World Sled Hockey Challenge in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada. The tournament started with preliminary round victories over Korea (8-0), Italy (10-0) and Canada (5-2). After a semifinal win over Italy (6-1), the U.S. met Canada in the championship game where it defeated the host by a 3-2 count. The title gave the U.S. a record sixth title in the event.

THINGS WORTH MENTIONING

Yesterday (Jan. 21), **Jim Johansson**, assistant executive director of USA Hockey and the general manager of the 2018 U.S. Olympic men's ice hockey team, passed away in his sleep at his home in Colorado Springs ... **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. For more on Gosselin, see page 4 ... The U.S. opened the season last December by claiming 2017 World Sled Hockey Challenge ... Team USA arrived in Turin, Italy, last Thursday, Jan. 19.

TEAM USA SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME (LOCAL/ET)
MON., JAN. 22 Turin, Italy	ITALY Palaghiaccio Tazzoli	10:00 A.M./4:00 A.M.
TUES., JAN. 23 Turin, Italy	JAPAN Palaghiaccio Tazzoli	3:00 P.M./9:00 A.M.
WED., JAN. 24 Turin, Italy	NORWAY Palaghiaccio Tazzoli	3:00 P.M./9:00 A.M.
FRI., JAN. 26 Turin, Italy	SEMIFINAL A Palaghiaccio Tazzoli	10:00 A.M./4:00 A.M.
FRI., JAN. 26 Turin, Italy	SEMIFINAL B Palaghiaccio Tazzoli	3:00 P.M./9:00 A.M.
SAT., JAN. 27 Turin, Italy	THIRD-PLACE Palaghiaccio Tazzoli	10:00 A.M./4:00 A.M.
SAT., JAN. 27 Turin, Italy	CHAMPIONSHIP Palaghiaccio Tazzoli	1:00 P.M./7:00 A.M.

TEAM USA SINCE 2014 PARALYMPICS

TOURNAMENT	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	U.S. RECORD
2017 (Dec.) WSHC	USA	CAN	KOR	5-0-0-0
2017 Sled Worlds	CAN	USA	KOR	6-0-0-1
2017 (Jan.) WSHC	USA	CAN	KOR	5-0-0-0
2016 IPC Pan-Pacific	USA	CAN	KOR	5-0-0-0
2016 WSHC	USA	CAN	RUS	4-0-1-0
2015 Sled Worlds	USA	CAN	RUS	5-0-0-0
2015 WSHC	USA	RUS	CAN	4-1-0-0
2014 Paralympics	USA	RUS	CAN	4-0-0-1
TOTAL				38-1-1-2

MEDIA INFORMATION

All Team USA players or staff will be available for interviews in designated mixed-zone areas following games and non-game day practices. Media availability on day-of-game skates will be limited. Members of the media are not allowed in the U.S. dressing room at any time.

MEDIA CONTACT:
973.723.5744

JON GOMEZ
JONG@USAHOCKEY.ORG

All media availability with U.S. team members must be arranged through Jon Gomez, who will be on-site with Team USA in Italy.

ONLINE MEDIA GUIDE

TEAMUSA.USAHOCKEY.COM/SLEDTEAMS

Team USA information, including bios, team schedule, news and team history are available at the official website of USA Hockey's national teams.

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 was named on 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 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.



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2018 TURIN U.S. OPPONENT BREAKDOWN

ROUND ROBIN GAMES

ITALY



All-Time Series vs. Italy: 7-0-0-0-0 (W-OTW-OTL-L-T)

Of Note: The U.S. won both meetings at the 2017 WSHC last December

DEC. 7, 2017: USA 5, ITA 1: Declan Farmer (Tampa, Fla.) registered a goal and three assists while Adam Page (Lancaster, N.Y.) added a pair of goals and Jen Lee (San Francisco, Calif.) turned aside seven of eight shots to lead the U.S. to a semifinal win over Italy at the 2017 World Sled Hockey Challenge.

JAPAN



All-Time Series vs. Japan: 22-3-0-4-0 (W-OTW-OTL-L-T)

Of Note: The two teams have not met since the 2012 IPC Sled Worlds

MARCH 28, 2012: USA 5, JPN 0: The U.S. skated to a 5-0 shutout victory, marking its 14th straight victory over Japan and 25th win in 29 meetings between the two nations.

NORWAY



All-Time Series vs. Norway: 14-1-2-9-0 (W-OTW-OTL-L-T)

Of Note: A year ago, the U.S. won, 6-0, at the 2017 Sled Worlds

APRIL 17, 2017: USA 6, NOR 0: Declan Farmer (Tampa, Fla.) and Brody Roybal (Northlake, Ill.) each scored three goals as the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team shut out Norway, 6-0, at the 2017 Para Sled Hockey World Championship in Gangneung, South Korea.

PLAYOFF ROUND GAMES

SEMIFINAL



Of Note: Team USA has not lost a semifinal game since 2011 (April) WSHC

DEC. 7, 2017: USA 5, ITA 1: Declan Farmer (Tampa, Fla.) registered a goal and three assists while Adam Page (Lancaster, N.Y.) added a pair of goals and Jen Lee (San Francisco, Calif.) turned aside seven of eight shots to lead the U.S. to a semifinal win over Italy at the 2017 World Sled Hockey Challenge.

THIRD-PLACE



Of Note: Team USA has not played in a third-place game since 2011 (April) WSHC

JAN. 4, 2018: USA 2, SWE 4: In its last third-place game, the U.S. skated to a 9-1 victory over Japan at the 2011 (April) World Sled Hockey Challenge in London, Ontario.

CHAMPIONSHIP



Of Note: The U.S. has reached the last 10 international championship games

DEC. 9, 2017 USA 3, CAN 2: Captain Josh Pauls (Green Brook, N.J.) netted the game-winner and Steve Cash (Overland, Mo.) stopped 14 shots as the U.S. National Sled Hockey team topped Canada, 3-2, to win its fourth consecutive World Sled Hockey Challenge Title.

KEY TEAM USA STATS

LAST 10 INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Event	U.S. Finish	U.S. Record
2017 WSHC	First	5-0-0-0
2017 Sled Worlds	Silver	6-0-0-1
2017 (Dec.) WSHC	First	5-0-0-0
2016 IPC Pan-Pacific	First	5-0-0-0
2016 (Jan) WSHC	First	4-0-1-0
2015 Sled Worlds	Gold	5-0-0-0
2015 WSHC	First	4-1-0-0
2014 Paralympics	Gold	4-0-0-1
2013 WSHC	Second	3-0-0-2
2012 Sled Worlds	Silver	4-0-0-1
Total		45-1-1-5

ALL-TIME RECORD VS. OPPONENT

Opponent	GP	Record [^]	GF	GA
Canada	88	26-9-8-44-1	141	193
Czech Republic	3	2-0-1-0-0	7	2
Estonia	5	2-1-0-2-0	13	14
Germany	8	7-0-0-1-0	39	8
Great Britain	2	2-0-0-0-0	10	1
Italy	7	7-0-0-0-0	43	3
Japan	29	22-3-0-4-0	125	27
Korea	15	15-0-0-0-0	85	7
Norway	26	14-1-2-9-0	89	55
Russia	11	9-1-0-1-0	33	12
Sweden	7	5-0-0-2-0	32	16
Team Pan-Pacific	1	1-0-0-0-0	8	0
U.S. Dev. Team	1	1-0-0-0-0	5	0
TOTAL	203	113-15-11-63-1	630	338

[^]W-OTW-OTL-L-T



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

NO.	NAME	HT (CM)	WT (KG)	BIRTHDATE	HOMETOWN	MOST RECENT TEAM
GOALTENDERS (2)						
32	Jen Lee*	6-2 (188)	190 (86)	07/26/1986	San Francisco, California	Chicago Blackhawks
34	Steve Cash^*	5-7 (170)	150 (68)	05/09/1989	Overland, Missouri	DASA St. Louis Blues
DEFENSEMEN (5)						
3	Ralph DeQuebec	5-10 (178)	185 (84)	03/24/1983	San Pedro, California	Colorado Avalanche
11	Tyler Carron^*	6-0 (183)	165 (75)	05/11/1989	Fort Collins, Colorado	Colorado Avalanche
15	Nikko Landeros^* (A)	6-1 (185)	185 (84)	04/28/1989	Johnstown, Colorado	Colorado Avalanche
25	Billy Hanning^	5-10 (178)	160 (73)	04/18/1985	Festus, Missouri	DASA St. Louis Blues
27	Josh Pauls^* (C)	5-8 (173)	135 (61)	12/31/1992	Green Brook, New Jersey	DASA St. Louis Blues
FORWARDS (10)						
4	Brody Roybal^*	3-1 (94)	120 (54)	05/25/1998	Northlake, Illinois	Chicago Blackhawks
8	Jack Wallace	6-4 (193)	210 (95)	06/24/1998	Franklin Lakes, New Jersey	NJ Freeze
9	Travis Dodson	4-0 (122)	150 (68)	02/14/1985	Deming, New Mexico	Chicago Blackhawks
13	Luke McDermott^	5-7 (170)	155 (70)	09/01/1987	Westerlo, New York	Buffalo Sabres
16	Declan Farmer^* (A)	6-0 (183)	135 (61)	11/05/1997	Tampa, Florida	Tampa Bay Lightning
20	Adam Page^*	5-6 (167)	170 (77)	03/10/1992	Lancaster, New York	Buffalo Sabres
22	Noah Grove	5-8 (173)	135 (61)	05/01/1999	Frederick, Maryland	USA Warriors
23	Rico Roman*	5-9 (175)	180 (82)	02/04/1981	Portland, Oregon	Colorado Avalanche
24	Josh Misiewicz^	6-0 (183)	170 (77)	06/25/1988	La Grange, Illinois	Chicago Blackhawks
88	Kevin McKee^*	4-7 (140)	115 (52)	02/11/1990	Chicago, Illinois	Chicago Blackhawks

Team Staff

General Manager Dan Brennan (Colorado Springs, Colo.)
 Head Coach Guy Gosselin (Grafton, Wis.)
 Assistant Coach David Hoff (Bottineau, N.D.)

Athletic Trainer Mike Cortese (Boynton Beach, Fla.)
 Equipment Manager Joel Isaacson (Houghton, Mich.)
 Team Physician Mike Uihlein (Grafton, Wis.)
 Communications Jon Gomez (Colorado Springs, Colo.)

^2015 IPC Sled Hockey World Championship gold medalist

*2014 Paralympic Winter Games gold medalist

2018 U.S. TURIN PARA ICE HOCKEY INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT GAME-BY-GAME SCORING

LOCAL/ET	ITALY	JAPAN	NORWAY	SEMIFINAL	MEDAL GAME
No Name	10 A.M./4 A.M. 12/03	3 P.M./9 A.M. 12/04	3 P.M./9 A.M. 12/06	TBD 12/07	TBD 12/09
3	Ralph DeQuebec				
4	Brody Roybal				
8	Jack Wallace				
9	Travis Dodson				
11	Tyler Carron				
13	Luke McDermott				
15	Nikko Landeros				
16	Declan Farmer				
20	Adam Page				
22	Noah Grove				
23	Rico Roman				
24	Josh Misiewicz				
25	Billy Hanning				
27	Josh Pauls				
88	Kevin McKee				
32	Jen Lee				
34	Steve Cash				

Key:

G - goal
 A - assist
 P - powerplay goal
 S - shorthanded goal
 P* - penalty shot
 U - unassisted goal
 W - game-winning goal
 A* - assist on game-winning goal
 # - U.S. Player of the Game
 DNP - did not play
 DND - did not dress

TEAM USA 2017-18 STATISTICS & DETAILS

Skaters

NO.	PLAYER	POS.	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
3	Ralph DeQuebec	D	5	0	2	2	2
4	Brody Roybal	F	5	6	6	12	2
8	Jack Wallace	F	4	4	3	7	8
9	Travis Dodson	F	5	0	1	1	2
11	Tyler Carron	D	5	1	4	5	2
13	Luke McDermott	F	5	0	3	6	4
15	Nikko Landeros	D	5	0	5	5	4
16	Declan Farmer	F	5	6	7	13	2
20	Adam Page	F	5	3	2	5	0
22	Noah Grove	F	5	1	3	4	0
23	Rico Roman	F	5	1	0	1	0
24	Josh Misiewicz	F	4	3	3	6	31
25	Billy Hanning	D	5	1	0	1	0
27	Josh Pauls	D	5	1	4	5	2
88	Kevin McKee	F	5	4	4	8	0

HOME STATES

California	2
Colorado	2
Florida	1
Illinois	3
Maryland	1
Missouri	2
New Jersey	2
New Mexico	1
New York	2
Oregon	1

BIRTH YEARS

1981	1
1983	1
1985	2
1986	1
1987	1
1988	1
1990	1
1989	3
1992	2
1997	1
1998	2
1999	1

Goaltender Statistics

NO.	NAME	GP	MIN	W-L	GA	SV	GAA	SV%
32	Jen Lee	2	90:00	2-0	1	13	0.67	1.00
34	Steve Cash	3	135:00	3-0	4	42	1.33	0.913

Average Height: 5'3"

Average Weight: 159

Oldest Player: Rico Roman (36 years, 9 months)

Youngest Player: Noah Grove (18 years, 7 months)

Average Age: 27 years, 6 months



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MORE TEAM USA TIDBITS

GOSSSELIN 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 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 graduate played parts of five seasons (1982-87) with the Bulldogs' men's ice hockey team. A 2013 UMD Athletic Hall of Fame inductee, Gosselin helped lead UMD to back-to-back (1984, 1985) Western Collegiate Hockey Association championships and Frozen Four appearances.

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'.

INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS

With a win at the 2017 World Sled Hockey Challenge in Charlottetown, P.E.I., last December, the U.S. has now claimed seven of the last eight major international sled hockey tournaments. Prior to its silver medal at the 2017 Para Sled Hockey World Championship in Gangneung, South Korea, the U.S. had claimed times six straight times, 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.



The U.S. National Sled Hockey Team celebrates a gold medal win at the 2015 IPC Sled Hockey World Championship in Buffalo, N.Y.

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).

FIVE SET FOR PARALYMPIC SLED HOCKEY DEBUTS

Five players - **Ralph DeQuebec** (San Pedro, Calif.), **Travis Dodson** (Deming, N.M.), **Billy Hanning** (High Range, Mo.), **Luke McDermott** (Westerlo, N.Y.) and **Josh Misiewicz** (La Grange, Ill.) - will be making their Paralympic debuts in sled hockey at the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea. DeQuebec and Dodson are making their national debuts this season, while Hanning, McDermott and Misiewicz have been members of Team USA since the 2014-15 season.

While the 2018 Paralympics will be Dodson's first in sled hockey, it will be his second Paralympics experience after competing in biathlon at the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. His interest in sled hockey was driven by Team USA's success at those Games.

SIX HOLD MILITARY BACKGROUNDS

Five players on the 2017-18 U.S. National Sled Hockey Team hold military backgrounds from the U.S. Army and U.S. Marines.

Among the six military veterans are three U.S. Marines, including **Ralph DeQuebec** (San Pedro, Calif.), **Luke McDermott** (Westerlo, N.Y.) and **Josh Misiewicz** (La Grange, Ill.).

Additionally, forward **Rico Roman** (Portland, Ore.) and goaltender **Jen Lee** (San Francisco, Calif.) spent time with the U.S. Army.

For a recent article detailing all five players, visit the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team website at teamusa.usahockey.com.

GOSSSELIN TIES TO 2018 U.S. MEN'S OLYMPIC TEAM

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

A two-time U.S. Olympian, Gosselin grew up in Rochester, Minnesota with the late **Jim Johansson** (Colorado Springs, Colo.), who served as USA Hockey's assistant executive director of hockey operations and general manager for the 2018 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team until his passing on Jan. 20, 2018. Together, Johansson and Gosselin grew up in Rochester, Minnesota, and skated at both the 1988 and 1992 Olympic Winter Games. Joining the two on Team USA was current U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team head coach **Tony Granato** (Downers Grove, Ill.). Granato is currently in his second campaign as head coach of the University of Wisconsin men's ice hockey team, where he played for the late **Jeff Sauer**, who coached the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team from 2014 until his passing in February of 2017. Sauer's time with the U.S. National Sled Hockey Team included gold medal finishes at the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia, and the 2015 International Paralympic Committee Sled Hockey World Championship in Buffalo, New York.

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.

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USA HOCKEY HAPPENINGS

11TH HOCKEY WEEKEND ACROSS AMERICA

The 11th annual Hockey Weekend Across America will be held March 2-4, 2018. The weekend 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.

FELLOW U.S. NATIONAL HOCKEY TEAM SUCCESS

Over the last three months, five other U.S. hockey teams have found success in international competition.

Most recently, the U.S. Under-18 Women's National Team claimed a fourth-straight gold medal at the International Ice Hockey Federation Women's Under-18 World Championship with a 9-3 victory over Sweden on Jan. 13 in Dmitrov, Russia.

On Jan. 5, the 2018 U.S. National Junior Team earned a bronze medal at the 2018 IIHF World Junior Championship in Buffalo, New York, after topping Czech Republic, 9-3, in the bronze medal game. It marked the first time the U.S. has claimed a medal in three-straight World Junior Championships (2016 - bronze; 2017 - gold; 2018 - bronze).

In December, two U.S. teams reached the championship game of their respective tournaments. On Dec. 16, the U.S. Junior Select Team reached the championship game of the 2018 World Junior A Challenge in Truro, Nova Scotia, but fell to Canada West, 5-1, to earn second. That second-place finish preceded Team USA's championship at the 2017 World Sled Hockey Challenge in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

On Nov. 12, the U.S. Women's National Hockey Team topped Canada, 5-1, to claim the 2017 Four Nations Cup at Amalie Arena in Tampa, Florida. The title was Team USA's third-straight in the event and eighth overall.

The U.S. National Under-17 Team also claimed a pair of international titles. On Dec. 16, the U.S. National Under-17 Team defeated Russia, 2-1, in a shootout in its final game of the 2017 Under-17 Four Nations Tournament to secure first place with an undefeated 2-1-0-0 (W-OTW-OTL-L) record. The team also claimed the 2017 World Under-17 Hockey Challenge in Dawson Creek, British Columbia, in early November.

USA HOCKEY SIGNS PARTNERSHIP WITH CHIPOTLE MEXICAN GRILL

On Dec. 21, USA Hockey announced that Chipotle Mexican Grill will become an official sponsor of the organization, including designation as the title sponsor of USA Hockey National Championships for youth, girls, women and high school aged-players. Chipotle will also be an official sponsor of Hockey Weekend Across America, including designation as Wear Your Favorite Hockey Jersey Day, sponsored by Chipotle, as well as an official sponsor of USA Hockey's two national Try Hockey for Free Days and USA Hockey Player Development Camps.



The U.S. Under-18 Women's National Team celebrates its gold medal finish at the 2018 IIHF Under-18 Women's World Championship in Dmitrov, Russia, on January 13, 2018

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 were unveiled on January 1.

Men: The 2018 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team will compete from Feb. 14-25. Team USA's final 25-player roster is comprised of college players, American Hockey Leaguers, and Americans playing professionally in Europe. **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.

The men's roster includes 15 players with NHL experience, led by **Brian Gionta** (Rochester, N.Y.), who will serve as team captain of the 2018 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team.

Women: The 2018 U.S. Olympic Women's Ice Hockey Team will compete from Feb. 11-22. **Robb Stauber** is serving as head coach with **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).

The women's roster features 23 players, including 10 returning Olympians and six two-time Olympians (2010, 2014) in **Kacey Bellamy** (Westfield, Mass.), captain **Meghan Duggan** (Danvers, Mass.), **Hilary Knight** (Sun Valley, Idaho), **Jocelyne Lamoureux-Davidson** (Grand Forks, N.D.), **Monique Lamoureux-Morando** (Grand Forks, N.D.) and **Gigi Marvin** (Warroad, Minn.).

For more on both rosters, visit teamusa.usahockey.com.

THE TIME IS NOW TOUR, PRESENTED BY TOYOTA

The Time is Now Tour, which recently completed, consisted of a series of games in the U.S. to assist the U.S. Women's National Team in preparation for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games. In total, the U.S. went 4-0-1-2 (W-OTW-OTL-L) as it played four times against Canada (1-0-1-2) and once against both Finland (1-0) and Sweden (1-0). For more information, visit TheTimeIsNowTour.com

DATE	OPPONENT	RESULT	LOCATION
10/25/17	Canada	L, 1-5	Boston, Massachusetts
11/07/17	Finland	W, 8-2	Wesley Chapel, Florida
11/08/17	Canada	W, 4-2	Wesley Chapel, Florida
11/10/17	Sweden	W, 5-0	Wesley Chapel, Florida
11/12/17	Canada	W, 5-1	Tampa, Florida
12/03/17	Canada	L, 1-2 (OT)	St. Paul, Minnesota
12/15/17	Canada	L, 1-3	San Jose, California

USA HOCKEY'S NATIONAL TEAM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Founded in 1996, USA Hockey's National Team Development Program began operations in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and remained there until the summer of 2015. The full-time program is composed of two squads, the U.S. National Under-18 Team and U.S. National Under-17 teams, which compete in the USHL as well as against international and collegiate competition.

The Under-17 Team competes in the United States Hockey League and also participates in three international events annually. The U.S. National Under-18 Team's schedule includes games against NCAA Division I and III opponents, USHL teams as well as competition in three international tournaments.

USA HOCKEY ARENA

USA Hockey Arena, home of USA Hockey's National Team Development Program, is a two-sheet facility with regulation ice (85x200) in the main arena and Olympic-size ice (100x200) for the secondary sheet. Acquired by the USA Hockey Foundation on April 1, 2015, the facility has added 20,000 square feet to the property that included a 9,800-square-foot workout facility, additional offices and a conference center. In total, the facility encompasses 170,000 square feet with the main rink providing 3,504 seats for hockey games and 4,500 seats for other performances and events. Accompanying the facility is the USA Hockey Summer Drive-In, which has three large screens that show first-run double-features seven nights a week, as well as CJ's Brewing Company.