



# NATIONAL SOCCER HALL OF FAME

## 2021 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 2021.

### 2021 Player Final Ballot List

David Beckham

Gregg Berhalter

Shannon Boxx

Lori Chalupny

Lauren Cheney Holiday

Steve Cherundolo

Kevin Hartman

Frankie Hejduk

Thierry Henry

Keith Johnson

Shalrie Joseph

Pablo Mastroeni

Josh McKinney

Heather Mitts

Oguchi Onyewu

Christie Pearce Rampone

Cat Reddick Whitehill

Hope Solo

Aly Wagner

Josh Wolff

## 2021 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 the 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 newly eligible in 2020 due to changes in the eligibility standards are listed at the end of this list under their own subheading.*

### LAST PLAYED IN 2011 (Final Year of Player Ballot Eligibility)

#### Gregg Berhalter

*Eligibility Criteria: 44 appearances for the U.S. Men's National Team*

A defender who played for the United States in two famous cup runs, at the 1999 Confederations Cup and the 2002 World Cup. Berhalter played 44 full internationals for the United States between 1994 and 2006, including games against Mexico and Germany at the 2002 World Cup and games against Brazil, Mexico and Saudi Arabia at the 1999 Confederations Cup. It was Berhalter's header that was controversially kept out of the net by a German defender's arm in the 2002 World Cup quarterfinals. Berhalter's 44 caps included 14 World Cup qualifiers in 2000, 2001 and 2004, and he was a member of the United States teams at the 2006 World Cup and the 2003 Confederations Cup. Berhalter's three seasons in MLS, all with the Los Angeles Galaxy, came at the end of a club career that was spent mostly in Europe. Earlier, he had played seven seasons in Germany, six in Holland and one in England, mostly at the second-

division level. He was team captain at both Energie Cottbus and Munich 1860, leading Cottbus to promotion in the 2005-06 season. He played 52 MLS regular-season games and five MLS playoff games.

### **Frankie Hejduk**

*Eligibility Criteria: 85 appearances for the U.S. Men's National Team*

A defender who was a key man in the United States' run at the 2002 World Cup and also had a long career in MLS. Hejduk played 85 full internationals for the United States, the first against El Salvador in 1996 and the last against Denmark in 2009. He started four of the United States' five games at the 2002 World Cup, missing one game because of a yellow-card suspension. He also played in three games at the 1998 World Cup and 26 World Cup qualifiers in 1996, 2000, 2004, 2005, 2008 and 2009. In addition to those two World Cups, he was a member of the United States teams at the 1996 and 2000 Olympic Games and the 1999 and 2003 Confederations Cups. He was a regular in the United States teams that won the 2002, 2005 and 2007 CONCACAF Gold Cups, playing in both finals and missing the third due to card suspension. Hejduk played 12 seasons in MLS between 1996 and 2011, for Tampa Bay, Columbus and Los Angeles, playing a total of 203 MLS regular-season games and 17 MLS playoff games. He was the captain of the Columbus team that won the MLS championship in 2008, and also was a runner-up in the U.S. Open Cup with Columbus in 2010. In between his two stretches in MLS, he played four seasons in the German first division and one season in the Swiss first division.

### **LAST PLAYED IN 2012 (2022 Election is final year of Player Ballot eligibility)**

### **Heather Mitts**

*Eligibility Criteria: 137 appearances for the U.S. Women's National Team*

A defender who won three Olympic gold medals with the U.S. national team. Mitts played 137 full internationals for the United States, the first against Finland in 1999 and the last against China in 2012. Those included seven World Cup qualifiers in 2006 and 2010 and nine games at the 2004, 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games. Injuries kept her out of the World Cup early in her career, but she was a member of the United States squad at the 2011 Women's World Cup. She played three seasons in the WUSA between 2001 and 2003, all for Philadelphia, and three seasons in WPS between 2009 and 2011, for Boston, Philadelphia and Atlanta. During her WUSA/WPS career, she played 94 regular-season games and five playoff games.

### **Aly Wagner**

*Eligibility Criteria: 131 appearances for the U.S. Women's National Team*

A midfielder who played in two Women's World Cups and two Olympic Games for the United States. Wagner played 131 full internationals for the United States, the first against Ukraine in 1998 and the last against South Korea in 2008. In between, she played seven World Cup qualifiers in 2002 and 2006, five World Cup games in 2003 and 2007, and five Olympic games in 2004 and 2008, winning Olympic gold medals in 2004 and 2008. She played one WUSA season, 2003, with San Diego and one WPS season, 2009, with Los Angeles, plus one season in the French first division and two seasons in the WPSL. She was a WUSA second-team all-star in 2003 and a runner-up for the WPS title in 2009.

### **Josh Wolff**

*Eligibility Criteria: 52 appearances for U.S. Men's National Team*

A forward who played in two World Cups and for 14 seasons in MLS. Wolf played 52 full internationals for the United States between 1999 and 2008, including 10 World Cup qualifiers in 2000, 2001, 2004 and 2005, and three World Cup games in 2002 and 2006. He also was a member of the U.S. teams that won

the CONCACAF Gold Cup in 2002 and 2005 and reached the semifinals of the 2000 Olympic Games. Perhaps his two most famous moments in a U.S. team came against Mexico, a breakaway goal in a 2001 World Cup qualifier and the pass that produced a goal by Brian McBride at the 2002 World Cup. He played in MLS from 1998 to 2012, for Chicago, Kansas City and D.C., winning an MLS championship in 1998 with Chicago and U.S. Open Cups in 1998 and 2000 with Chicago and 2004 with Kansas City. He also played two seasons in the German second division. He played 267 MLS regular-season games and 14 MLS playoff games.

**LAST PLAYED IN 2013** (2023 Election is final year of Player Ballot Eligibility)

### **David Beckham**

*Eligibility Criteria: 6 MLS Seasons with 1 Best XI Selection*

An English midfielder who brought great publicity, along with some controversy, to American soccer during his time in MLS. Beckham played six seasons in MLS, all of them for the Los Angeles Galaxy, and helped his team to MLS championships in the last two of those seasons, 2011 and 2012. He earlier had been a member of the Los Angeles team that lost in the MLS title game in 2009. He was chosen to the MLS postseason Best XI in 2011. Beckham was one of the most famous players in the world when he signed with the Galaxy in 2007. His arrival in the league, and the publicity that came with it, was a factor in increasing MLS crowds. Prior to joining the Galaxy, he had won league championships with Manchester United in England and Real Madrid in Spain. In the one season he played after leaving the Galaxy, he won a league title with Paris St.-Germain in France. He played 98 MLS regular-season games and 17 MLS playoff games.

### **Steve Cherundolo**

*Eligibility Criteria: 87 appearances for U.S. Men's National Team*

A defender who was honored as one of the U.S. national team's all-time greats and was among the best of the many American players to star in Europe. Cherundolo, who was elected in 2013 as the right back on the U.S. men's national team All-Time Best XI, played 87 full internationals for the United States between 1999 and 2012. Those included 26 World Cup qualifiers in 2001, 2004, 2005, 2008, 2009 and 2012, and seven World Cup games in 2006 and 2010. In 2010, he played every minute of all four of the United States' games at the World Cup. In addition to playing in the 2006 and 2010 World Cups, he also was a member of the United States squad at the 2002 World Cup. Perhaps Cherundolo's greatest moment in a U.S. uniform came in the United States' game against Slovenia in the 2010 World Cup, when his long through pass down the right-side sprung Landon Donovan loose on his way to scoring a key goal. Usually, however, he was a stay-at-home defender, who scored only two goals in his 87 games for the United States and only seven in his 15 years with Hannover. His value to the USMNT may have been displayed most sharply at the 2011 CONCACAF Gold Cup final against Mexico, when the U.S. lost, 4-2, after having led by 2-0 when Cherundolo had to be replaced because of an injury. Cherundolo played 15 seasons in German professional leagues, all of them for Hannover 96, between 1999 and 2013. The last 12 of those seasons were in the first division, after he helped Hannover to gain promotion in the 2001-02 season. At the time of his retirement, he was the longest-serving player in the Bundesliga, and was Hannover's all-time leader in Bundesliga appearances with 302. During his last four seasons with Hannover, he was the main captain of the team, a role that caused him to be nicknamed "The Mayor of Hannover" by American fans.

**Kevin Hartman**

*Eligibility Criteria: 16 MLS Seasons with 1 Best XI Selection*

A goalkeeper who was one of the leading stars of MLS for more than a decade and retired as the all-time leader in first-division appearances in American soccer. Hartman played 16 seasons in MLS between 1997 and 2012 for Los Angeles, Kansas City and Dallas, appearing in a total of 465 MLS games, 416 in the regular season and 49 in the playoffs. At the time that he retired, only one active player was within 100 appearances of Hartman's total. Hartman won a string of championships during his seasons with the L.A. Galaxy, the MLS title in 2002 and 2005, the U.S. Open Cup in 2001 and 2005 and the CONCACAF Champions Cup in 2001. In all, he played in the MLS final five times, being on the losing side with Los Angeles in 1999 and 2001 and with Dallas in 2010. He also won individual honors, being named to the MLS Best XI and the MLS Goalkeeper of the Year in 1999. He played five full internationals for the United States between 1999 and 2006.

**Pablo Mastroeni**

*Eligibility Criteria: 60 appearances for U.S. Men's National Team AND 16 seasons in MLS with 1 Best XI Selection*

A midfielder who played an important role in the United States' run at the 2002 World Cup. Mastroeni was a surprise starter at that World Cup, but ended up playing three of the United States' five games as it reached the quarterfinals, and then played two more games at the 2006 World Cup. He played 65 full internationals for the United States between 2001 and 2009, including 15 World Cup qualifiers in 2004, 2005, 2008 and 2009, and five World Cup games in 2002 and 2006. In addition to his World Cup play, he was a member of the U.S. teams that won the CONCACAF Gold Cup title in 2002 and 2007, and the U.S. team at the 2003 Confederations Cup. He played 16 seasons in MLS between 1998 and 2013 for Miami, Colorado and Los Angeles. He was chosen to the MLS postseason Best XI in 2001 and won an MLS championship in 2010 with Colorado. During his MLS career, he played 334 regular-season games and 27 playoff games.

**LAST PLAYED IN 2014** (2024 Election is final year of Player Ballot Eligibility)

**Thierry Henry**

*Eligibility Criteria: 5 MLS Seasons with 3 Best XI Selections*

A forward who was named to the Best XI three times in his five-year MLS career. Henry, who had been a star in the French national team and the English Premier League for more than a decade, played in MLS from 2010 to 2014, joining the New York Red Bulls in their first season in their new stadium in New Jersey and playing five seasons with them. Henry was chosen to the MLS postseason Best XI in 2011, 2012 and 2014. In 2013, he led the Red Bulls to the Supporters Shield. During his MLS career, Henry played 122 regular-season games and 13 playoff games, and scored 52 goals in those games.

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

**Shannon Boxx**

*Eligibility Criteria: 195 appearances for U.S. Women's National Team AND 9 women's professional seasons with 2 Best XI selections*

A midfielder who played nine seasons in American first-division pro leagues and won a series of honors with the U.S. national team. Boxx' career in the U.S. national team, which spanned 195 games between 2003 and 2015, included three Olympic championships and one World Cup victory. Boxx played for the

United States in four Women's World Cups, including the United States' winning effort in 2015 and its runner-up finish in 2011. She played a total of 16 games in those four World Cups and scored three goals, two in 2003 and one in 2007. She played all six of the United States' games at the 2004 Olympics, all six of the United States' games at the 2008 Olympics and two of the United States' games (including the final) at the 2012 Olympics. She was named to the post-tournament all-star teams of both the 2003 and 2011 Women's World Cups. Boxx was one of only three women who played in all three seasons of the Women's United Soccer Association, all three seasons of Women's Professional Soccer and the first three seasons of the National Women's Soccer League. Her three seasons in the WUSA were with San Diego and New York. Her three seasons in WPS were with Los Angeles, St. Louis, Gold Pride and magicJack. Her three NWSL seasons all were with Chicago. She was chosen as a WUSA all-star in 2003, when she was with the New York Power and a WPS all-star in 2009, when she was with the Los Angeles Sol. She won a WPS championship in 2010 with Gold Pride. In those nine seasons, she played 122 regular-season games and four playoff games.

### **Lori Chalupny**

*Eligibility Criteria: 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.

### **Lauren Cheney Holiday**

*Eligibility Criteria: 133 appearances for U.S. Women's National Team and 5 women's professional seasons with 2 Best XI Selections*

A midfielder who starred in the U.S. team that won the 2015 Women's World Cup, and who also won significant honors in club play. Holiday played for the United States in the 2011 and 2015 Women's World Cups and the 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games, winning three of those four. In the course of her 133-game career in the U.S. women's national team, she played 12 World Cup games in 2011 and 2015, including the final in both of those years, and nine Olympic games in 2008 and 2012, including the final in both of those years. The 24 goals that she scored for the United States over the years included the third goal of the American triumph over Japan in the 2015 Women's World Cup final. She was chosen to the post-tournament all-star team of the 2011 Women's World Cup. Holiday played two seasons in WPS, both for Boston, and three seasons in the NWSL, all for Kansas City, winning two NWSL championships with Kansas City, in 2014 (when she was captain of that team) and 2015. In 2013, she was the NWSL's leading scorer and most valuable player. She was named to the NWSL's post-season all-star team in both 2013 and 2014, and was the USSF female athlete of the year in 2014.

### **Cat Reddick Whitehill**

*Eligibility Criteria: 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)

### **Hope Solo**

*Eligibility Criteria: 202 appearances for U.S. Women's National Team*

A goalkeeper who starred in the U.S. women's national team for more than a decade, winning two Olympic gold medals and a Women's World Cup championship. Solo played 202 full internationals for the United States between 2000 and 2016. Those included 17 games at the Women's World Cup in 2007, 2011 and 2015, 16 games at the Olympics in 2008, 2012 and 2016, and six World Cup qualifiers in 2006 and 2014. She was known for attracting controversy throughout her national team career, but nevertheless was one of the dominant figures in the team for many years. She played every minute of all seven United States games during its victory at the 2015 Women's World Cup, and also played for the United States in the 2007 and 2011 Women's World Cups, reaching the final in 2011. She played every minute of all 12 United States games in its victories at the 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games, and also played in the 2016 Olympics. She was the winner of the Golden Glove awarded by FIFA to the outstanding goalkeeper of the tournament at both the 2011 and 2015 Women's World Cups, and was named the USSF female athlete of the year in 2009. Solo played one season, 2003, in the Women's United Soccer Association, for Philadelphia; three seasons, 2009 through 2011, in Women's Professional Soccer, for St. Louis, Atlanta and magicJack, and four seasons in the National Women's Soccer League, 2013 through 2016, all for Seattle. She was a runner up for the NWSL title in 2014 and 2015 with Seattle. During her WUSA, WPS and NWSL seasons, she played 101 regular-season games and five playoff games. In addition to her United States first-division seasons, Solo also played one season in the Swedish first division, one season in the French first division and one season in the W-League.

**LAST PLAYED IN 2017 (First Ballot in 2021; 2027 Election is final year of Player Ballot Eligibility)**

### **Shalrie Joseph**

*Eligibility Criteria: 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 Criteria: 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.

### **Christie Pearce Rampone**

*Eligibility Criteria: 311 appearances for U.S. Women's National Team AND 11 women's professional seasons with 2 Best XI selections*

A defender who played 19 years for the U.S. women's national team, including five Women's World Cups, and played all of the first 11 seasons of women's professional league soccer in the United States. Pearce played 311 games for the United States between her debut against Australia in 1997 and her final game against Haiti in 2015. Those included 19 games in five World Cups, 22 games in four Olympic Games and 13 World Cup qualifiers. She was a mainstay of the U.S. defense for most of those years, and in addition to her three Olympic gold medals (2004, 2008 and 2012), she was the only person to play for both the United States team that won the Women's World Cup in 1999 and the one that won it in 2015. She was captain on field of the U.S. teams in the 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games and the 2011 World Cup. Of the women who played in the first season of women's pro league soccer in the United States, in the Women's United Soccer Association in 2001, Pearce was the only one who played all three seasons of the WUSA, all three seasons of WPS and the first five seasons of the NWSL (two other players played the first nine of those 11 seasons, but then retired). The majority of those years were spent with Sky Blue in New Jersey, all five of her NWSL seasons and two of her WPS seasons. She also played three WUSA seasons for New York and one WPS season for magicJack. In 2009, she was both captain of Sky Blue and interim coach during the playoffs as the New Jersey team won the WPS title. She was a NWSL first-team all-star in 2013 and 2014. During her 11 first-division seasons, she played 182 regular-season games and six playoff games. Pearce, who was captain of the U.S. women's national team for eight years, was one of the leaders of the "soccer mom" movement in the USWNT, with two daughters born during her national team years. In 2013, she was one of three then-active players, along with Abby Wambach and Alex Morgan, named to the all-time U.S. women's national team Best XI chosen by the USSF. In 2014 she became only the second player in world soccer history, after Kristine Lilly, to reach 300 caps.

**BECAME ELIGIBLE BASED ON 2020 REVISIONS (First Ballot in 2021)**

### **Keith Johnson**

*Eligibility Criteria: 101 appearances for U.S. Men's Para 7-A-Side National Team*

Last Year of Player Ballot Eligibility: 2026

A goalkeeper for the U.S. at the 2004 and 2012 Paralympics and a member of the 100-cap club. Born with cerebral palsy, Johnson joined the U.S. team in 2003 and earned 101 caps during his 14-year career.

Famous among veterans 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.

**Josh McKinney**

*Eligibility Criteria: 124 appearances for U.S. Men's Para 7-A-Side National Team*

Last Year of Player Ballot Eligibility: 2024

A U.S. captain that retired after 124 caps and 81 goals across 19 years, including three appearances at the Paralympics (1996, 2004 and 2012). McKinney captained the U.S. 72 times and the U.S. won 76% of the games in which he scored a goal. As a 17-year-old, he led the U.S. to a best-ever 4<sup>th</sup>-place finish at the Atlanta games with a team-high 5 goals. Born with cerebral palsy, McKinney played internationally for 19-years as a midfielder and defender. He captained the team to second place at the 2010 Copa America