



NATIONAL SOCCER HALL OF FAME

2023 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 2023.

2023 Player Final Ballot List

DaMarcus Beasley
David Beckham
Lori Chalupny
Lauren Cheney Holiday
Brian Ching
Dwayne DeRosario
Landon Donovan
Maurice Edu
Thierry Henry
Eddie Johnson

Keith Johnson
Jermaine Jones
Shalrie Joseph
Robbie Keane
Lori Lindsey
Pablo Mastroeni
Josh McKinney
Oguchi Onyewu
Cat Reddick Whitehill
Nick Rimando

2023 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 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.

Brian Ching

Eligibility Criteria: 45 appearances for U.S. Men's National Team; AND 12 MLS Seasons with 1 MLS Best XI Selection

A forward who scored 90 goals in MLS and 11 for the U.S. national team. Ching played 12 MLS seasons between 2001 and 2013 for Los Angeles, San Jose and Houston, winning an MLS title in 2006 with Houston and being chosen to the MLS Best XI in 2004. His MLS goals included 82 in regular-season play and eight in the playoffs. He played 45 full internationals for the United States between 2003 and 2010, including 17 World Cup qualifiers in 2004, 2005, 2008 and 2009, and was a member of the United States team at the 2006 World Cup. His achievements for the United States also included winning a CONCACAF Gold Cup championship in 2007. Ching also played one season in the A-League and was a runner-up for the MLS title in 2011 and 2012 with Houston. He played 229 MLS regular-season games and 26 MLS playoff games.

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.

Eddie Johnson

Eligibility Criteria: 63 appearances for U.S. Men's National Team

A forward who enjoyed two successful stints in MLS sandwiched around a period in Europe. Johnson played 63 full internationals for the United States between 2004 and 2014. Those included two games at the 2006 World Cup and 20 World Cup qualifiers over the years. He was a starter in the team that won the CONCACAF Gold Cup in 2013. Johnson's MLS career began with seven seasons with Dallas and

Kansas City between 2001 and 2007. He then played five seasons in English and Greek professional leagues before returning to MLS in 2012 and playing three seasons with Seattle and D.C. In his 10 MLS seasons, he played 202 regular-season games and 14 playoff games, and scored 74 goals.

Lori Lindsey

Eligibility Criteria: 31 appearances for U.S. Women's National Team AND 7 women's professional seasons with 1 Best XI Selection

A midfielder who was a member of the United States team at the 2011 Women's World Cup. Lindsay played in leading United States leagues for more than a decade, including two seasons in the WUSA for San Diego and Washington, three seasons in WPS for Washington and Philadelphia, and two seasons in the NWSL for Washington. She was chosen as a WPS postseason all-star in 2010. In addition to her years in those leagues, she played seven seasons in the W-League, one season in the Women's Premier Soccer League and two seasons in the Australian first division. During her seven American first-division seasons, she played 133 regular-season games and four playoff games. Lindsay played 31 full internationals for the United States between 2005 and 2013, including three World Cup qualifiers in 2010 and one game at the 2011 Women's World Cup.

Josh McKinney

Eligibility: 124 games for the U.S. National 7-a-side Paralympic Team.

A U.S. captain who retired after 124 caps and 81 goals across 19 years, including appearances at three Paralympics (1996, 2004 and 2012). McKinney captained the U.S. team 72 times, and the United States won 76 percent of the games in which he scored at least one goal. As a 17-year-old, he led the United States to a best-ever fourth-place finish at the Atlanta games in 1996 with a team-high five goals. McKinney, who was born with cerebral palsy, played internationally as a midfielder and defender. He captained the team to second place at the 2010 Copa America.

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

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)

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.

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

Maurice Edu

Eligibility Criteria: 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 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.

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

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 (First Ballot in 2023), 2029 Election is final year of Player Ballot Eligibility)

DaMarcus Beasley

Eligibility: 11 seasons in Major League Soccer, with one Best XI selection, and 126 games for the U.S. Men's National Team.

A defender and midfielder whose wide-ranging career included becoming the first American man to play in four World Cups. Beasley played 126 full internationals for the United States between 2001 and 2017, after breaking into the national team when he was 18. Those caps included 31 World Cup qualifiers in 2001, 2004, 2005, 2008, 2009, 2012 and 2017, and 11 games at the 2002, 2006, 2010 and 2014 World Cups. He was a midfielder early in his national team career, and extended that career by playing left back in later years. In addition to his World Cup play, his national team appearances included four games at the 2003 and 2009 Confederations Cups and 20 games in five different CONCACAF Gold Cups. He was captain of the team that won the 2013 Gold Cup, and also played in victorious Gold Cup finals in 2005 and 2007. He twice scored two goals in a game in the Gold Cup. Perhaps his most memorable moments for the United States were his long lead pass to Clint Dempsey to produce a goal against Ghana at the 2006 World Cup and his crucial goal against Mexico in a World Cup qualifier in 2005. He scored what could have been the winning goal against eventual champion Italy in the first round of the 2006 World Cup had it not been called back for an offside violation by another player. Beasley played 11 seasons in MLS between 2000 and 2019 for Chicago and Houston. He won U.S. Open Cup titles in 2000 and 2003 with Chicago, and reached the MLS final in those same two years. He was named to the MLS Best XI in 2003. In between his two stints in MLS, he played two seasons in the Dutch first division, one season in the English Premier League, three seasons in the Scottish Premier League, one season in the German first division and three seasons in the Mexican first division. He won a Scottish Premier League championship with Rangers in 2009, making him one of the first Americans to win a national title in Europe.

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.

Landon Donovan

Eligibility: 15 seasons in Major League Soccer, with seven Best XI selections, and 157 games for the U.S. Men's National Team.

A forward and midfielder who was chosen as the winner of the Honda Award, given to the outstanding U.S. national team player, seven times and was named the USSF men's athlete of the year four times. Donovan, who played for the U.S. national team from 2000 to 2014, played 157 full internationals in those years, including 12 games at the 2002, 2006 and 2010 World Cups and 40 World Cup qualifiers between 2001 and 2013. Those games left him second only to Cobi Jones on the list of all-time national team appearance leaders. The 57 goals that Donovan scored for the U.S. national team tied him with Clint Dempsey as the all-time goalscoring leader for the U.S. men's team. Perhaps the most famous among them was the stoppage-time goal that gave the United States a 1-0 win over Algeria at the 2010 World Cup and boosted it into the second round of that World Cup. Donovan's five World Cup goals also included particularly famous ones against Mexico in 2002 and Slovenia in 2010. A goal that he scored against Ghana in 2010 made him the first American since Bert Patenaude in 1930 to score three goals in a World Cup. Donovan played 15 seasons in MLS between 2001 and 2016, the first four with the San Jose Earthquakes and the last 11 with the Los Angeles Galaxy, and when he retired was the all-time MLS

goalscoring leader. Over the course of those seasons, he scored 145 goals in 340 regular-season games, and 25 more in 44 playoff games. His teams won the MLS championship six times, in 2001 and 2003 when he was with San Jose and in 2005, 2011, 2012 and 2014 when he was with Los Angeles. He was named to the MLS postseason Best XI seven times, and won the MLS most valuable player award in 2009. In addition to his World Cup play, Donovan was a member of the United States teams at the 2000 Olympic Games and the 2003 and 2009 Confederations Cup (where he scored a goal in the final against Brazil) and the United States teams that won the CONCACAF Gold Cup in 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2013. In 2013, he was named to the U.S. men's national team all-time Best XI by the USSF. Donovan never established himself as a regular star in European club soccer, struggling in several seasons in Germany in his early 20s, although he did fare much better in two partial loan seasons with Everton in the English Premier League nearly a decade later. His partial seasons in England and Mexico helped to raise his career total of first-division and national team games to 576. He initially retired in 2014, but briefly unretired in 2016, 2018 and 2019.

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.

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.