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USA Wrestling Olympic Team To Train In Alpharetta, May 14 - 24

*Training camp held at The Cooler in preparation of 2020 Olympic Games and
John Bardis of Alpharetta named Team Leader for U.S. Greco-Roman Wrestling Team*

ALPHARETTA, GA - (April 30, 2021) – The nation’s top wrestlers are headed to [Alpharetta, Ga.](#) to train at the USA Wrestling National Team Training Camp at [The Cooler](#), May 14 - 24. The event will be a key preparation camp for both the 2021 Pan American Championships in Guatemala in May, as well as the 2020 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan in August. This will be the first time that the complete wrestling team will train together prior to heading to Tokyo to compete at the Olympic Games.



The USA Wrestling Team will be traveling from all over the U.S. to the training camp in Alpharetta. The Tokyo Olympic athletes set to attend are 2016 Olympic champions Helen Maroulis and Kyle Snyder, five-time World champion Adeline Gray, two-time World champion Kyle Dake and World champions Tamyra Mensah-Stock, David Taylor and Jacarra Winchester. Maroulis, Snyder, Gray and Ildar Hafizov have competed in past Olympic Games. World medalists Thomas Gilman and Sarah Hildebrandt are on the team, as well as age-group World medalists Gable Steveson, Kayla Miracle and G'Angelo Hancock. Other Tokyo Olympians include Alejandro Sancho and John Stefanowicz.

The U.S. Olympic Team in wrestling could increase by three more athletes, based upon the results of the World Olympic Games Qualifier in Sofia, Bulgaria, May 6-9. The winners at 77 kg and 130 kg in Greco-Roman and in 65 kg in men’s freestyle from the U.S. Olympic Team Trials will compete in Sofia seeking to qualify the USA for Tokyo in their weight classes.

There will be eight mats set up for training at The Cooler, and the Olympic athletes and their training partners will have access to a first-rate weight training center and other training amenities at the facility. The USA Wrestling team will have access to its own dining facility in a restaurant at The Cooler, and receive personalized nutritional meals served by respected chefs from the local area.

Currently, the U.S. has qualified to compete in 15 of the 18 weight classes at the Tokyo Olympic Games, including six women's freestyle athletes, five men's freestyle athletes and four Greco-Roman athletes. This team was determined at the U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Wrestling in Fort Worth, Texas, April 2-3. The wrestling competition at the Tokyo Games is set for August 1-8, 2021.

The USA Wrestling National Team Training Camp will also serve as the training camp for the U.S. wrestling team in all three disciplines that will compete at the 2021 Pan American Championships in Guatemala City, Guatemala, May 27-30. All of the members of the U.S. Olympic Team in wrestling are expected to compete in the Pan American Championships, as well as other elite U.S. wrestlers in each discipline.

There will be media opportunities available with the Olympic wrestlers, coaches and leaders during the training camp. Interested media should contact Gary Abbott of USA Wrestling at gabbott@usawrestling.org or via cell phone at 719-659-9637.

John Bardis Named U.S. Olympic Greco-Roman Wrestling Team Leader

Long-time wrestling leader John Bardis of Alpharetta, Ga. has been named Team Leader for the U.S. Olympic Team in Greco-Roman wrestling for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan. This will be the second time that Bardis will be Greco-Roman Team Leader for the Olympic Games, after serving in the same role for the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China. Bardis was the Team Leader for the U.S. Greco-Roman team for the 2005-2008 Olympic cycle, including the historic 2007 U.S. Greco-Roman World Team, the first and only USA Greco-Roman Team to win a Senior World Team title.

As part of his leadership role within USA Wrestling, Bardis is hosting the U.S. Olympic Team in all three disciplines of wrestling at The Cooler, his state-of-the-art skating and athletics center in Alpharetta, Ga., May 14-24. Included will be the Olympic athletes in men's freestyle, women's freestyle and Greco-Roman, along with their coaches and training partners.

"It is an honor to be associated with USA Wrestling," said John Bardis, Team Leader for U.S. Greco-Roman Wrestling Team and owner of The Cooler. "I have had a long-standing engagement and love of the sport. It is truly an honor to be associated with this U.S. Olympic Team. In total, this is arguably the most talented and capable team we have ever had in the long and storied history of American wrestling at the Olympic Games."

About Alpharetta, Ga.

Alpharetta is a family-friendly destination perfectly positioned between the North Georgia Mountains and Atlanta. This charming, Southern city is home to over 250 shops, more than 200 dining options, 29 modern hotels, a plethora of outdoor attractions and countless entertainment opportunities.

The USA Wrestling training camp is projected to attract not only the elite athletes but parents, coaches, and wrestling leadership to Alpharetta. The event will draw participants to the city's hotels, restaurants, retailers and other tourism-related businesses.

"It is spectacular to have the USA Wrestling Team training in Alpharetta as they prepare for the Summer Olympics," said Janet Rodgers, president and CEO of the Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau. "We feel so honored to host our country's best wrestlers and are eager to show them our Awesome Alpharetta hospitality. Not only will they get to train at a world-class facility at The Cooler, but they will also have the opportunity to shop, dine, play and stay in our beautiful community."

Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau

The Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau serves as the official Destination Marketing Organization for the city of Alpharetta, Ga. With so much to do, why not stay the weekend? Book a hotel stay at one of the Alpharetta's 29 modern and upscale hotels directly at www.awesomealpharetta.com. Alpharetta was recently named "One of the South's Friendliest Cities" by Southern Living Magazine and "One of the Best Places to Visit in Georgia" by Vacationidea.com.

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