



# NATIONAL SOCCER HALL OF FAME

## 2025 Player Final Ballot

Each Voter will submit a vote for up to 10 names who they feel are most deserving to be elected to the NSHOF Class of 2025.

### 2025 Player Final Ballot List

Chris Ahrens  
Yael Averbuch  
Kyle Beckerman  
Matt Besler  
Lori Chalupny  
Stephanie Lopez Cox  
Dwayne DeRosario  
Maurice Edu  
Keith Johnson  
Jermaine Jones

Shalrie Joseph  
Robbie Keane  
Carli Lloyd  
Chad Marshall  
Oguchi Onyewu  
Nick Rimando  
Amy Rodriguez  
Carlos Ruiz  
Cat Reddick Whitehill  
Chris Wondolowski

### 2025 Player Final Ballot Biographies

These capsule biographies include both information about the achievements that enabled these candidates to meet the eligibility criteria and other information about their careers compiled by Hall of Fame historians. The statement of how each player met the Hall of Fame eligibility criteria appears in italics below their name.

Player biographies are grouped by the year that they “last played” which serves as the retirement year for the purpose of Hall of Fame record keeping. “Last year of eligibility” refers only to eligibility for the Player Ballot. After a candidate’s eligibility via the Players Eligibility List expires, they will be moved to the Veterans Eligibility List.

### LAST PLAYED IN 2015 (2025 Election is final year of Player Ballot Eligibility)

#### **Chris Ahrens**

*Eligibility: 54 games for the U.S. National 7-a-side Paralympic Team.*

A defender and midfielder who was a member of the U.S. team at the 2012 Paralympic Games in London. Born with cerebral palsy, Ahrens appeared in 54 games for the 7-a-side **Paralympic** team between 2006 and 2015, **including** two appearances at the Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association (CPISRA) World Championships. He was on the U.S. team that finished second at the Copa America 2010 and third at the Paralympic World Cup in 2012.

**Lori Chalupny**

*Eligibility: 106 appearances for U.S. Women's National Team AND 6 women's professional seasons with 2 Best XI Selections*

A defender who won World Cup and Olympic championships with the U.S. national team. Chalupny played 106 full internationals for the United States between 2001 and 2015, including seven games at the 2007 and 2015 Women's World Cups and five games at the 2008 Olympic Games. Although she was not a frequent goal scorer over the years, with 10 goals in her national-team games, several of those came in key situations in both the World Cup and Olympic Games. At the 2007 Women's World Cup, where she scored two goals, she played every minute of all six United States games. She reached the 100-plus caps level despite having missed four seasons of national team play due to concussions. Chalupny played all three seasons of WPS, with St. Louis and Atlanta, and the first three seasons of the NWSL, with Chicago. She was chosen to the WPS post-season all-star team in 2009 and the NWSL post-season Best XI in 2013. In those six first-division seasons, she played 108 regular-season games and two playoff games. She also played one season in the WPSL and one season in the Swedish first division.

**Cat Reddick Whitehill**

*Eligibility: 134 appearances for U.S. Women's National Team*

A defender who played for the United States in two World Cups and one Olympic Games. Whitehill played in five of the United States' six games (including the final) in its gold-medal-winning effort at the 2004 Olympics. She also played in all six of the United States' games at both the 2003 Women's World Cup and the 2007 Women's World Cup. Those 17 games, and seven World Cup qualifiers, were among 134 full internationals that Whitehill played for the United States. Her first full international was against Italy in 2000 and her last against Mexico in 2010. She scored 11 goals in those games, including two against North Korea in the 2003 Women's World Cup. Whitehill played three seasons in WPS, for Atlanta and Washington, and three seasons in the NWSL, all for Boston. During those six seasons, she played 106 regular-season games and two playoff games.

**LAST PLAYED IN 2016 (2026 Election is final year of Player Ballot Eligibility)****Keith Johnson**

*Eligibility: 101 games for the U.S. National 7-a-Side Paralympic Team.*

A goalkeeper for the United States at the 2004 and 2012 Paralympics. Born with cerebral palsy, Johnson joined the U.S. team in 2003 and earned 101 caps during his 14-year career. Famous among experienced players for his hard-nosed play in practice and competition, he was a member of the bronze-medal-winning team at the 2012 World Cup in Manchester, England.

**Carlos Ruiz**

*Eligibility: 10 MLS Seasons with 1 Best XI Selection*

A forward who was a goalscoring star in MLS. Ruiz, who was from Guatemala, played 10 seasons in MLS between 2002 and 2016, for Los Angeles, Dallas, Toronto, Philadelphia and D.C. The best of those seasons was 2002, when he was named the MLS most valuable player, scored the winning goal in overtime for Los Angeles in the MLS final and led MLS in scoring with 24 goals in the regular season (plus eight more in the playoffs). During his MLS years, he played 183 regular-season games and 19 playoff games and scored 105 goals. Ruiz played for Guatemala from 2000 to 2016 and scored numerous key goals for it, including several against the United States.

## **LAST PLAYED IN 2017 (2027 Election is final year of Player Ballot Eligibility)**

### **Maurice Edu**

*Eligibility: 46 appearances for U.S. Men's National Team*

A midfielder who played for the United States in the World Cup and won three Scottish first-division championships. Edu played 46 full internationals for the United States between 2007 and 2014. Those included three games at the 2010 World Cup and 11 World Cup qualifiers in 2008, 2009, 2013 and 2014. He also played for the United States in the 2011 CONCACAF Gold Cup. His only national-team goal came against Czech Republic in 2010, but he also had what could have been the game-winning goal against Slovenia in the 2010 World Cup called back (perhaps incorrectly) for a foul by another player. Edu played four seasons in MLS, four in the Scottish first division, one in the English Premier League, one in the Turkish first division and two in the USL as he tried to recover from injury. He won Scottish Premier League titles with Rangers in 2009, 2010 and 2011, and was a runner-up for the U.S. Open Cup in 2014 and 2015 with Philadelphia. In his MLS seasons with Toronto and Philadelphia, he played 89 games.

### **Shalrie Joseph**

*Eligibility: 11 MLS Seasons with 4 Best XI Selections*

A midfielder who was named to the MLS Best XI four times. Joseph, who was raised in the United States but played internationally for his native Grenada, played 11 seasons in MLS between 2003 and 2013, for New England, Chivas and Seattle. He was chosen to the MLS postseason Best XI in 2005, 2007, 2008 and 2009. He was a runner up for the MLS championship in 2005, 2006 and 2007, all with New England. Joseph, who was primarily a defensive midfielder, played more than 300 MLS games, 283 in the regular season and 23 in the playoffs.

### **Oguchi Onyewu**

*Eligibility: 69 appearances for U.S. Men's National Team*

A defender who starred in the U.S. national team and for European club teams for more than a decade. Onyewu played 69 full internationals for the United States between 2004 and 2014. During that time, he played 21 World Cup qualifiers in five different years, appearing in the qualifying rounds of three different World Cups. He was a member of the United States teams at the 2006 and 2010 World Cups and played in all three U.S. games in 2006. In 2010, an injury limited him to one game. Perhaps his greatest days in a U.S. uniform took place outside the World Cup. He was one of the stars of the teams that won the 2007 CONCACAF Gold Cup and reached the final of the 2009 Confederations Cup, the United States' only appearance in the final of a FIFA tournament. He was chosen as the USSF male athlete of the year in 2006. Onyewu played in various leagues in Europe between 2002 and 2015. That period included five seasons in the Belgian first division, three seasons in English professional leagues, and one season each in the French first division, the Dutch first division, the Portuguese first division and the Spanish first division. He returned to the field in 2017 and played one season in MLS before retiring.

## **LAST PLAYED IN 2018 (2028 Election is final year of Player Ballot Eligibility)**

### **Yael Averbuch**

*Eligibility: 26 games for the U.S. Women's National Team.*

A midfielder who won three league championships during her eight seasons in first-division American soccer. Averbuch played three seasons in Women's Professional Soccer between 2009 and 2011, for Sky Blue and Western New York, and five seasons in the National Women's Soccer League between 2014

and 2018, for Washington, Kansas City and Seattle. She won two WPS titles, in 2009 with Sky Blue and 2011 with Western New York, and one NWSL title, in 2015 with Kansas City. In addition to her club seasons in the United States, she played two seasons in the Swedish first division and one season in the English first division. During her eight seasons in WPS and the NWSL, she played 138 regular-season games and seven playoff games. Averbuch played 26 full internationals for the United States, the first against England in 2007 and the last against Brazil in 2013.

### **Robbie Keane**

*Eligibility: Six seasons in Major League Soccer, with four Best XI selections.*

A forward who won three MLS titles and was named to MLS' postseason Best XI four years in a row. Keane, an Irish star who had played for top-rated teams in several European leagues, joined the Los Angeles Galaxy in 2011 and played for them through 2016. He won MLS titles with the Galaxy in 2011, 2012 and 2014, and was an MLS Best XI selection in 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015. In 2014, he reached his highest MLS single-season goal total, 21, and was named the MLS most valuable player. He played 125 MLS regular-season games and 21 MLS playoff games and scored 92 goals in those games. Through his first four MLS seasons, he usually was paired with Landon Donovan in the Galaxy attack. Keane was captain of the Irish national team through most of his MLS career.

### **LAST PLAYED IN 2019 (2029 Election is final year of Player Ballot Eligibility)**

### **Dwayne DeRosario**

*Eligibility: 14 seasons in Major League Soccer, with six Best XI selections.*

A midfielder who won four MLS championships and was chosen to the MLS Best XI six times. DeRosario, considered one of Canada's greatest players ever, played 14 seasons in MLS, between 2001 and 2014, for San Jose, Houston, Toronto, New York and D.C. He won MLS titles in 2001 and 2003 with San Jose, and in 2006 and 2007 with Houston. In two of those four years, he scored the winning goal in the final. He also won a U.S. Open Cup title in 2013 with D.C. United. DeRosario was chosen to the MLS Best XI in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010 and 2011. In one of those seasons, 2011, he also was the MLS most valuable player and the MLS scoring leader. During his MLS career, he played 343 regular-season games and 24 playoff games, scoring 109 goals in those games. DeRosario played for the Canadian national team from 1998 to 2015, including games in the qualifying rounds of four different World Cups.

### **Jermaine Jones**

*Eligibility: 69 games for the U.S. Men's National Team.*

A midfielder who was one of the stars of the United States team at the 2014 World Cup. Jones, who was born and raised in Germany, began playing for the U.S. national team in 2010, when he was 28. He eventually played 69 full internationals, including all four of the United States' games at the 2014 World Cup, and 15 World Cup qualifiers in 2012, 2013, 2016 and 2017. He scored a key goal for the United States against Portugal at the 2014 World Cup, and made the pass that produced a game-winning goal by Clint Dempsey for the United States against Ecuador in the quarterfinals of the 2016 Copa America. Jones had played 10 seasons in the German first division, and played partial seasons in the English Premier League and the Turkish first division, before moving to MLS in 2014. He played four seasons in MLS with New England, Colorado and the Los Angeles Galaxy, and was an MLS runner up in 2014 with New England. He played 57 MLS regular-season games and 10 MLS playoff games.

### **Chad Marshall**

*Eligibility: 16 seasons in Major League Soccer, with four Best XI selections.*

A defender who won MLS championships with two different teams and was chosen to the MLS Best XI four times. Marshall played 16 seasons in MLS between 2004 and 2019 for Columbus and Seattle. He won MLS titles in 2008, when Columbus beat New York in the final, and 2016, when Seattle beat Toronto in the final. He also was a runner-up for the MLS title in 2017 with Seattle and runner-up for the U.S. Open Cup title in 2010 with Columbus. He was named the MLS defender of the year three times, in 2008, 2009 and 2014. Marshall, who was chosen to the MLS Best XI in 2008, 2009, 2014 and 2018, played 439 games in his MLS career, 409 in the regular season and 30 in the playoffs. At the time of his retirement, only three other players had played more games in first-division American soccer than Marshall. He played 12 full internationals for the United States between 2005 and 2017, including three World Cup qualifiers in 2005 and 2009.

### **Nick Rimando**

*Eligibility: 21 games for the U.S. Men's National Team.*

A goalkeeper who set a record for the most appearances in first-division American soccer, and won MLS titles with two different teams. Rimando played 20 seasons in MLS, for the Miami Fusion, D.C. United and Real Salt Lake, between 2000 and 2019. During those seasons, Rimando played a total of 553 MLS games, including both regular-season and playoffs. He passed the previous record holder, Kevin Hartman, in 2017, when he played his 466th MLS game. Rimando won two MLS championships, in 2004 with D.C. United and 2009 with Real Salt Lake (when he was named the MVP of the final). He also had several runner-up finishes with Salt Lake in various competitions, MLS in 2013, the U.S. Open Cup in 2013 and the CONCACAF Champions League in 2011, and was runner up in the U.S. Open Cup in 2000 with Miami, the closest that club ever came to winning a major title. Rimando played 21 full internationals for the United States between 2002 and 2015, despite being stymied by famous goalkeepers like Brad Friedel, Kasey Keller and Tim Howard for much of that time. His games for the United States included five, one of which was the final, in the U.S. victory at the 2013 CONCACAF Gold Cup. He also was a member of the United States squad at the 2014 World Cup. During his 21 games for the United States, he allowed only 14 goals, for one of the best goals-against averages in U.S. national team history.

**LAST PLAYED IN 2020 (First Ballot in 2024, 2030 Election is final year of Player Ballot Eligibility)**

### **Kyle Beckerman**

*Eligibility: 58 games for the U.S. Men's National Team.*

A midfielder who had a remarkably long career in Major League Soccer and played for the United States in the World Cup. Beckerman played 21 seasons in MLS between 2000 and 2020, for the Miami Fusion, the Colorado Rapids and Real Salt Lake. He won an MLS championship with RSL in 2009, and was an MLS runner-up in 2013 with RSL. During his MLS career, he played 498 regular-season games and 37 playoff games, with his total of 535 games second in MLS annals only to his RSL teammate Nick Rimando. Beckerman played 58 full internationals for the United States between 2007 and 2006, including eight World Cup qualifiers in 2009, 2012, 2013 and 2016, and three games at the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. In addition to his World Cup efforts, he was a member of the United States teams that won the CONCACAF Gold Cup in 2013 and finished second in 2009 and played in the 2007 and 2016 Copa America tournaments.

## **LAST PLAYED IN 2021 (First Ballot in 2025, 2031 Election is final year of Player Ballot Eligibility)**

### **Matt Besler**

*Eligibility: 13 seasons in Major League Soccer, with two Best XI selections, and 47 games for the U.S. Men's National Team.*

A defender who starred in both Major League Soccer and the U.S. men's national team. Besler played 13 seasons in MLS between 2009 and 2021, 12 of those for Sporting Kansas City and one for Austin. He won an MLS title with Kansas City in 2013 and was chosen to the MLS Best XI in 2012 and 2013. He won the U.S. Open Cup with Kansas City in 2012, 2015 and 2017, and was named as the MLS defender of the year in 2012. Besler played 47 full internationals for the United States between 2013 and 2017, including 14 World Cup qualifiers during those years and all four of the United States' games at the 2014 World Cup (he started all four games and played the full 90 minutes in three of them, plus overtime in one). Besides his World Cup efforts, he played in the United States teams that won the CONCACAF Gold Cup in 2013 and 2017 and reached the semifinals of the Copa America in 2016.

### **Stephanie Lopez Cox**

*Eligibility: 89 games for the U.S. Women's National Team.*

A defender who played in two World Cups for the United States and won an Olympic gold medal. Cox was a regular for the United States at both the 2007 and 2011 Women's World Cups, playing a total of eight games in those two tournaments. She also played five games at the 2008 Olympic Games, when the United States won the title. In her 10-year career in the U.S. national team, she played a total of 89 full internationals. She took a runner-up medal at the 2011 Women's World Cup. Cox played nine seasons in United States first-division leagues, three in WPS and six in the NWSL. She was a league runner-up three times in those six seasons, finishing second in WPS in 2009 with Los Angeles and in the NWSL in 2014 and 2015 with Seattle. During those nine seasons, she played a total of 111 regular-season games and eight playoff games. She was chosen as a second-team NWSL all-star in 2014 and 2015, and played five seasons in the WPSL and one season in the W-League.

### **Carli Lloyd**

*Eligibility: 316 games for the U.S. Women's National Team.*

A forward and midfielder who repeatedly scored key goals for the United States in major world finals and was the star of the United States' victory in the 2015 Women's World Cup. Lloyd played 316 full internationals for the United States between 2005 and 2021, winning Olympic gold medals in 2008 and 2012, and World Cup titles in 2015 and 2019. Those 316 caps included 25 at the four Women's World Cups in which she played, 22 at the four Olympic Games in which she played, and 18 World Cup qualifiers over the years. She scored the winning goal in overtime in the United States' 1-0 victory over Brazil in the 2008 Olympic final, both goals in the United States 2-1 victory over Japan in the 2012 Olympic final, and three goals in the United States' 5-2 victory over Japan in the 2015 World Cup final. For her efforts, she was named the FIFA women's world player of the year in both 2015 and 2016, the most valuable player of the 2015 Women's World Cup and the USSF's woman player of the year in 2008 and 2015. Her most famous goal was the 55-yard blast over the head of an out-of-position goalkeeper that boosted the United States lead to 4-0 in the 16th minute of the 2015 Women's World Cup final. Lloyd, whose national-team career included being one of the stars of the team that was runner-up in the 2011 Women's World Cup, scored a total of 134 goals for the United States, including 10 in the World Cup and 14 in the Olympic Games. Lloyd played 11 seasons in first-division United States leagues between 2009 and 2021, three in WPS for Chicago, New Jersey and Atlanta, and eight in the NWSL, for Western New York, Houston and Sky Blue/Gotham. She was a runner-up for the NWSL title in 2013 with Western New York. In addition to her first-division seasons in the United States, she also played one

season in the English first division for Manchester City, winning an English Women's FA Cup title in 2017. During her first-division seasons in the United States, she played a total of 138 regular-season games, three playoff games and scored 49 goals.

**Amy Rodriguez**

*Eligibility: Three seasons in Women's Professional Soccer, with one all-WPS selection; six seasons in the National Women's Soccer League, with one Best XI selection, and 132 games for the U.S. Women's National Team.*

A forward who played for the United States in two Women's World Cups and two Olympic Games. Rodriguez played in the U.S. national team from 2004 through 2018 and scored 30 goals in her 132 full internationals. Those games included five of the United States six games at the 2011 Women's World Cup, two games at the 2015 Women's World Cup, six games at the 2008 Olympic Games and four games at the 2012 Olympic Games. She took home a lot of medals from those tournaments, with the United States team winning both of those Olympics and the 2015 World Cup. She also played in eight World Cup qualifiers in 2010 and 2014. Rodriguez played from 2009 through 2010 in WPS, for the Boston Breakers and Philadelphia Independence, and was named to the all-WPS team in 2010. She played from the 2014 season through the 2021 season in the NWSL, for FC Kansas City, the Utah Royals and the North Carolina Courage, and was named to the NWSL Best XI in 2014. During her WPS/NWSL seasons, she played 130 regular-season games and 11 playoff games, scoring 54 goals in those games.

**Chris Wondolowski**

*Eligibility: 17 seasons in Major League Soccer, with three Best XI selections, and 35 games for the U.S. Men's National Team.*

A forward who, at the time he retired, was the leading career goal scorer in Major League Soccer history. Wondolowski played 17 seasons in MLS between 2005 and 2021, for San Jose and Houston. During those 17 seasons, he scored a total of 171 regular-season goals (he also had two playoff goals), surpassing Landon Donovan's regular-season total of 145 goals. Wondolowski was named to the MLS Best XI three times, in 2010, 2011, 2012. His best goalscoring season was 2012, when he had 27 goals, and was part of a streak of 10 consecutive seasons in which he scored at least 10 goals. He led MLS in goalscoring twice, in 2010 and 2012. During his MLS career, Wondolowski played 413 regular-season games and seven playoff games. Wondolowski played 35 full internationals for the United States between 2011 and 2016, including two games at the 2014 World Cup. He also was a member of the United States team at the 2016 Copa America.