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World Aquatics Championships - Beginning Today



Today, **Friday, February 2nd**, the [2024 World Aquatics Championships](#) kick off in Doha, Qatar, and it is certain to be an exciting time for NYAC swimmers and water poloists. To see a preview of some of the NYAC aquatic action to come over the next weeks, read on.

WATER POLO begins on Sunday, February 4th and runs until Saturday, February 17th, with the women's final taking place on Friday, February 16th and the men's final on Saturday, February 17th. The US men's and women's rosters include numerous NYAC water poloists, among them Olympians **Alex Bowen, Ashleigh Johnson and Maggie Steffens**. The US women are the most successful team at the world championships level, with a four-title winning streak from 2015 to 2022, in addition to titles in 1986, 2003, 2007 and 2009. At the 2023 World Championships, the US women's 26-game winning streak in world championships play came to an end with a loss to Italy in the quarter-finals. The US men have never won a world championships title, but the current US squad is, according to Bob Reinert writing for the USOPC, "...young, but [also] talented." At last July's men's World Cup, the US men claimed a bronze medal with a 14-13 win over a powerhouse Hungary team. These World Championships are a qualification event for the Paris Games, but both the US men and women have already secured their places by virtue of their wins at the Pan-Am Games last November. The first match for the US women in the group stage will be this Sunday, February 4th at 11am EST, when they face the Netherlands. The US men will face Montenegro at 9:30am on Monday, February 5th. [Click here](#) for more information.

SWIMMING will begin on Sunday, February 11th and will run until Sunday, February 18th. In addition to relays, NYAC swimmers will take part in several individual events. **Kate Douglass** will contest the 50m freestyle, 100m freestyle, 100m breaststroke, 200m breaststroke, 50m butterfly and 200m individual medley. Notably, last month at the TYR Knoxville meet, Douglass set an American record in the 200m breaststroke (2:19.30) and swam a personal best in the 100m breaststroke (1:06.67).



She is the defending world champion in the 200m individual medley and 4x100m medley relay and claimed four additional medals (three silver, one bronze) at the 2023 World Championships. **Hunter Armstrong** will seek to defend his world title in the 50m backstroke, and will also contest the 100m backstroke, the event in which he won a bronze medal last year. New addition to the winged foot roster, **Nic Fink**, will contest the 50m breaststroke (2023 world champs silver medalist), 100m breaststroke (2023 world championships silver medalist) and 200m breaststroke. He is the defending world champion in the 4x100m medley relay and also claimed a bronze medal in the mixed 4x100m medley relay at the 2023 World Championships. [Click here](#) for more information



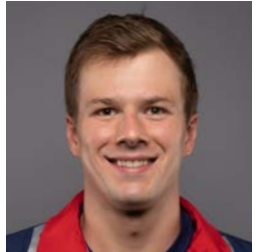
The Championships conclude on Sunday, February 18th. Watch for a report from the World Championships in next week's Athletics News, and check the NYAC's Twitter page [here](#) regularly for updated results.

Judo - NYAC at Grand Prix Portugal

Friday, January 26th – Sunday, January 28th; Odivelas, Portugal – Several NYAC judokas contested the [Grand Prix Portugal](#) meeting with mixed results. **Jack Yonezuka**, at -73kg, was the top NYAC finisher of the competition, advancing as far as the third round where he was defeated by Chol Gwang Kim of North Korea. **Hannah Martin** (-63kg), **Ari Berliner** (-66kg) and **Alex Knauf** (-90kg) did not advance beyond the first round, and **Nate Keeve** (-100kg) and **Maria Laborde** (-48kg), who received byes into the second round, did not advance to their third rounds. [Click here](#) for full results from Odivelas.

Meet Nic Fink

Sport: Swimming **Hometown:** Morristown, NJ
College: University of Georgia, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, '16; Georgia Institute of Technology, Master's in Electrical Engineering, '22
Achievements: Fifth place in 200m breaststroke at Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, world record holder in short course 4x100m medley relay and 4x50m mixed medley relay.
Find Nic on Instagram [@finknic](#)



Rugby - Baker and Tomasin Contest Rugby Sevens Perth

Thursday, January 25th – Saturday, January 27th; Perth, Australia - The NYAC's **Perry Baker** and **Steve Tomasin** scored a total of 32 points for Team USA at the [Rugby Sevens – Perth](#) tournament, resulting in three wins and one loss for the Eagles. On Friday, January 26th, the US men beat Australia, 19-14, and Ireland, 26-7. In the Australia game, Perry Baker scored two tries (11', 13'), and Steve Tomasin, two conversions (12', 14'). Against Ireland, Baker scored one try (7'), and Tomasin, three conversions (3', 4', 8'). The following day, the Eagles defeated Great Britain, 17-10, with a try from Baker (2') and a conversion from Tomasin (10'), but they did not fare as well in the quarter finals against Australia, losing 7-31. The Argentinian men came out on top in Perth, with Australia taking second and Ireland, third. The next Rugby Sevens tournament will take place from Friday, February 23rd to Sunday, February 25th in Vancouver, Canada. [Click here](#) for more information about HSBC Rugby Sevens.

Track and Field - Dr. Sander Invitational

Friday, January 26th – Saturday, January 27th; New York, NY – The NYAC's **Rob Napolitano**, an eight-time Ivy League champion while at Columbia University (class of 2017), placed fifth in the mile at the [Dr. Sander Invitational](#), held at the celebrated 168th St Armory in Upper Manhattan, clocking a time of 3:56.46. Adam Fogg of Under Armour Mission Run Baltimore won the race in 3:53.55. [Click here](#) for full results from the Armory.

News

Paris 2024 - The Paris 2024 Opening Ceremony is projected to have 300,000 fewer spectators than originally estimated, due to security and transport concerns. [Click here](#) to learn more.

More Paris 2024 - Six months out from the Games, the USA leads the medal predictions. [Click here](#) for more info.

Bob Beamon - The long jump legend, who last July 26th participated in the NYAC's One Year Out virtual event, last week auctioned his 1968 Olympic gold medal, fetching more than \$400,000. Read about it [here](#).

Olympic Marathon Trials - The US men's and women's marathon teams will be selected in Orlando, FL this weekend. [Click here](#) to learn what is happening.

Upcoming Events

AQUATICS: Friday, February 2nd - Sunday, February 18th [World Aquatics Championships](#) - Doha, Qatar (Swimming: K. Douglass, H. Armstrong, N. Fink; US Men's and Women's Water Polo) [More info](#)
TRACK AND FIELD: Saturday, February 3rd [Meeting Metz Moselle Athlelor](#) - Metz, France (Chris Nilsen - Pole Vault) [More info](#)
JUDO: Friday, February 2nd - Sunday, February 4th [IJF Paris Grand Slam](#) - Paris, France [More info](#)
TRACK AND FIELD: Tuesday, February 6th [Mondo Classic](#) - Uppsala, Sweden (Chris Nilsen - Pole Vault) [More info](#)

Links

NYAC Paris 2024 Micro Site, [click here](#)

IOC Olympic channel, [click here](#).

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

NYAC's Athletics, [click here](#).

USOPC, [click here](#).

Olympic Studies and Research Center, [click here](#).

IOC, [click here](#).

Paris 2024, [click here](#).



What's News?

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

Follow the NYAC on Twitter and Instagram ([@newyorkac](#)) to get the latest results, photos, video highlights and news, as the NYAC's athletes compete around the world.