



2027 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 2027. The two Players named on the most ballots AND named on at least 50% of the the ballots will be elected. A third Player will be elected if they appear on at least 75% of the ballots.

2027 Player Final Ballot List

Ozzie Alonso *	Dwayne DeRosario	Oguchi Onyewu
Jozy Altidore *	Julie Johnston Ertz *	Megan Rapinoe *
Michael Archer	Jermaine Jones	Amy Rodriguez
Kyle Beckerman	Robbie Keane	Natalie Russo-Dickey *
Matt Besler	Ali Krieger *	Diego Valeri
Michael Bradley *	Samantha Mewis	Graham Zusi *
Stephanie Lopez Cox	Jessica McDonald *	

*First Year of Eligibility

2027 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.

Players who last played in 2017 (last year of eligibility via this list is 2027)

Oguchi Onyewu

Eligibility: 69 games for the 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 men’s 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.

Players who last played in 2018 (last year of eligibility via this list is 2028)

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.

Players who last played in 2019 (last year of eligibility via this list is 2029)

Michael Archer

Eligibility: 25 games for the U.S. Power Soccer National Team

A center who was a member of the U.S. teams at the 2007, 2011 and 2017 Fédération Internationale de Powerchair Football Association (FIPFA) Powerchair Football World Cups. Diagnosed with Arthrogryposis, Archer appeared in 25 matches for the U.S. Power Soccer National Team between 2007 and 2019, helping the team to World Cup titles in 2007 and 2011, and a runner-up finish in 2017. A groundbreaking player in international Powerchair Football, Archer is the USA's all-time leader with 36 goals and 39 assists, and helped the team claim the American Powerchair Football Confederation (APFC) title in 2019, his last year of international competition.

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.

Players who last played in 2020 (last year of eligibility via this list is 2030)

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 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.

Players who last played in 2021 (last year of eligibility via this list is 2031)

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 the course of 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 also played five seasons in the WPSL and one season in the W-League.

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 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 game.

Players who last played in 2022 (first year of eligibility is 2026, last is 2032)

Samantha Mewis

Eligibility: Seven seasons in the National Women's Soccer League, with one Best XI selection, and 83 games for the U.S. Women's National Team.

A midfielder who was a key player in the United States victory at the 2019 Women's World Cup. Mewis, whose sister Kristie also was a U.S. national-team player, played 83 full internationals for the United States, and scored 24 goals in those games. Those 83 games included six of the United States' seven games at the 2019 Women's World Cup, all six United States games at the 2021 Olympic Games, and two World Cup qualifiers in 2018. At the 2019 Women's World Cup, the games she played included the final against the Netherlands, and she assisted on Rose Lavelle's goal in that 2-0 victory. She also scored two goals in a first-round game. She was named the U.S. Soccer Federation women's athlete of the year in 2020. Mewis, whose career was shortened by a knee injury suffered when she was 29 years old, won three National Women's Soccer League championships during her seven-season NWSL career. Those came in 2016 with Western New York, 2018 with North Carolina and 2019 with North Carolina. She was named to the NWSL Best XI in 2017. Mewis played one season in the English first-division, for Manchester City, winning an English Women's FA Cup title in 2020.

Diego Valeri

Eligibility: Nine seasons in Major League Soccer, with three Best XI selections.

A midfielder who was the playmaking star of the Portland Timbers for years. Valeri played in MLS from the 2013 season through the 2021 season, all for the Portland Timbers. He was one of the greatest of the many Argentinian playmaking midfielders in MLS over the years (a group that includes Guillermo Barros Schellotto, Mauro Diaz, Christian Gomez, Leo Messi, Maxi Moralez and Ignacio Piatti). He was named to the MLS Best XI in 2013, 2014 and 2017, and topped that with a selection as MLS most valuable player in 2017. He reached the MLS championship game three times, winning an MLS championship in 2015 and finishing as runner-up in 2018 and 2021. In 2015, he scored the first goal of the MLS title game as Portland upset the Columbus Crew for the title. In his MLS career, Valeri played 262 regular-season games and 22 playoff games, and scored 92 goals.

Players who last played in 2023 (first year of eligibility is 2027, last is 2033)

Ozzie Alonso

Eligibility: 15 seasons in Major League Soccer, with one Best XI selection.

A midfielder who was a vital cog in the Seattle Sounders' attack and defense for a decade.

Alonso played in MLS from the 2009 season through the 2023 season, for the Seattle Sounders, Minnesota United and Atlanta United. He played the first 10 of those seasons for Seattle, winning a string of honors there. He won an MLS championship with the Sounders in 2016, was named to the MLS Best XI in 2012, and won U.S. Open Cup titles with the Sounders in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2014. In all, he played in the U.S. Open Cup final six times, five with Seattle and one with Minnesota. He scored the second goal of Seattle's 2-0 win over the Chicago Fire in the 2011 final, which made the Sounders the first team in more than 40 years to win the cup three years in a row. In his MLS career, Alonso played 349 regular-season games and 28 playoff games. Alonso was a Cuban expatriate and thus unable to play in the national teams of either Cuba (where he had been a national-team star) or the United States.

Jozy Altidore

Eligibility: 115 games for the U.S. Men's National Team.

A prolific goal-scorer for the U.S. Men's National Team, Altidore made 115 career appearances from 2007-2019, with his 42 goals ranking him third all-time in USMNT history. Altidore made 41 appearances in World Cup qualifying across seven different years, recording 18 goals to tie with Clint Dempsey for the USMNT's all-time lead. His 42 goals include two career hat tricks, one coming in a 3-0 win against Trinidad and Tobago in 2010 World Cup qualifying, as well as a 4-3 victory against Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2013. Altidore scored what would stand as the game-winner in the 2-0 victory against reigning European champions Spain at the 2009 FIFA Confederations Cup semifinal. He went on to record two important goals in back-to-back matches at the 2017 Gold Cup, finding the back of the net in the 2-0 win against Costa Rica in the semifinal before tallying against Jamaica in the 2-1 final win to lead the USA to its sixth Gold Cup title. In addition to World Cups, he also played for the United States at the 2008 Olympic Games, the 2009 Confederations Cup and the CONCACAF Gold Cup in 2011, 2015, 2017 and 2019. Altidore began his professional career by playing three seasons with the New York Red Bulls of Major League Soccer from 2006 to 2008 and then spent eight seasons abroad, spending two seasons in the Spanish Primera, three seasons in the English Premier League, two seasons in the Dutch Eredivisie, where he also won the KNVB Beker with AZ Alkmaar and one season in the Turkish SuperLig. Altidore returned to Major League Soccer with Toronto FC where he played from 2015 to 2021, helping the club to the 2017 MLS Cup and Supporters Shield double and winning the 2017 MLS Cup MVP Award. He also claimed three-straight Canadian Championships from 2016 to 2018. Altidore spent two seasons with New England Revolution from 2022 to 2023 and also spent time on loan with Liga MX side Puebla in 2022.

Michael Bradley

Eligibility: 151 games for the U.S. Men's National Team.

A midfielder who starred in the U.S. Men's National Team and for first-division clubs in several countries for more than 15 years. Bradley played 151 full internationals for the United States between 2006 and 2019. Those included 40 World Cup qualifiers in seven different years, and eight games at the 2010 and 2014 World Cups. His 17 goals for the United States included two in a World Cup qualifier against Mexico in 2009, one against Egypt in the 2009 Confederations Cup and the crucial tying goal of the United States' draw with Slovenia in the 2010 World Cup. In addition to World Cups, he also played for the United States at the 2008 Olympic Games, the 2009 Confederations Cup, the 2016 Copa America and the CONCACAF Gold Cup in 2007, 2011, 2015, 2017 and 2019. Bradley started his professional career with the MetroStars of Major League Soccer in 2005, and then spent the next nine seasons in Europe before returning in 2014 to MLS. He played three seasons each in the Dutch first division, the German first division and the Italian first division. After returning to MLS, he played 10 more MLS seasons, all with Toronto FC, and won an MLS title in 2017 with Toronto. In 2015, he was chosen as both the USSF men's athlete of the year and the Futbol de Primera U.S. player of the year.

Julie Johnston Ertz

Eligibility: Nine seasons in the National Women's Soccer League, with three Best XI selections, and 123 games for the U.S. Women's National Team.

A defender and midfielder who played a key part in the United States victories in the Women's World Cup in 2015 and 2019. Ertz played in the national team from 2013 through 2023, initially as a central defender and later as a defensive midfielder, becoming one of the team's most dominant stars. She played all seven of the United States' games at the 2015 Women's World Cup in Canada, six of its seven games at the 2019 Women's World Cup in France and all four of the United States' games at the 2023 Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand, starting all 13 of those World Cup games. She was a breakout star at the 2015 Women's World Cup, playing every minute of all seven games and being named by FIFA to the all-star team of that Women's World Cup. Despite being one of the most important figures in the U.S. team's defense, Ertz scored 20 goals in those 123 full internationals. Ertz played eight games for the United States at the 2016 and 2021 Olympic Games, and her career in the U.S. national team also included five World Cup qualifiers in 2018. Earlier, she had been captain of the United States team that won the Under-20 Women's World Cup in 2012. She was named the USSF women's player of the year in 2017 and 2019. Ertz played in the NWSL from the 2014 season

through the 2023 season, for the Chicago Red Stars and Angel City, and was named to the NWSL Best XI in 2015, 2019 and 2020, as well as the Second XI in 2016, 2017 and 2018. She was the NWSL rookie of the year in 2014.

Ali Krieger

Eligibility: One season in Women's Professional Soccer and 10 seasons in the National Women's Soccer League, with three Best XI selections, and 108 games for the U.S. Women's National Team.

A defender who played in three Women's World Cup finals, winning two of those, and also getting an NWSL championship. Krieger was a fixture in the U.S. Women's National Team for a decade and got to hoist the World Cup trophy in 2015 and 2019. In both 2011 and 2015, she played the full game of the World Cup final, and in 2019 she entered as an early substitute for injured Kelly O'Hara. She was one of only five players (along with Carli Lloyd, Tobin Heath, Megan Rapinoe and Alex Morgan) to play in all three of those finals. The 108 full internationals that Krieger played for the United States included 16 games at the 2011, 2015 and 2019 World Cups, two games at the 2016 Olympic Games and eight World Cup qualifiers in 2010 and 2014. Krieger played in the 2009 season in WPS, for the Washington Spirit, and in the NWSL from the 2014 season through the 2023 season, for the Washington Spirit, Orlando Pride and Gotham FC. She added an NWSL title to her two World Cup crowns with a victory in the final game of her career in 2023. She was named to the NWSL Best XI in 2014, 2017 and 2019. Early in her career, she played five seasons in the German first division and one season in the Swedish first division, and won a UEFA Cup women's championship in 2008 with her German club, FFC Frankfurt.

Jessica McDonald

Eligibility: One season in Women's Professional Soccer and 11 seasons in the National Women's Soccer League, with one Best XI selection.

A forward who had a long first-division career and was a member of the Women's World Cup-winning U.S. team in 2019. McDonald played in the National Women's Soccer League for 11 seasons, 2013 through 2023, for Chicago, Seattle, Portland, Houston, Western New York, North Carolina and Louisville, as well as one season in Women's Professional Soccer, 2010, for Chicago. She won two NWSL championships, with the Western New York Flash in 2016 and the North Carolina Courage in 2018, and was named to the NWSL Best XI in 2016. She scored two of North Carolina's three goals in the 2018 NWSL final against Portland. She also played one season in the Australian first division. McDonald played 19 full internationals for the United States between 2016 and 2020, including one game at the 2019 Women's World Cup in France.

Megan Rapinoe

Eligibility: Three seasons in Women's Professional Soccer and 10 seasons in the National Women's Soccer League, with one Best XI selection, and 203 games for the U.S. Women's National Team.

A midfielder and forward who played for the United States in four Women's World Cups, starring in three finals and winning two of those. Rapinoe played 203 full internationals for the United States between 2006 and 2023. Those included 16 World Cup qualifiers in 2010, 2014, 2018 and 2022, 20 World Cup games in 2011, 2015, 2019 and 2023, and eight Olympic Games in 2012 and 2016. She won the Golden Ball as the outstanding player of the 2019 World Cup, and also the Golden Boot for leading that tournament in scoring with six goals. Those goals included both goals in the 2-1 victory over Spain in the Round of 16, both in the 2-1 win over France in the quarterfinals and one in the 2-0 win over the Netherlands in the final. Those six were in addition to the one goal she scored in the 2011 Women's World Cup and the two she scored in the 2015 Women's World Cup. However, her most famous play may have been an assist rather than a goal, the 45-yard diagonal cross that Abby Wambach headed into the goal for a stoppage-time equalizer against Brazil in the 2011 Women's World Cup. Her nine World Cup goals were part of the total of 63 goals that she scored in her U.S. women's national team career. In addition to her World Cup victories in 2015 and 2019, she also won an Olympic gold medal in 2012 and was named by FIFA as the women's world player of the year in 2019. Rapinoe played 13 first-division seasons in the United States, three of them in Women's Professional Soccer between 2009 and 2011 for Chicago and Florida, and 10 in the National Women's Soccer League between 2013 and 2023 for Seattle and OL Reign. She also played two seasons in the French first division and one in the

Australian first division. She was named to the NWSL Best XI in 2018 and was an NWSL runnerup with Seattle in 2014 and 2015 and with OL Reign in 2023.

Natalie Russo-Dickey

Eligibility: 21 caps for the U.S. Power Soccer National Team

An attacking player who represented the United States at two FIPFA Powerchair Football World Cups and two APFC Copa Americas, winning two regional championships. The third Powerchair football player to become eligible for the National Soccer Hall of Fame, Russo-Dickey recorded 23 goals and eight assists in 21 matches for the U.S. between 2014 and 2023. She was a force for the USA at the 2014 Copa America in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, leading the team with 19 goals and four assists, as the U.S. won the inaugural tournament title. Russo-Dickey collected hat tricks in four of the seven tournament matches, including scoring four goals in the 9-0 semifinal win against Brazil and three in the 6-0 victory against Australia in the championship match. She returned to the Copa America five years later in Rio, appearing as a substitute in three of the four matches and contributing one goal and two assists as the USA again claimed the regional title. Russo-Dickey also appeared in 10 matches over two FIPFA Powerchair Football World Cup tournaments, contributing three goals and two assists in five matches to help the USA to a runner-up finish in 2017 in Kissimmee, Fla. Russo-Dickey ended her international career with five appearances as the USA took bronze at the 2023 World Cup in Sydney.

Graham Zusi

Eligibility: 15 seasons in Major League Soccer, with two Best XI selections, and 55 caps for the U.S. Men's National Team.

A midfielder who later converted to become an outside back, Zusi played the entirety of his 15-year professional career with Sporting Kansas City of Major League Soccer from 2009 to 2023. During that time, Zusi made 355 league appearances and scored 31 goals, helping Sporting Kansas City to the 2013 MLS Cup title as well as three Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup championships in 2012, 2015 and 2017. During his time in Kansas City, Zusi was named to the MLS Best XI in both 2012 and 2013 and was also a seven-time MLS All-Star in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Zusi represented the United States in 55 matches, recording five goals from 2012 to 2017. He was part of the U.S. squad at the 2014 FIFA World Cup where he appeared in all four matches and recorded assists in the opening two games against Ghana and Portugal. Zusi appeared in 20 qualifiers over four years in 2012, 2013, 2016 and 2017, scoring goals in three consecutive appearances coming against Jamaica and Panama in October 2013 and Guatemala in March 2016. The Longwood, Fla. product was part of Concacaf Gold Cup squads in 2015 and 2017, helping the USA win the latter and also took part in the 2016 Copa America Centenario, where he tallied one goal as the USMNT finished fourth.