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Dave Durden, Greg Meehan, Catherine Kase Reconfirmed as U.S. Olympic Swimming Team Head Coaches for Tokyo in 2021

Rescheduled Olympic Games set for Tokyo, July 23-August 8, 2021

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – In marking one year out from the new Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, now set for July 2021, USA Swimming Managing Director of the National Team Lindsay Mintenko has reconfirmed Dave Durden, Greg Meehan, and Catherine Kase as head coaches for the United States Olympic Swimming Team. The trio of decorated college coaches and experienced mentors on USA Swimming’s international coaching staffs will fill the roles of men’s head coach, women’s head coach and open water head coach, respectively.

Durden, the men’s coach at the University of California, Berkeley and Meehan, the Stanford University women’s coach are both first-time U.S. Olympic Team head coaches, while Kase, formerly the associate head coach at the University of Southern California, will be making her third Olympic open water head coaching appearance, with the other appearances coming in 2012 for the Tunisian Olympic Team and 2016 for Team USA.

“These three incredible coaches remain committed now more than ever to leading our team to great success in Tokyo in 2021,” Mintenko said. “While we respect and understand the concern and uncertainty that continues to be felt around the world, together we chose to remain positive and to set our sights on readying a strong team for the Games. Dave, Greg and Catherine’s experienced leadership will be invaluable as we navigate these very unique and unprecedented circumstances.”

The Team USA swimming roster for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 will be decided at the U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Swimming, set for June 13-20, 2021 in Omaha, Nebraska, in what is widely regarded as one of the most competitive meets in all of swimming. As previously announced, Kase will lead a team of three Americans competing in the open water 10-kilometer race in Tokyo. The open water trio of **Haley Anderson** (Granite Bay, Calif./Trojan Swim Club), **Ashley Twichell** (Fayetteville, N.Y./TAC Titans) and **Jordan Wilimovsky** (Malibu, Calif./Team Santa Monica) punched their Olympic tickets with top-10 finishes in the 10K at the 2019 FINA Open Water World Championships, where Kase was also the team head coach. The team’s assistant coaches will be named at a later date.

A list of historical U.S. Olympic Swimming Team Head Coaches (1924-present) can be found here: <https://www.usaswimming.org/docs/default-source/eventsdocuments/rosters/olympics/olympic-coaches-historic.pdf>

The Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 pool competition will be held July 24-Aug. 1, 2021, while the open water swimming competition will take place Aug. 4 and 5, 2021. Further information about the Olympic Games schedule can be found here: <https://tokyo2020.org/en/schedule/marathon-swimming-schedule>.

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About USA Swimming

As the National Governing Body for the sport of swimming in the United States, USA Swimming is a 400,000-member service organization that promotes the culture of swimming by creating opportunities for swimmers and coaches of all backgrounds to participate and advance in the sport through clubs, events and education. Our membership is comprised of swimmers from the age group level to the Olympic Team, as well as coaches and volunteers. USA Swimming is responsible for selecting and training teams for international competition including the Olympic Games, and strives to serve the sport through its core objectives: Build the base, Promote the sport, Achieve competitive success. For more information, visit www.usaswimming.org.

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