



2019 WINTER DEAFLYMPICS
 VALTELLINA-VALCHIAVENNA
 DECEMBER 12-21 2019

USDEAFLYMPICS.ORG/2019
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US DEAFLYMPICS DAILY NEWSLETTER

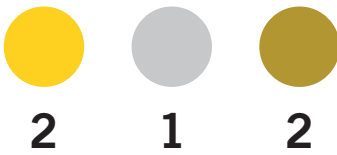
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE U.S. DEAFLYMPIC TEAM AT THE 19TH WINTER DEAFLYMPICS

VOL. 1 NO. 9

DECEMBER 21, 2019

Chess Denies Germany the Gold *Petrov Defeats an International Master*

USA MEDAL TOTALS



MEDAL TABLE

				T
UNITED STATES	2	1	2	5
RUSSIA	17	14	13	45
UKRAINE	3	4	3	10
ITALY	5	0	2	7
CZECH REPUBLIC	2	4	1	7
FRANCE	0	3	2	5
AUSTRIA	0	1	4	5
FINLAND	0	2	0	2

TODAY'S EVENTS

HOCKEY
 15:00 USA vs Canada

CLOSING CEREMONY
 19:00-22:00

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

CHESS
 USA loses to Germany, 1.5-2.5

HOCKEY
 USA loses to Canada, 1-4

WEATHER REPORT

CHIAVENNA
 Rain High 48 Low 37

FAST FUN FACT

USA Deaf Skiing Assistant Coach Tal Williams works full time job as a helicopter pilot for the Montana Department of Natural Services, focusing on the Fire and Aviation section. Tal is also a Race Coach for the Great Divide Ski Team.



Oscar Petrov makes a move during the team match against Germany during the 19th Deaflympics on Friday, Dec. 20, 2019 in Chiavenna, Italy. (Photo: Amelia Hamilton)

Stacy Nowak

CHIAVENNA---On the very last day of the Team Chess competition, USA Deaf Chess was paired with Germany—one of the teams contending for a Gold medal.

Originally supposed to face Ukraine, the USA was told only yesterday morning that they would be playing Germany instead. Ukraine lost the top ranking after one of their players was disqualified for wearing a watch during play.

With nothing to lose, and everything to gain—the United States brought their “A” game. It paid off, as Oscar Petrov led the Americans with a stunning defeat of a renowned German International Master. Abraham Glasser played his opponent to a draw. Branton Stewart and Byron Bridges both took a loss. With the 1.5-2.5 score, Germany was denied the Gold medal.

During the medal ceremony, USA Deaf Chess was awarded a medal for their participation and fine performance in the 2019 Winter Deaflympics. Kazakhstan won the first ever Gold medal for Chess.



U.S. Deaf Chess team faces Germany during the 19th Deaflympics on Friday, Dec. 20, 2019 in Chiavenna, Italy. (Photo: Amelia Hamilton)

USA Hockey loses to Canada; Shifts their Attention to Today's Final



USA's Christian Buczek drives the puck against Canada on Friday Dec. 20, 2019, in Chiavenna, Sondrio, Italy. (Photo: Amelia Hamilton).

Struwing Scores for the United States

Stacy Nowak and Jameson Crane

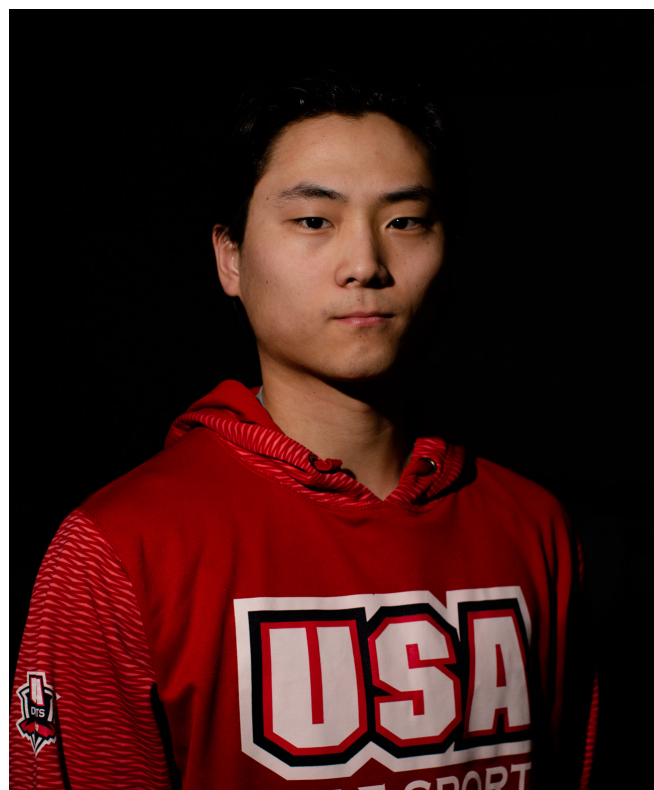
CHIAVENNA--- The United States took on Canada yesterday in a "friendly" preview of the Gold medal match to take place today at the Sports Center Valchiavenna. The United States took the loss, 1-4.

The game wasn't very friendly, though. It was a very chippy game, with numerous penalties for the neighboring countries. Canada dominated the first period, scoring twice in less than a minute. The United States was never able to recover.

America played a lot better in the second and third periods, but it was too late. Overall, our penalties killed us. Today, we must put the puck in the net if we want to take Gold.

General Manager Rich Dumas said it is much easier to win one game than two. "We need to take the body and stay out of the penalty box."

USADSF Executive Director Jameson Crane, himself a veteran hockey player and Deaflympian sums up our chances, quoting beloved Deaflympics and Paralympics coach Jeff Sauer—"it's all about winning the right games." With that said, today is the right game to win. The puck drops at 3PM.

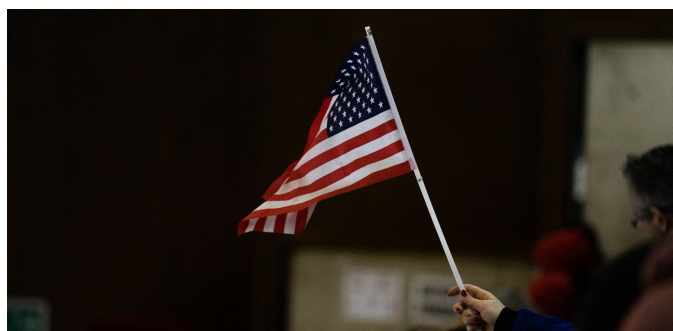


ATHLETE OF THE DAY

Every day, USADSF celebrates a USA Deaflympic star. For December 20, the star is USA Deaf Hockey defenseman T.J. Oricchio, who leads the United States into the Gold medal game today.

A smooth skating athlete, T.J. handles the puck very well. One of the team veterans, he has several international medals under his belt, but is determined to win Deaflympic Gold. Here in Italy, T.J.'s leadership has been vital in the United States' performance. In the games leading up to the Final, T.J. has played outstanding defense, and the only way the United States can win today is if T.J. is on top of his game.

Back home, T.J. is all about hockey. He played in the Northern Ontario Junior Hockey League with the Kirkland Lake Gold Miners and plays defense for the Rochester Institute of Technology Club Hockey team (ACHA D-1). Keep skating hard, T.J.!



An USA Hockey fan waves the American flag during the 19th Winter Deaflympics on Dec. 20, 2019, in Chiavenna, Italy. (Photo: Amelia Hamilton)