



## 2019 WOMENS SNOWBOARD TEAM



"The Deaflympics is relevant and valuable because it is by far the most inclusive sporting event for the deaf. It's amazing being included and knowing what is happening, and you get to meet other deaf athletes from all over the world! While snowboarding is an individual sport, it's still important to have a team so we can support each other and rise to the top."

- Lauren Weibert  
Breckenridge, Colorado



"To compete with deaf people all over the world, to connect with them and to all share the same passion? That's amazing in itself."

- Jenny Berrigan  
Oak Park, Michigan



"The Deaflympics has made it possible for Deaf women snowboarders from all over world to compete. It will be a special experience. Being part of the team, we are linked together by our love for snowboarding and skiing. It is a good feeling when you find people who are passionate about same things."

- Hannah Wheatcroft  
Seattle, Washington



"To represent the USA Deaf community."

- Lauren Benedict  
San Diego, California



## 2019 ALPINE SKI TEAM



“Raising awareness for the hard of hearing and Deaf community more important than anything. Having something to be proud of competing in pushes me to stay in the best shape I can. Being able to represent our country in an elite international sporting event is honorable.”

– Austin Nelson  
Aspen, Colorado



“Every Deaflympics' competitor doesn't allow their lack of hearing limit their ability to follow their passion. I have never met another deaf or hard-of-hearing skier or snowboarder and I am looking forward to be part of such team.”

– Artem Novoselov  
New Jersey



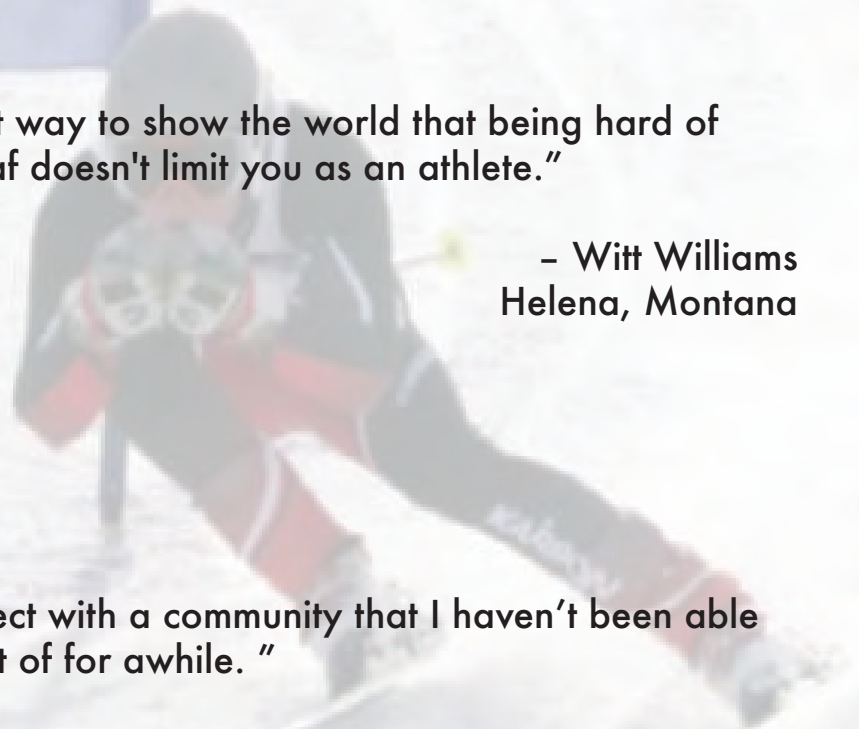
“It is a great way to show the world that being hard of hearing/deaf doesn't limit you as an athlete.”

– Witt Williams  
Helena, Montana



“I can connect with a community that I haven't been able to be a part of for awhile. ”

– Jake Wollan  
Winter Park, Colorado





## 2019 MENS SNOWBOARD TEAM



"Its the only place I have equal access to a competition without feeling left out. Being part of the team is a huge honor for me to represent the USA Deaf community, it something that I'm proud of."

- Sean Esson  
Auburn, California



"The Deaflympics is a way for the deaf culture to come together and showcase our athletic ability and talent at an international level. Being apart of a team is really special to me. It is inspiring to watch my teammates do well and it motivates me to be a better snowboarder."

- Blair Esson  
Truckee, California



"To be able to travel around the world, compete with other athletes from all over and meet new faces is truly valuable. It's an honor and a privilege to be a part of this great team and represent our country."

- Eric Cohen  
Dillon, Colorado



"Its a way to show that Sign Language isn't bad by modeling our language while representing my country."

- Darrick De La O  
Huntington Beach, California



## 2019 CROSS COUNTRY SKI TEAM



"I love XC skiing races and appreciate the opportunity to join other deaf athletes from the USA. It is awesome to be part of the team because we will have good energy and goals."

- Christopher Smith  
Jefferson, Vermont

## 2019 USDSSA DEAFLYMPIC TEAM



"Sports bring such a huge positive influence. Playing sports teaches you how to organize your time, boosts friendships, and fosters an healthy + mental lifestyle. Through sports, athletes gain skills that are worth an lifetime. The Deaflympics provides a inclusive setting for the Deaf community and inspires future leaders."

- Cara Frank, Team Leader  
Bend, Oregon



"Many Deaf athletes don't have access to elite level training because most coaches don't sign. The Deaflympics brings the best athletes together, teaches athletes about sportsmanship, and provides opportunities for athletes to become coaches for the next generation. Being a part of the team is a proud moment for any Deaf athlete; they have reached the highest level of competition and are amongst the best in the world."

- Jeff Pollock, Snowboard Coach  
SLC, Utah & LA, California



"My favorite moments in competition has been watching athletes improve their ski racing skills and gain confidence skiing down the race course. I am truly honored to be a part of this years team as an alpine coach. I am looking forward to using my 15 years coaching experience to help mentor and support this years team in 2019 winter Deaflympics."

- Tal Williams, Alpine Ski Coach  
Helene, Montana