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Triathlon: Knibb and Pearson Qualify for Paris 2024

Thursday, August 17th - Friday, August 18th; Paris, France – The NYAC’s **Taylor Knibb** and **Morgan Pearson** have qualified for the Paris 2024 Games after finishing fifth and sixth in the women’s and men’s races, respectively, at the [2023 Olympic Games Test Event Paris](#), which was held on the Paris 2024 Olympic course. Thus, Taylor and Morgan are the first NYAC athletes to qualify for the Paris Games, which will take place from July 26th to August 11th, 2024. On the women’s race, USA Triathlon reported, “*Knibb placed fifth in the race, using a strong run to lead the U.S. women and earn an auto-qualification spot to the Paris 2024 Games. Knibb nearly ran her way onto the podium — which would have opened a potential second U.S. qualification spot — by posting the field’s third-fastest 10k. In 23rd place after the second transition, Knibb ran her way into contention — and nearly the podium — but she wasn’t able to catch Germany’s Laura Lindemann or France’s Emma Lombardi for third and finished the 1500-meter swim, 40-kilometer bike and 10k run in a time of 1 hour, 52 minutes, 4 seconds. Great Britain’s Beth Potter won in 1:51:40, Cassandre Beaugrand of France took second in 1:51:46, while Lindemann placed third in 1:51:59. Lombardi placed fourth in 1:52:00.*” Also in Paris, the NYAC’s **Taylor Spivey** finished 10th, **Katie Zafere**s, 12th, **Kirsten Kasper**, 15th, and **Summer Rappaport**, 16th. On the men’s race, USA Triathlon reported, “*Pearson placed sixth to lead the U.S. men and earn an auto-qualification spot to the Paris 2024 Games. A Tokyo 2020 Olympian, Pearson has qualified for his second Olympic Games. Pearson, who has dealt with injuries and illness this season, was left off the original start list in Paris due to his low World Triathlon ranking. On Thursday afternoon, however, he rolled onto the start list after Australia’s Mathew Hauser and Canada’s Charles Paquet dropped off due to illness. Pearson made the most of his opportunity to race. He finished the 1500-meter swim among the second group out of the water, joined by fellow U.S. Elite Triathlon National Team member Seth Rider (Germantown, Tenn.). The duo rode their way to the lead bike pack, and by the end of the second lap of the 40-kilometer bike, a group of more than 40 riders formed the front group, with all five U.S. elite triathletes in the group: Rider, Pearson, Chase McQueen (Columbus, Ind.), Darr Smith (Atlanta, Ga.) and Matt McElroy (Huntington Beach, Calif.). The massive pack emerged together out of transition and Pearson quickly moved to the front on the run, taking the lead by the end of the first lap of the 10k run. Great Britain’s Alex Yee took back control in the second lap and ran unchallenged the rest of the way, cruising to victory in 1 hour, 41 minutes, 2 seconds. Portugal’s Vasco Vilaca sprinted to silver, out-kicking Dorian Coninx of France. Pearson, with his top-eight place secured and ticket punched to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, ran to cheers and high-fives on the blue carpet for a sixth-place finish in 1:41:23.*” Also in Paris, the NYAC’s **Matt McElroy** finished 14th. The next auto-selection opportunity for the Paris Games for the US triathletes is the World Triathlon Championship Finals Pontevedra from September 20th to 24th. In Pontevedra, one additional American woman has the opportunity to qualify for the team with a podium finish. [Click here](#) for full results from Paris.

WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS PREVIEW

This Saturday, August 19th, the [2023 World Athletics Championships](#) kick off in Budapest, Hungary and will run until Sunday, August 27th. The NYAC will send 14 athletes to the championships, five of which are currently ranked in top three of their respective events, and nine of which are in the top ten. At the 2022 World Athletics Championships in Eugene, OR, NYAC athletes claimed four medals: silver medals for Kara Winger in the javelin and Joe Kovacs in the shot put, and bronze medals for Valarie Allman in the discus and Tori Franklin in the triple jump. Since Eugene, the NYAC has added several decorated athletes to its roster including 2022 world hammer throw champion Brooke Andersen and 2022 world silver pole vaulter Chris Nilsen, among others.

Read on for a taste of the action to come, and watch for updates over the coming days on Twitter, Instagram, digital monitors in the City House, and a forthcoming exclusive NYAC 2023 World Athletics Championships micro site.

FEATURED EVENTS

MEN’S AND WOMEN’S HAMMER THROW

The NYAC is sending four athletes – two men and two women – to contest the hammer throw in Budapest. **Brooke Andersen**, the defending world champion, is ranked #1 in the world and **Rudy Winkler**, #2, behind Wojciech Nowicki of Poland. In addition to Brooke and Rudy, **Daniel Haugh** (#10), and **DeAnna Price** (#5) will contest the event. At the 2022 World Athletics Championships, Brooke won the hammer throw. DeAnna did not contest the meet. Rudy took sixth on the men’s side, and Daniel Haugh took eighth.

Brooke Andersen: #3 hammer thrower of all time; 2022 world champion; Tokyo 2020 Olympian; 2019 Pan American Games silver medalist

DeAnna Price: #2 hammer thrower of all time; American record holder; 2019 world champion; Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020 Olympian

Rudy Winkler: American record holder; Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020 Olympian

Daniel Haugh: Tokyo 2020 Olympian

MEN’S AND WOMEN’S DISCUS

Valarie Allman, ranked #1 in the world, and **Sam Mattis**, ranked #6 in the world, will contest the women’s and men’s discus. Valarie finished third at the 2022 World Athletics Championships, and Sam finished 11th on the men’s side.

Valarie Allman: American record holder; Tokyo 2020 Olympic champion; 2022 world bronze medalist

Sam Mattis: Two-time NCAA champion (2014, 2015); four-time Ivy League champion (2013, 2014, 2015, 2016)

MEN’S SHOT PUT

Joe Kovacs, ranked #2 behind US teammate Ryan Crouser, will contest the shot put. Joe took second at the 2022 World Athletics Championships with a mark of 21.50m, losing to Ryan Crouser, who won with a mark of 22.28m.

Joe Kovacs: Two-time world champion (2015, 2019); two-time Olympic silver medalist (2016, 2020), two-time world silver medalist (2017, 2022)

MEN’S POLE VAULT

Chris Nilsen, ranked #2 behind Sweden’s Armand Duplantis, will contest the pole vault. Chris finished second at the 2022 World Athletics Championships with a mark of 5.94m, losing to Armand Duplantis, who won with a mark of 6.21m.

Chris Nilsen: 2022 world silver medalist, Tokyo 2020 silver medalist, 2022 world indoor bronze medalist, 2019 Pan American Games champion

MEN’S AND WOMEN’S TRIPLE JUMP

Tori Franklin, ranked #6 in the world, and **Will Claye**, ranked #22 in the world, will contest the women’s and men’s triple jump. Tori finished third at the 2022 World Athletics Championships, and Will finished 11th.

Tori Franklin: 2022 world bronze medalist, Tokyo 2020 Olympian

Will Claye: Two-time world triple jump silver medalist (2017, 2019), two-time world triple jump bronze medalist (2011, 2013), two-time Olympic triple jump silver medalist (2012, 2016), 2012 Olympic long jump bronze medalist; two-time world indoor triple jump champion

WOMEN’S JAVELIN

Maggie Malone, ranked #24, will contest the javelin. Maggie finished 22nd at the 2022 World Athletics Championships.

Maggie Malone: Two-time Olympian (2016, 2020), American collegiate record holder

MEN’S (20K) AND WOMEN’S (35K) RACE WALK

Miranda Melville, ranked 60th in the world, will contest the 35K race walk, and **Nick Christie**, ranked #81 in the world, will contest the 20K race walk. At the 2022 World Athletics Championships, Miranda finished 29th in the 35K race walk and 35th in the 20K race walk. Nick finished 31st in the 20K race walk and 36th in the 35K race walk.

Miranda Melville: Rio 2016 Olympian

Nick Christie: Multi-time national champion at NAIA level

MEN’S DECATHLON

Harrison Williams, ranked #14, will contest the decathlon. Harrison finished 14th at the 2019 World Athletics Championships.

Harrison Williams: 2023 US champion, six-time All-American while at Stanford University

FINALS SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 19th

2:50am EST – Men’s 20K Race Walk
2:35pm EST – Men’s Shot Put

Sunday, August 20th

11:50am EST – Men’s Hammer Throw

Monday, August 21st

1:40pm EST – Men’s Triple Jump
2:30pm EST – Men’s Discus

Tuesday, August 22nd

2:20pm EST - Women’s Discus

Thursday, August 24th

1am EST – Women’s 35K Race Walk

2:15pm EST – Women’s Hammer Throw

Friday, August 25th

1:35pm EST – Women’s Triple Jump
2:20pm EST – Women’s Javelin

Saturday, August 26th

1:35pm EST – Men’s Pole Vault
3:25pm EST - Men’s Decathlon 1500m

[Click here](#) for live results from Budapest.

WHERE TO WATCH

Live coverage of the 2023 World Athletics Championships will be offered on a variety of platforms including Peacock, NBC, CNBC, and the USA Network. For full details on where to catch the action, [click here](#).



Judo - Jack Yonezuka Claims -73kg Title in Skopje

Saturday, August 12th - Sunday, August 13th; Skopje, North Macedonia – The NYAC’s **Jack Yonezuka** claimed the -73kg title at the *Skopje Junior European Cup* after defeating Canada’s *Lasha Tsatsalashvili* by ippon in the final. Prior to the final, Jack received a bye into the second round, where he beat Bosnia and Herzegovina’s *Petar Skrba* by ippon. In the third round, Jack defeated Canada’s *Artem Neyolov* by waza ari. Jack defeated *Mariyan Palev* of Bulgaria by ippon and *Dardan Cena* of Kosovo by waza ari, in the quarter-final and semi-final, respectively. [Click here](#) for full results from Skopje.

Upcoming Events

JUDO: Friday, August 18th - Sunday, August 20th [Zagreb Grand Prix](#) – Zagreb, Croatia - Ari Berliner, Jack Yonezuka, Nate Keeve, Maria Laborde, Angie Delgado, Hannah Martin [More info](#)

TRACK AND FIELD: Saturday, August 19th - Sunday, August 27th [World Athletics Championships](#)– Budapest, Hungary - Miranda Melville (35K race walk), Tori Franklin (triple jump), Valarie Allman (discus), Brooke Andersen (hammer), DeAnna Price (hammer), Maggie Malone (javelin), Nick Christie (20K race walk), Will Claye (triple jump), Joe Kovacs (shot put), Sam Mattis (discus), Daniel Haugh (hammer), Rudy Winkler (hammer), Chris Nilsen (pole vault), Harrison Williams (decathlon) [More info](#)

LOCAL ACTION! RUGBY: Saturday, August 19th NYAC v. NY Rugby Club – Travers Island - A and B sides; A side kick-off at 1pm

News

Twitter - Stay Up to Date with all the NYAC Athletics News

Follow the NYAC’s Twitter page, [@newyorkac](#), to get the latest results, photos, video highlights, and more as our athletes excel in competitions around the world.

Read All About It

Do you have news or results of NYAC athletes that should be featured in **Athletics News**? Let us know by contacting the NYAC’s Sports Information Manager, Laura Walsh, at LauraW@nyac.org



Links

To see the **NYAC’s athletics pages**, [click here](#).

To see the **IOC’s Olympic channel**, [click here](#).

For the **Paris 2024** site, [click here](#).

For news from the **Olympic Studies and Research Center**, [click here](#).

For news from the **IOC**, [click here](#).

For news from the **USOPC**, [click here](#).

For the **LA 2028** site, [click here](#).