



# U.S. WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM GAME NOTES

2019-20 RIVALRY SERIES - GAME 2 | MONCTON, N.B. | AVENIR CENTRE | DECEMBER 17, 2019

## TONIGHT'S GAME

The U.S. will face Canada tonight in the second game of the 2019-20 Rivalry Series, a five-game competition between the two women's hockey superpowers. Opening faceoff is set for 6:30 p.m. ET at the Avenir Centre in Moncton, New Brunswick. Tonight's game will be broadcast live in the U.S. on NHL Network. Follow updates on Twitter @USAHockey and join the conversation by using #RivalrySeries.

## RIVALRY SERIES SCHEDULE

DATE	LOCATION	TIME (LOCAL/ET)
<b>SAT., DEC. 14</b>	<b>HARTFORD, CONN.</b> XL Center	<b>W, 4-1</b> NBCSN
<b>TUES., DEC. 17</b>	<b>MONCTON, N.B.</b> Avenir Centre	<b>7:30 P.M./6:30 P.M.</b> NHL Network
<b>MON., FEB. 3</b>	<b>VICTORIA, B.C.</b> Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre	<b>7 P.M. / 10 P.M.</b> NHL Network
<b>WED., FEB. 5</b>	<b>VANCOUVER, B.C.</b> Rogers Arena	<b>7 P.M. / 10 P.M.</b> NHL Network
<b>SAT., FEB. 8</b>	<b>ANAHEIM, CALIF.</b> Honda Center	<b>7 P.M. / 10 P.M.</b> NHL Network

## THINGS TO KNOW

### LINEUP TONIGHT

Forward **Clair DeGeorge** and blueliner **Natalie Buchbinder** are in the lineup tonight after not playing on Saturday (Dec. 14) in Hartford. Team USA will start **Aerin Frankel** in goal. All three are making their U.S. Women's National Team debut this evening. Forward **Kelly Browne**, defenseman **Megan Bozek** and netminder **Alex Cavallini** will not dress tonight.

### RIVALRY SERIES

USA Hockey and Hockey Canada established the Rivalry Series last season to further showcase the women's national teams from the two hockey powerhouses. Canada won the inaugural series, 2-1.

This season, the Rivalry Series includes five games. The teams will also faceoff in Victoria and Vancouver, British Columbia, for games three and four (Feb. 3 & 5) before closing out the Series in Anaheim, California, on Feb. 8.

The Rivalry Series serves as a precursor to the 2020 International Ice Hockey Federation Women's World Championship, which will be held March 31-April 10 in Halifax & Truro, Nova Scotia.

### TEAM LEADERSHIP

**Kendall Coyne Schofield** is the captain of the U.S. team. She served in that capacity during the 2019 Rivalry Series and 2019 IIHF Women's World Championship. **Kacey Bellamy** and **Hilary Knight** as alternate captains.

## MEDIA ACCESS

Team USA players and head coach Bob Corkum will be available for interviews in designated mixed zone areas following tonight's game. Members of the media are not allowed in the U.S. dressing room at any time.

**MEDIA CONTACT:**  
**608.512.5179**

**MADDY SCHACHTE**  
**MADDY.SCHACHTE@USAHOCKEY.ORG**

## LAST TIME OUT

The U.S. won the opening game of the 2019-20 Rivalry Series by a 4-1 count this past Saturday (Dec. 14) before 7,126 at XL Center in Hartford, Connecticut. The U.S. got goals from **Megan Keller**, **Amanda Kessel**, **Abby Roque** and **Alex Carpenter** along with 31 saves from **Alex Cavallini** on the way to victory. Two players making their U.S. Women's National Team debut got on the scoresheet, including a goal by Roque and assist by **Britta Curl**. Team USA was 2-for-6 on the power play, while Canada was 1-for-5. Canada had a 33-31 shots-on-goal advantage.

## TALKING POINTS

### TIDBITS

Team USA left the Hartford airport late Sunday afternoon and after a stop in Montreal, arrived in Moncton just before midnight. The team got to its hotel around 12:50 a.m. Team USA massage therapist **Stephanie Sears** did some tarot card reading for players and staff to help pass the time. Tarot cards are a form of divination, which literally means working with the divine, or your higher self ... **Amanda Kessel** grabbed the mic and entertained the players and staff on the short bus ride from the airport to the hotel. That entertainment included a few player interviews and also narration describing the scenery along the route ... The U.S. practiced yesterday in the early afternoon and had an optional pre-game skate at 8:30 a.m. today in preparation for this evening's game ... A friendly wager between **Kevin Skillin**, U.S. Consul General in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and **Dawn Arnold**, mayor of Moncton, is in place for tonight's contest. If Canada wins, Skillin, a Pennsylvania native, must send a box of Hershey's chocolate to Arnold. However, if the U.S. prevails, Arnold must present Skillin with a bottle of Canada's finest maple syrup.

### RETURNING VETERANS

Team USA's roster features 12 players from the gold medal-winning 2018 Olympic team, including **Cayla Barnes** (Eastvale, Calif.), **Kacey Bellamy** (Westfield, Mass.), **Dani Cameranesi** (Plymouth, Minn.), **Alex Cavallini** (Delafield, Wis.), **Kendall Coyne Schofield** (Palos Heights, Ill.), **Megan Keller** (Farmington Hills, Mich.), **Amanda Kessel** (Madison, Wis.), **Hilary Knight** (Sun Valley, Idaho), **Emily Matheson** (Buffalo, N.Y.), **Kelly Pannek** (Plymouth, Minn.), **Maddie Rooney** (Andover, Minn.) and **Lee Stecklein** (Roseville, Minn.).

In addition, two more Olympians are represented, including 2014 Olympic silver medalists **Megan Bozek** (Buffalo Grove, Ill.) and **Alex Carpenter** (North Reading, Mass.).

**Sydney Brodt** (North Oaks, Minn.) and **Jesse Compher** (Northbrook, Ill.) also return to the roster after helping the U.S. Women's National Team to its fifth gold medal at the 2019 IIHF Women's World Championship.

### NEW TO THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE

A total of six players selected to the 23-player roster participating in the first two games of the 2019-20 Rivalry Series are new to the U.S. Women's National Team, including **Kelly Browne** (Burlington, Mass.), **Natalie Buchbinder** (Fairport, N.Y.), **Britta Curl** (Bismarck, N.D.), **Clair DeGeorge** (Anchorage, Alaska), **Aerin Frankel** (New York, N.Y.) and **Abby Roque** (Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.). Five of the six participated in the IIHF Under-18 Women's World Championship, combining for four medals at the 2014, 2015, 2017 and 2018 tournaments, including three gold and one silver.

All six new additions are active NCAA players, including two from the Hockey East Association and four from the Western Collegiate Hockey Association. In addition, Buchbinder, Curl and Roque helped Wisconsin win its fifth NCAA title in 2019. Browne is the team's youngest player at 19 years old.



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## U.S. WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM

NO	NAME	HT (CM)	WT (KG)	BIRTHDATE	S/C	HOMETOWN
<b>GOALTENDERS (3)</b>						
33	Alex Cavallini	5-7 (170)	155 (70)	01/03/92	L	Delafield, Wis.
31	Aerin Frankel	5-5 (165)	140 (64)	05/24/99	L	New York, N.Y.
35	Maddie Rooney	5-5 (165)	145 (66)	07/07/97	L	Andover, Minn.
<b>DEFENSE (7)</b>						
2	Lee Stecklein	6-0 (183)	170 (77)	04/23/94	L	Roseville, Minn.
3	Cayla Barnes	5-2 (157)	138 (63)	01/07/99	R	Eastvale, Calif.
5	Megan Keller	5-11 (180)	165 (75)	05/01/96	L	Farmington Hills, Mich.
8	Emily Matheson	5-2 (157)	125 (57)	06/14/93	R	Buffalo, N.Y.
9	Megan Bozek	5-8 (173)	176 (80)	03/27/91	R	Buffalo Grove, Ill.
22	Kacey Bellamy	5-7 (170)	145 (66)	04/22/87	L	Westfield, Mass.
39	Natalie Buchbinder	5-8 (173)	150 (68)	01/22/99	R	Fairport, N.Y.
<b>FORWARDS (13)</b>						
11	Abby Roque	5-7 (170)	180 (82)	09/25/97	R	Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.
12	Kelly Pannek	5-8 (173)	165 (75)	12/29/95	R	Plymouth, Minn.
15	Sydney Brodt	5-6 (168)	140 (64)	05/03/98	R	North Oaks, Minn.
16	Britta Curl	5-9 (175)	160 (73)	03/20/00	L	Bismarck, N.D.
18	Jesse Compher	5-8 (173)	150 (68)	07/01/99	R	Northbrook, Ill.
21	Hilary Knight	5-11 (180)	172 (78)	07/12/89	R	Sun Valley, Idaho
24	Dani Cameranesi	5-5 (165)	155 (70)	06/30/95	L	Plymouth, Minn.
25	Alex Carpenter	5-7 (170)	155 (70)	04/13/94	L	North Reading, Mass.
26	Kendall Coyne Schofield	5-2 (157)	125 (57)	05/25/92	L	Palos Heights, Ill.
27	Annie Pankowski	5-9 (175)	165 (75)	11/04/94	R	Laguna Hills, Calif.
28	Amanda Kessel	5-6 (168)	130 (59)	08/28/91	R	Madison, Wis.
32	Kelly Browne	5-6 (168)	148 (67)	07/14/00	L	Burlington, Mass.
38	Clair DeGeorge	5-11 (180)	170 (77)	06/07/99	L	Anchorage, Alaska



## DID YOU KNOW

**Amanda Kessel** grew up idolizing two-time Olympian Krissy Wendell, who on Thursday (Dec 12) was inducted into the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame at a sold-out ceremony in Washington, D.C. Kessel tweeted this week, "*Congratulations!! @KrissyWendell You were my idol growing up and I'm still waiting for the day we skate together.*" ... Team USA will have a six-week break between tonight's game and the third game of the Rivalry Series in Victoria on Feb. 3. Team USA will gather in Irvine, California, in advance of the February portion of the Rivalry Series to train ... **Rod Black** (play-by-play) and **Cheryl Pounder** (color) will call tonight's game on NHL Network ... USA Hockey conducted its Women's Winter Training Camp in Hartford, Connecticut, last week. A total of 46 players were invited and went through testing and practices Monday (Dec. 9) through Thursday (Dec. 12). The 23-player U.S. Women's National Team roster was announced last Friday (Dec. 13) ... Blueliner **Kacey Bellamy** is the oldest player on Team USA at 32 ... Forward **Kelly Pannek** is the lone player with a December birthday. She'll turn 24 on Dec. 29 ... The U.S. has won gold at eight of the last nine IIHF Women's World Championships ...

## A LOOK BACK AT 2018-19

The 2018-19 season included significant success for the U.S. Women's National Team. In November of 2018, Team USA won all four games it played to earn its fourth-straight championship at the at the Four Nations Cup. The U.S., which topped Canada 5-2 in the title game, outscored its opponents 17-5 in four games. Last April, following the 2019 Rivalry Series, the U.S. Women's National Team captured its fifth consecutive gold medal at the International Ice Hockey Federation Women's World Championship with a thrilling shootout win over Finland in the gold-medal game.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2020 IIHF UNDER-18 WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2020 IIHF Under-18 Women's World Championship is set for Dec. 26-Jan. 2 in Bratislava, Slovakia. In the 2019 tournament in Obihiro, Japan, the U.S. earned a silver medal to extend its unprecedented medal streak in tournament play.

The U.S. has played in the gold-medal game in all 12 of the previous IIHF Under-18 Women's World Championships, capturing the event's top prize a total of seven times (2008, 2009, 2011, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018). Nineteen of the players on the U.S. Women's National Team have competed at an IIHF Under-18 Women's World Championship.

### 2020 IIHF WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2020 IIHF World Junior Championship will take place Dec. 26-Jan. 5 in Ostrava and Trinec, Czech Republic. All U.S. games will be broadcast live on NHL Network.

The U.S. enters the tournament having claimed four-straight medals in the event for the first time in U.S. history. In addition to its silver medal in 2019, the U.S. has earned one gold (2017) and two bronze (2016, 2018) in that span.

### BIOSTEEL ALL-AMERICAN GAME

The BioSteel All-American Game (BioSteelAllAmericanGame.com), which began in 2012 and annually features the top American-born prospects eligible for the upcoming NHL Draft, will be played on Jan. 20, 2020, at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth, Michigan.

Formerly known as the USA Hockey All-American Prospects Game, the showcase will utilize a new format this season with players from the U.S. National Under-18 Team of USA Hockey's National Team Development Program taking on a group of the best American-born players from the USHL, which is the lone Tier I junior league in the country.

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## U.S. COACHING STAFF



### BOB CORKUM, HEAD COACH

Bob Corkum is in his second season serving as head coach of the U.S. Women's National Team. Most recently, Corkum led the U.S. Women's National Team to its fifth consecutive gold medal at the IIHF Women's World Championship in 2019 in Espoo, Finland. The team went undefeated in the tournament, outscoring its opponents 41-5.

Corkum's first international tournament as head coach with the U.S. Women's National Team was the 2018 Four Nations Cup in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, where the U.S. women went undefeated en route to its fourth straight tournament title.

Previously, Corkum served as an assistant coach for the U.S. Under-22 Women's Select Team for the U22 Series vs. Canada in Calgary in August and helped lead the U.S. to a three-game sweep. Corkum's appointment to the U-22 select team staff marked his first coaching assignment for a U.S. team since leading the U.S. men into the 2013 Ivan Hlinka Memorial Tournament in Slovakia, where the team finished second.

Corkum previously served as an assistant coach for the New York Islanders from 2014-2017. A 12-year NHL veteran, Corkum joined the Islanders organization in July 2013 after spending five seasons as an associate coach at his alma mater, the University of Maine. Corkum helped the Black Bears qualify for the NCAA Tournament in 2012.

Corkum's NHL career began with the Buffalo Sabres in 1990 after being selected by the Sabres in the 3rd round, 47th overall in 1986. The Salisbury, Mass., native also spent time with the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim, Philadelphia Flyers, Phoenix Coyotes, Los Angeles Kings, New Jersey Devils and Atlanta Thrashers.

Prior to playing in the NHL, Corkum played four years at the University of Maine. As a senior in 1989, Corkum helped lead the Black Bears to a Hockey East Championship and a second-consecutive Frozen Four Appearance.

### JOEL JOHNSON, ASSISTANT COACH

Johnson is serving as assistant coach of the U.S. Women's National Team. He served in the same role during the 2018-19 season, his first year in that capacity. Johnson made his debut at the 2018 Four Nations Cup in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, where the U.S. earned its fourth consecutive tournament championship, and also helped guide the U.S. to its fifth straight gold medal at the 2019 IIHF Women's World Championship in Espoo, Finland. Earlier last season, Johnson helped lead the U.S. Under-22 Women's Select Team to a three-game sweep of its northern rival at the 2018 U22 Series vs. Canada in Calgary. A long-time contributor to the U.S. women's program, he also previously served as head coach of the U.S. Under-18 Women's National Team from 2015-2018, helping the U.S. capture four consecutive gold medals at the IIHF Under-18 Women's World Championship. Entering in his 15th season on the University of Minnesota coaching staff, Johnson has helped the Golden Gophers claim six national titles (2000, 2004, 2012, 2013, 2015, and 2016). He previously spent six seasons coaching at Bethel University from 2004-10, including three years as the men's hockey head coach.

### BRIAN POTHIER, ASSISTANT COACH

Brian Pothier is serving as assistant coach of the U.S. Women's National Team. He served in the same role for the first time at the 2018 Four Nations Cup in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, where the U.S. captured its fourth consecutive tournament championship. He also helped lead the team to its fifth consecutive gold medal in the 2019 IIHF Women's World Championship in Espoo, Finland. Pothier served as a camp coach at both the 2018 and 2019 USA Hockey Women's National Festivals in Lake Placid, N.Y., and the 2018 U.S. Women's National Team Evaluation Camp in Biddeford, Maine. A former NHL defenseman and U.S. Men's National Team alumnus (2007 IIHF Men's World Championship), Pothier went undrafted in the NHL before signing with the Atlanta Thrashers in his senior year of college. He spent his first year in Orlando with Atlanta's farm team, the Orlando Solar Bears and went on to win both the Turner Cup and Rookie of the Year and American-born Rookie of the Year honors in 2000-2001. Pothier also spent time with the Ottawa Senators, Washington Capitals and Carolina Hurricanes organizations before retiring from hockey in 2012. Pothier now coaches all ages at Pothier Blueline Hockey in Rochester, Mass.

### BRIANNE MCLAUGHLIN-BITTLE, GOALTENDING COACH

McLaughlin-Bittle is serving as goaltending coach for the U.S. Women's National Team. Most recently, she served as a goalie coach at the 2019 U.S. Women's National Festival in Lake Placid, New York. She also lent her expertise to USA Hockey's top goalie camp the past two years, plus the girls' Under-18 camp and the boys' Under-17 camp earlier this summer. As a player, McLaughlin-Bittle was part of Team USA for the U22 Series against Canada in 2008. A two-time Olympic silver medalist, McLaughlin-Bittle played goalie for the U.S. in the 2010 and 2014 Olympic Winter Games. McLaughlin-Bittle played four seasons (2005-09) of college hockey for Robert Morris University and finished her career with a .910 save percentage in 120 career games. Additionally, she finished with the most career saves in NCAA Division I history. She also served as an assistant coach at RMU from 2011-13. Following her time with the U.S. Women's National Team, McLaughlin-Bittle played two seasons for the Buffalo Beauts of the National Women's Hockey League, leading the team to the Isobel Cup league championship in 2016-17.

## TEAM SUPPORT STAFF

### DIRECTOR, WNT PROGRAMS:

### SPORTS DIETICIAN:

### VIDEO COORDINATOR:

### ATHLETIC TRAINER:

### TEAM DOCTOR:

### HOCKEY OPERATIONS:

Katie Million  
Carrie Aprik  
Emily Engel-Natzke  
Brittani Cookinham  
Ally Howe  
Nick Bryant

### MASSAGE THERAPIST:

### STRENGTH & CONDITIONING HEAD COACH:

### STRENGTH & CONDITIONING COACH:

### COMMUNICATIONS:

### EQUIPMENT MANAGER:

### EQUIPMENT MANAGER:

Stephanie Sears  
Cal Dietz  
Ariana Habas  
Maddy Schachte  
Brent Proulx  
Sis Paulsen

