



STAND BESIDE HER TOUR

"STAND BESIDE HER" TOUR, PRESENTED BY MLB

USA SOFTBALL AT NFCA LEADOFF CLASSIC

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Local Time/Result</u>
February 4	South Florida	USA 3 USF 0
February 7	Mississippi State Illinois	6 & 8 pm ET
February 8	Baylor Kentucky	3 & 5:30 pm ET
February 9	Texas State	12 pm ET
February 11	Florida	6 pm ET
February 12	Liberty	6 pm ET
February 16	Oklahoma State Washington	10 & 12:30 PM ET
February 18	Arizona	7 pm MT
February 20	New Mexico	8 pm PT
February 21	San Diego	8 pm PT
February 22	Utah	8 pm PT
February 23	UCLA	11:30 am PT
March 8	Cal State San Marcos UC San Diego	1 pm PT
March 10	CSUN San Diego State	5 pm PT
March 12	Washington	6 pm PT
March 17	Portland State Oregon State	5 pm PT
March 18	Southern Oregon Oregon	3:30 pm PT
March 31	Alabama	6 pm CT
April 1	Auburn	6 pm CT
April 3	Columbus State Kennesaw State	5 pm ET
April 5	TBD	1 pm ET
April 7	UT-Chattanooga	6:30 pm ET
April 8	Tennessee	7 pm ET
April 15	LA Tech ULM	5:30 pm CT
April 18	TBD	1 pm CT
April 21	OK Christian north texas	6 pm CT
April 22	Abilene Christian Texas Woman's Univ.	6 pm CT
April 23	TBD	TBD
April 25	Lubbock Christian	6 pm CT
May 1	TBD	5 pm CT
May 3	Southeast Missouri	2 pm CT
May 17	TBD	4 pm PT
May 19	San José State	6 pm PT
May 30	Milligan College TBD	1 pm ET
June 3	TBD	5:30 pm CT
June 5	TBD	6 pm ET
June 7	TBD	2 pm ET
June 9	TBD	5 pm ET
June 10	TBD	5 pm ET
June 18	TBD	5 pm ET
June 19	Brakettes	5:30 pm ET
June 21	TBD	4 pm ET
June 23	TBD	5:30 pm ET
June 25	TBD	7 pm ET

LIVE STATS: WWW.USASOFTBALL.COM

TEAM USA RETURNS TO PLAY AT NFCA LEAD-OFF CLASSIC, PRESENTED BY RAWLINGS

The USA Softball Women's National Team officially kicked off their first of over 70 game exhibition schedule with a 3-0 win over the University of South Florida on the "Stand Beside Her" tour, presented by Major League Baseball.

Team USA will play in five exhibition games against NCAA Division I programs starting with a 6 p.m. ET contest against Mississippi State and 8 p.m. ET game against Illinois on Friday, February 7. The U.S. will return to the field for a 3 p.m. ET matchup against Baylor and a 5:30 p.m. nightcap against No. 16 Kentucky on Saturday, February 8 before a 12 p.m. ET game against Texas State on Sunday, February 9 to close out the tournament.

MEDIA INFO

Requests for interviews of any USA Softball athlete or coach should be arranged through the USA Softball Communications Department and should be made prior to the fifth inning of the exhibition contest.

Codi Warren, Director of Communications
cwarren@usasoftball.com
 (Cell) 405-420-2817

2020 ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	NAME	PRONUNCIATION	Pos.	B-T	HOMETOWN	COLLEGE
14	Monica Abbott		LHP	L/L	Salinas, Calif.	Tennessee
2	Ali Aguilar	Ag-u-lar	IF	L/R	Orangevae, Calif.	Washington
20	Valerie Arioto	Air-e-o-toe	IF	R/R	Pleasanton, Calif.	California
3	Ally Carda		IF/RHP	R/R	Elk Grove, Calif.	UCLA
4	Amanda Chidester	Chid-es-ter	C/IF	R/R	Allen Park, Mich	Michigan
12	Taylor Edwards		C	R/R	Murrieta, Calif.	Nebraska
37	Hannah Flippen		IF	R/R	San Diego, Calif.	Utah
21	Rachel Garcia		RHP/IF	R/R	Palmdale, Calif.	UCLA
8	Haylie McCleney	Mc-len-e	OF	L/L	Morris, Ala.	Alabama
16	Michelle Moultrie	Mole-tree	OF	L/R	Jacksonville, Fla.	Florida
34	Dejah Mulipola	Mul-e-pole-uh	C	R/R	Garden Grove, Calif.	Arizona
1	Aubree Munro	Mun-row	C	R/R	Brea, Calif.	Florida
48	Bubba Nickles		IF/OF	R/R	Merced, Calif.	UCLA
38	Cat Osterman		LHP	L/R	Houston, Texas	Texas
9	Janie Reed		OF	L/R	Placentia, Calif.	Oregon
10	Keilani Ricketts	Kay-lon-e	LHP/IF	L/L	San Jose, Calif.	Oklahoma
99	Delaney Spaulding		IF	R/R	Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.	UCLA
7	Kelsey Stewart		IF	L/R	Wichita, Kan.	Florida

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Ken Eriksen

Assistant Coaches: Laura Berg, Howard Dobson,
Tairia Flowers, Heather Tarr

USA SOFTBALL BY THE NUMBERS

Average age of 2008 Olympic Team - 26.7
 Average age of 2020 Olympic Team* - 26.5
 Oldest player on 2008 Olympic Team - Lisa Fernandez, 36
 (Feb. 22, 1971)
 Oldest player on 2020 Olympic Team* - Cat Osterman, 36,
 (April 16, 1983)
 Youngest Player on 2008 Olympic Team - Monica Abbott, 22
 (July 28, 1985)
 Youngest Player on 2020 Olympic Team* - Bubba Nickles, 21
 (March 8, 1998)
 Olympic Gold Medalists on 2008 Olympic Team - 12
 Olympic Gold Medalists on 2020 Olympic Team - 2
 Tallest Player - Monica Abbott, 6'3"
 Shortest Players - Hannah Flippen and Michelle Moultrie, 5'3"
 NCAA National Champions: Rachel Garcia (UCLA, 2018), Au-
 bree Munro (Florida, 2014, 2015), Bubba Nickles (UCLA, 2018),
 Keilani ricketts (Oklahoma, 2013), Kelsey Stewart (Florida,
 2014, 2015)

*Numbers as of January 1, 2020

TOUR QUICK FACTS

Miles Traveled during the six month tour - 18,406
 States Visited - 20
 Cities Visited - 36

HOMETOWN STATES

Alabama - 1 - Haylie McCleney
 California - 13 - Abbott, Aguilar, Arioto, Carda, Edwards,
 Flippen, Garcia, Mulipola, Munro, Nickles, Reed, Ricketts,
 Spaulding
 Florida - 1 - Michelle Moultrie
 Kansas - 1 - Kelsey Stewart
 Michigan - 1 - Amanda Chidester
 Texas - 1 - Cat Osterman

COLLEGE

University of Alabama - Haylie McCleney
 University of Arizona - Dejah Mulipola
 University of California - Valerie Arioto
 University of Florida - Michelle Moultrie, Aubree Munro,
 Kelsey Stewart
 University of Michigan - Amanda Chidester
 University of Nebraska - Taylor Edwards
 University of Oklahoma - Keilani Ricketts
 University of Oregon - Janie Reed
 University of Tennessee - Monica Abbott
 University of Texas - Cat Osterman
 UCLA - Carda, Garcia, Nickles, Spaulding
 University of Utah - Hannah Flippen
 University of Washington - Ali Aguilar

USA SOFTBALL™

THIS WEEK IN USA SOFTBALL (LOCAL TIME)

CLEARWATER, FLORIDA | GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

FRI. FEB. 7

6 PM | MISSISSIPPI STATE

8 PM | ILLINOIS

SAT. FEB. 8

3 PM | BAYLOR

5:30 PM | NO. 16 KENTUCKY

SUN. FEB. 9

12 PM | TEXAS STATE

MON. FEB. 10

PRACTICE & CONDITIONING

TUES. FEB. 11

6 PM | NO. 9 FLORIDA

WED. FEB. 12

6 PM | LIBERTY

THURS. FEB. 13

OFF DAY

TEAM USA PITCHERS DOMINATE THE CIRCLE

The USA Softball Women's National Team pitching staff came out sharp in their "Stand Beside Her" tour, presented by MLB, debut against USF. Allowing just two hits in the opener, the staff combined for 18 strikeouts against the Bulls. **Monica Abbott** led the charge with all six of her outs coming via the K, while **Ally Carda** followed closely with five. **Cat Osterman** fanned three batters while **Rachel Garcia** and **Keilani Ricketts** each picked up two strikeouts.

HOW TO WATCH THIS WEEKEND

The National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) will be live streaming each of Team USA's contests Feb. 7-9. Live stats will be available at USASoftball.com and fans can follow along with the action by following the Women's National Team on Twitter at [@USASoftballWNT](https://twitter.com/USASoftballWNT)

TEAM USA READY FOR THE SIX-MONTH JOURNEY

Team USA is gearing up for their sixth-month journey on the "Stand Beside Her" tour, presented by MLB. Hitting 36 cities with over 70 games played, this marks the first time for all but two athletes on the roster to experience a tour of this magnitude.

YOUNG, BUT BOASTING PLENTY OF INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

With only two members of the 2020 WNT roster having Olympic experience, Team USA will head to the Olympic Games with their youngest Olympic roster in five quads - however the team boasts plenty of international experience. Each member of the squad has suited up for the Red, White and Blue and between the 18 athletes, there are a total of:

- 1 Olympic Gold Medal
- 2 Olympic Silver Medals
- 29 World Championship Gold Medals
- 19 Pan American Games Gold Medals

I'VE GOT THE POWER

Team USA returns five players from the 2019 roster who recorded double-digit RBIs for the squad: **Valerie Arioto and Delaney Spaulding (23), Haylie McCleney (18), Ali Aguilar (16), and Michelle Moultrie (11).** **McCleney** led the squad with eight home runs while **Arioto and Spaulding** each sent seven balls out of the park.

AGE IS JUST A NUMBER

Don't let their youth fool you. Born just a little over two weeks apart, **Dejah Mulipola and Bubba Nickles** might be two of the youngest on the team, but they each bring plenty of international experience to the roster.

Mulipola is a Junior Women's World Championship Gold Medalist and 2019 Pan American Games Gold Medalist, while **Nickles** has two Junior Women's World Championship Gold Medals and holds four Junior Women's World Championship records.

VERSATILITY HIGHLIGHTS 2020 ROSTER

A number of athletes on the 2020 roster are versatile in the field, with eight athletes able to play a multitude of positions:

Ali Aguilar	2B, SS, 3B	Rachel Garcia	P, 1B
Ally Carda	P, 1B, OF	Bubba Nickles	P, SS, 3B, OF
Amanda Chidester	C, 1B, 3B, OF	Keilani Ricketts	P, 1B
Hannah Flippen	2B, SS, 3B	Kelsey Stewart	2B, 3B, OF

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MULTIPLE-HIT GAMES

Player	2	3	4	Total
McCleney	1			1
Stewart	1			1

MULTIPLE-WALK GAMES

Player	2	3	4	Total
Arioto	1			1

"STAND BESIDE HER TOUR" - INDIVIDUAL GAME HIGHS

Batting

At bats.....	4.....	McCleney (USF 2-4)
Runs scored....	2.....	McCleney (USF 2-4)
Hits.....	2.....	McCleney, Stewart (USF 2-4)
RBI.....	1.....	Stewart (USF 2-4)
Doubles.....	1.....	Stewart (USF 2-4)
Triples.....	1.....	McCleney (USF 2-4)
Homeruns.....	0.....	(USF 2-4)
Walks.....	2.....	Arioto (USF 2-4)
Total bases....	4.....	McCleney (USF 2-4)
Stolen bases....	1.....	Reed (USF 2-4)
Caught stealing...	1...Nickles (USF 2-4)	
Hit by pitch.....	1.....	Aguilar (USF 2-4)

Fielding

Putouts.....	11.....	Munro (USF 2-4)
Assists....	1...Aguilar, Stewart (USF 2-4)	

Pitching

Innings pitched....	2....	Abbott, Carda (USF 2-4)
Runs allowed.....	0.....	All (USF 2-4)
Earned runs.....	0.....	All (USF 2-4)
Walks allowed....	0...Several (USF 2-4)	
Strikeouts.....	6.....	Abbott (USF 2-4)
Hits allowed....	0.....	Several (USF 2-4)
Doubles allowed....	0.....	All (USF 2-4)
Homers allowed....	0.....	All (USF 2-4)
Wild pitches.....	0.....	All (USF 2-4)
Hit batters.....	0.....	All (USF 2-4)
First pitch strikes...	6...Carda (USF 2-4)	
Batters faced...7...Abbott, Carda (USF 2-4)		

TOKYO 2020 FUN FACTS

- Olympic medals will contain Parts of old electronics
- Skateboarding, surfing, sport climbing and karate join soft-ball/baseball as additional sports for Tokyo 2020
- A.I. robots will be used to assist the influx of people with directions, translations and more
- A number of Tokyo's most iconic landmarks are set to serve as scenic backdrops for the Games

"STAND BESIDE HER" TOUR - TEAM GAME HIGHS

Batting

At bats.....	25	USF 2-4
Runs scored.....	3	USF 2-4
Hits.....	5	USF 2-4
RBI.....	1	USF 2-4
Doubles.....	1	USF 2-4
Triples.....	1	USF 2-4
Homeruns.....	1	USF 2-4
Walks.....	5	USF 2-4
Total bases.....	8	USF 2-4
Strikeouts.....	3	USF 2-4
Stolen bases.....	1	USF 2-4
Hit by pitch.....	1	USF 2-4
Caught stealing.....	1	USF 2-4
Runners LOB.....	7	USF 2-4

Fielding

Putouts.....	21	USF 2-4
Assists.....	2	USF 2-4
Errors.....	1	USF 2-4
Passed balls.....	0	USF 2-4

Pitching

Innings pitched.....	7	USF 2-4
Runs allowed.....	0	USF 2-4
Earned runs.....	0	USF 2-4
Walks allowed.....	1	USF 2-4
Strikeouts.....	18	USF 2-4
Hits allowed.....	2	USF 2-4
Doubles allowed.....	0	USF 2-4
Homers allowed.....	0	USF 2-4
Wild pitches.....	0	USF 2-4
Hit batters.....	0	USF 2-4
First pitch strikes.....	18	USF 2-4
Batters faced.....	25	USF 2-4

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WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF SOFTBALL IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES?



The Paris Organizing Committee announced in February, 2019 which sports would make up the 2024 Olympic Program and decided upon breakdancing, surfing, skateboarding and sport climbing to make the final cut of shortlisted sports. The decision came after the groundbreaking Olympic Agenda 2020 passed by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that gives Olympic host cities the right to propose sports that are popular in the host country and add to the appeal of the Games.

“While disheartening, the response we’ve seen from the softball community is a resounding display that our sport will continue to thrive and grow,” said USA Softball Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Craig Cress. “We won’t give up, the work never ends - but we can promise you that our athletes will continue to compete each year and proudly represent our great nation on the international stage and we encourage fans to continue their loyal support of softball. We also stand with the international softball community in the fight for inclusion in future Olympic Games and we will continue to work with groups who value the growth of our sport both domestically and internationally.”

“I want to congratulate these sports. I also guarantee that WBSC remains committed to boosting the growth of baseball-softball in France and around the world,” said WBSC President, Riccardo Fraccari. “At the WBSC we continue to believe our inclusive, accessible sports can serve to promote the Olympic Values across the world. We will continue working with the Olympic Movement in the lead up to our spectacular Olympic comeback in Tokyo 2020. And we already focus on Los Angeles 2028.”

The IOC still needs to give final approval to the choices made by the Paris 2024 organizers during the executive board in December 2020. The sports have already been provisionally approved by the IOC.



THE COMPETITION

In Tokyo, Team USA will join No. 2 Japan, No. 3 Canada, No. 5 Mexico, No. 8 Australia and No. 10 Italy as the field of six countries competing for the Gold. As the host country, Japan earned an automatic berth while Team USA punched their ticket to the Olympic Games after winning the 2018 World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) Softball World Championship. Italy earned their spot in Tokyo after winning the WBSC Softball Europe/Africa Qualifier while Canada and Mexico qualified as the top two teams from the WBSC Women’s Softball Americas Qualifier. Australia punched the last ticket to Tokyo by winning the WBSC Softball Asia/Oceania Qualifier.

Team USA has played all five other teams within the last six years and will look to advance to their fourth-consecutive gold medal game on July 28.

The games will be played in Fukushima Azuma Baseball Stadium and Yokohama Baseball Stadium.

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