

An aerial photograph of a tropical coastline. In the background, a range of steep, green mountains rises sharply from the water's edge. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. In the middle ground, a small town or village is nestled along the shoreline of a bay. The water in the foreground is dark blue, with some white surf visible near the shore. The overall scene is serene and scenic.

PARIS 2024 OLYMPIC GAMES

MEDIA GUIDE

U.S. OLYMPIC SURFING TEAM

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Media Information

Team Press Officer

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On-site in Tahiti July 23 - Aug. 5

Press Releases

To be added to the surfing press release distribution list for Team USA, please contact Katie Branham at Katie@BranhamMedia.com

Broadcast Info

- **TV:** NBC
- **Streaming:** [Peacock](#), [NBCOlympics.com](#), [NBC.com](#), NBC app, NBC Olympics app



John John Florence competes in the 2024 Tahiti Pro in Teahupo'o. (Getty Images)

Quick Facts

Medal events: Men's and women's shortboard

Dates: July 27-July 30*

**However, this could change due to weather and surf conditions. The competition window lasts for 10 days and could finish as late as Aug. 5.*

Location: Surfing will be contested at the famed Teahupo'o Wave in Tahiti. It will be the longest distance between a venue and the host city in the history of the Olympic Games: 9,755 miles.

Team Size: Five athletes (3 women, 2 men) will represent Team USA. The total athlete field is 48 surfers (24 women, 24 men).

Time Zones:

Teahupo'o (TAHT)	Los Angeles (PDT)	New York (EDT)	Paris (CEST)
UTC -10	UTC -7	UTC -4	UTC +2
	3 hours ahead	6 hours ahead	12 hours ahead

Schedule

July 20	Wave Ceremony
July 21	Official Team Training at Teahupo'o
July 26	Paris 2024 Opening Ceremony
July 27 - Aug 5	Competition Window
July 27	Round 1
July 28	Round 2
July 29	Round 3
July 30	Quarterfinals, Semifinals, Bronze Medal Heats, Gold Medal Heats

Olympic History

In the 1920s, surfing enthusiasts, including Duke Kahanamoku—a three-time U.S. Olympic swimming champion and native Hawaiian—began advocating for the inclusion of surfing in the Olympic Games. Nearly a century later, surfing debuted in the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 and is set to return to the Paris 2024 Games. The competition will be held at the renowned Teahupo'o surf spot in Tahiti.

U.S. Olympic Surfing Results

- Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games: 1 gold
 - Carissa Moore: gold (women's shortboard)
 - Caroline Marks: 4th (women's shortboard)
 - Kolohe Andino: eliminated in quarterfinals (men's shortboard)
 - John John Florence: eliminated in 3rd round (men's shortboard)



Carissa Moore after her historic win at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games (Getty Images)

Competition Format

For the Olympic Games, surfers will compete in a ladder tournament-style format. The competition begins with Round 1, which features eight heats, each consisting of three surfers. The winner of each heat advances directly to Round 3, while the other two surfers move on to Round 2.

In Round 2, there are eight heats of two surfers each; the winners of these heats advance to Round 3, while the losers are eliminated. Round 3 consists of eight single-elimination heats with two surfers per heat. The winners of these heats move on to the quarterfinals, and the losers are eliminated.

The quarterfinals continue the head-to-head matchups, with winners progressing to the semifinals. In the semifinals, the losing surfers compete for the bronze medal, while the winners advance to compete for gold and silver.

Surfers are judged based on their two best waves, scored on a scale from 0 to 10, with a maximum of 20 points. They perform maneuvers and tricks on a wave that are scored by five judges who evaluate the variety, type, and difficulty of the tricks. Surfers are also judged on their speed, power, and flow—the way they seamlessly connect their moves. The duration of each heat can range from 15 to 45 minutes, depending on ocean conditions and wave availability.

The only events held in the Olympics are men's and women's shortboard. Shortboards are smaller and more maneuverable than longboards, shortboards allow surfers to perform spectacular tricks.

2024 U.S. Olympic Surfing Team

Women	Hometown	Age
Caroline Marks	Melbourne Beach, Florida	22
Carissa Moore	Honolulu, Hawaii	31
Caity Simmers	Oceanside, California	18
Men	Hometown	Age
Griffin Colapinto	San Clemente, California	25
John John Florence	Haleiwa, Hawaii	31



Caity Simmers competes in the 2024 Tahiti Pro in Teahupo'o. (Getty Images)

Team Preview

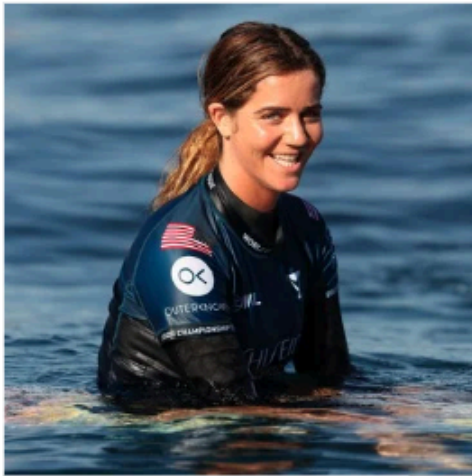
The U.S. is sending a strong team of both accomplished veterans and exciting newcomers to compete in surfing at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games. Five athletes (three women and two men) will represent Team USA in Tahiti. The U.S. team is the second largest, trailing only Brazil, which has six athletes.

Surfing debuted at the Tokyo 2020 Games, where Team USA's Carissa Moore clinched the gold medal in the women's event. Brazil's Italo Ferreira won the men's gold, resulting in both Brazil and the U.S. securing one gold medal each. Japan was the only country to win two medals, with Kanoa Igarashi earning silver in the men's event and Amuro Tsuzuki taking bronze in the women's event. Australia and South Africa also took home one medal each.

While Moore is leaving an indelible mark on the sport, her teammates Caroline Marks and Caity Simmers are building their own impressive resumes. Marks, who finished fourth in her Olympic debut in 2021, won her first world title in 2023. She is familiar with Teahupo'o, having won the World Surf League (WSL) Tahiti Pro in 2023 and finishing third at that event in 2024. Simmers placed fourth in the 2023 WSL Championship Tour (CT) and was the runner-up to Marks at the 2023 Tahiti Pro. Currently, Simmers is ranked first in the 2024 WSL CT standings after eight events, with Marks in second place.

On the men's side, John John Florence returns to the Olympics after being eliminated in the Round of 16 at the 2020 Games. Despite undergoing ACL surgery less than three months before the 2020 Games, he competed and has since returned to top form, currently leading the 2024 WSL CT rankings. Florence also secured a second-place finish at this year's Tahiti Pro.

Griffin Colapinto will make his Olympic debut at the 2024 Games. He is currently ranked second in the 2024 WSL CT standings and claimed a victory on the tour at the MEO Rip Curl Pro Portugal in March.



CAROLINE MARKS



Height: 5'5"

Age: 22

Hometown: Melbourne Beach, Florida

Links: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#)

PERSONAL

- Daughter of Darren and Sarah Marks. Has five siblings
- Started surfing competitively at eight years old
- Before turning to surfing, she also competed in barrel racing on horseback
- Became the youngest female to compete in a World Surf League event at age 13
- At 15, became the youngest surfer to qualify for the Championship Tour
- Won Rookie of the Year in 2018 and finished ranked 7th in the world
- Hobbies include fishing and riding motocross

OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE

- 1-time Olympian;
 - Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, 4th (Shortboard - Women)

ISA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS EXPERIENCE

- Most recent: 2023 – gold
- Years of participation: 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2023
- Medals: 1 (1 gold)
 - Gold – 2023

CARISSA MOORE



Height: 5'7"

Age: 31

Hometown: Honolulu, Hawaii

Links: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#)

PERSONAL

- Daughter of Carol Lum and competitive surfer, Chris Moore. Has a younger sister, Cayla, who also surfs competitively
- Began surfing at age 5 and learned from her dad at Waikiki Beach
- At age 18, she became the youngest person to win a surfing world title and was the first woman to compete in the Triple Crown of Surfing.
- Works to help young girls develop confidence and pursue their dreams
- Took four years of Japanese in high school
- Named an Adventurer of the Year by National Geographic (2012), a Woman of the Year by Glamour magazine (2013) and Top Female Surfer in the SURFER magazine poll (2011, 2015-2017)
- Inducted into the Surfers' Hall of Fame in 2014
- The State of Hawaii declared Jan. 4 to be Carissa Moore Day
- Hobbies include scrapbooking, hanging with friends, family and her dogs Maya and Tuffy

OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE

- 1-time Olympian; 1-time Olympic medalist (1 gold)
 - Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, gold (Shortboard - Women)

ISA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS EXPERIENCE

- Most recent: 2023 – silver
- Years of participation: 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021
- Medals: 7 (5 gold, 2 silver)
 - Gold – 2021, 2019, 2015, 2013, 2011
 - Silver – 2023, 2022



Carissa Moore competes at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. (Getty Images)



Caity Simmers



Height: 5'3"

Age: 18

Hometown: Oceanside, California

Links: [Instagram](#)

PERSONAL

- Has directed, edited and starred in her own film, Toasted
- Rejected joining the Championship Tour in 2021 but qualified again in 2022

ISA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS EXPERIENCE

- Most recent: 2023 – 4th
- Years of participation: 2023
- Top finish: 4th – 2023

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- ISA World Junior Championships, Huntington Beach, 2019 (Shortboard - Women)
- WSL World Junior Championships, T'ai-tung, 2019 (Shortboard - Women)



Griffin Colapinto



Height: 5'11"

Age: 25

Hometown: San Clemente, California

Links: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#),

PERSONAL

- Enjoys spending time with his friends, golfing and watching surf videos
- He notes that he's calm under pressure and never gives up during competition
- He looks forward to the bigger, scarier barrels on tour

ISA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS EXPERIENCE

- Most recent: 2023 – bronze
- Years of participation: 2023
- Medals: 1 (1 bronze)
 - Bronze – 2023



John John Florence



Height: 6'2"

Age: 31

Hometown: Haleiwa, Hawaii

Links: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)

PERSONAL

- Named after John F. Kennedy Jr., who was dubbed "John John" by the media
- The oldest of his three brothers, Ivan, Tal and Nathan
- His mother, Alexandra, is a surfer and introduced him to the sport at two years old
- At 13, he became the youngest person to compete in the Triple Crown of Surfing
- Married to Australian model Lauryn Cribb
- Hobbies include sailing, beekeeping and tending his local organic farm

OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE

- 1-time Olympian
 - Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, eliminated in 3rd round (Shortboard - Men)

ISA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS EXPERIENCE

Most recent: 2021 – 10th

Years of participation: 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021

Medals: 2 (2 gold)

Gold – 2017, 2016

Team USA Staff

The U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee manages the surfing high-performance program in the U.S. and will send a support team of coaches, medical professionals and support staff to ensure that the U.S. Olympic Surfing Team has the resources they need to excel on and off the field of play.

Name	Title
Tracy Axel	Assistant Team Leader
Olivia Barker	USOPC Operations Support / Manager, Internally Managed Sports
Katie Branham	Press Officer
Dr. Kirsten Cooper	Psychological Services Provider
Julie Dussliere	USOPC Leadership / Chief of Paralympics & IMS
Luke Egan	Personal Coach
Erik Knutson	Technical Lead / Filming
Jake Naylor	ATC/Physical Therapist
Ryan Ortiz	Remote Site Director / Team Leader
Mitch Ross	Assistant Coach
Tommy Whitaker	Personal Coach
Dr. Scott Young	Team Physician