

2018 Olympic Gold Medal Curling Team



Team Shuster's Road To Gold

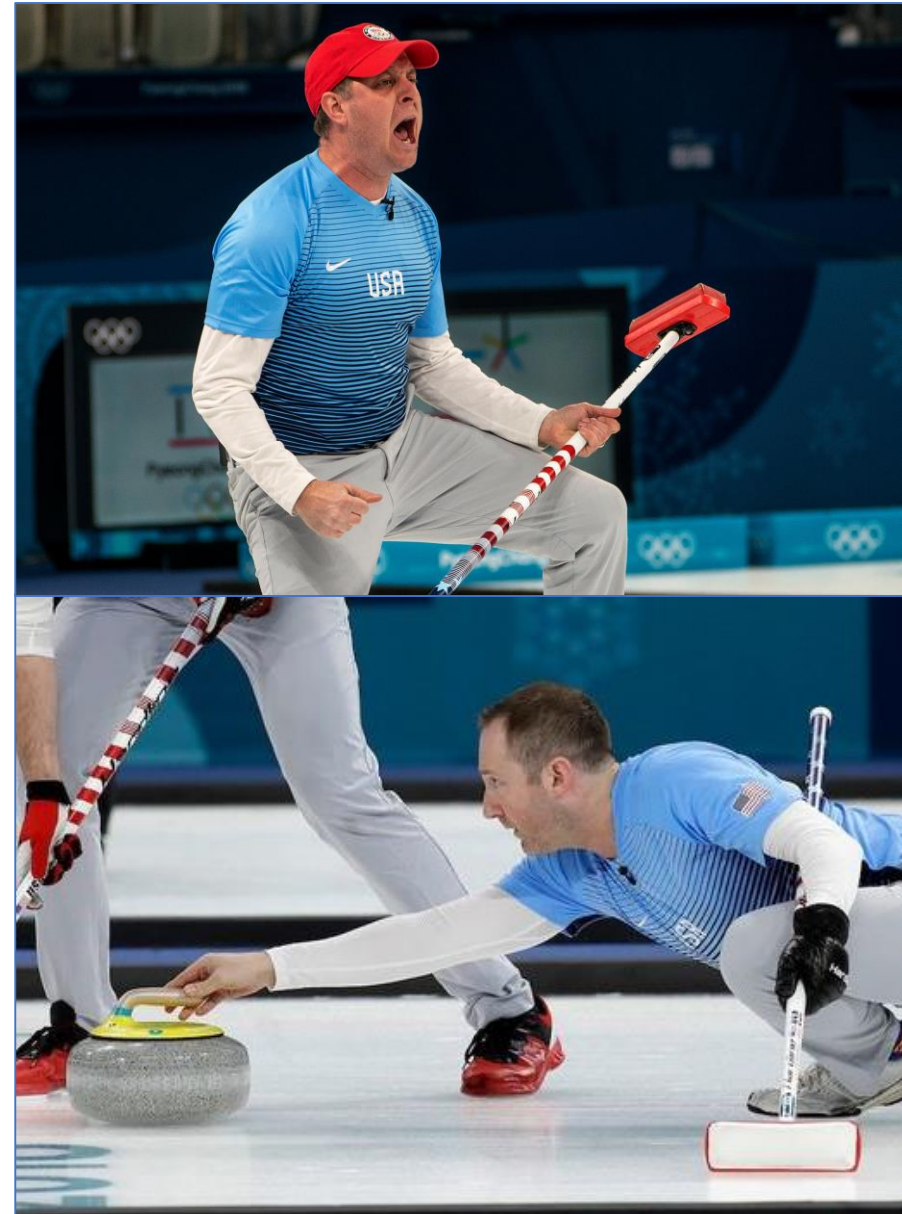
John Shuster is the kind of guy everyone wants to see succeed but his road to success has not been without a few bumps along the way. After a disappointing ninth place finish in Sochi, USA Curling held a combine for the country's best curlers, meant to identify 10 athletes who would be asked to be on the high performance team. When the team was announced, Shuster's name wasn't on the list. The three-time Olympian was crushed.

Jilted by the governing body, denounced by fans during the Sochi Games, Shuster was at a common crossroads in sports and in life: accept defeat and find something else to do or work even harder and earn his spot back on the team. He did what great competitors do. He reached down deep and put together a team of his peers that were also cast aside and got back to work at the rink.

"People coined us Team Rejects," he told the West Fargo Pioneer. Soon enough, the rejects started to win. First, they won the 2015 national championship, defeating all those who had made the USA Curling Team. Team Shuster went on to finish fifth at the world championships later that year.

After Team Shuster's success, USA Curling saw the promise and brought all four members of Team Shuster back into the fold. The results kept on coming for Team Shuster: a bronze medal at the 2016 World Championships, the U.S. national championship again in 2017.

When Team Shuster defeated Heath McCormick's squad at the U.S. Olympic trials to qualify for PyeongChang in November, it seemed like the end to a storybook tale. Their dark horse story only got more incredible once the 2018 Olympic Games were underway.





Mr. T 
@MrT

I predict PAIN for Sweden and victory for the USA! Yeah that's what i'm talking about. We're in it to win it fool!
[#curlingiscoolfool](#) [#TeamUSA](#)

8:42 PM · Feb 23, 2018

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Bolstered by some emotional support from unlikely curling super fan Mr. T, Team Shuster made it through the round-robin section of the tournament. In an upset of Olympic Lake Placid proportions, Team Shuster aka Team USA beat defending Olympic Champion Canada with Shuster clinching the win on the final stone. The rest, as they say, is history. Team Shuster took a four-game winning streak into the Gold Medal game against top-ranked Team Sweden and beat them by a score of 10-7. It was Shuster who, once again, made the Gold Medal clinching shot in the eighth end to seal the victory and cause an eruption for the ages at the Curling Club of Duluth and across America.

Team Shuster



John Shuster - Skip
@Shoostie
Hometown: Superior, Wis.
DOB: 11/03/1982
- 2018 Olympic Gold Medalist
- Four-time Olympian
- 2006 Olympic Bronze Medalist
- Six-time National Champion
- World Championship: 2017 (4th), 2016 (bronze), 2015 (5th)



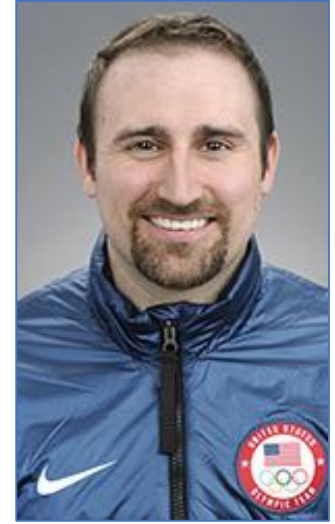
John Landsteiner
@Lands036
Hometown: Duluth, Minn.
DOB: 5/19/1990
- 2018 Olympic Gold Medalist
- Two-time Olympian
- Two-time National Champion
- World Championship: 2017 (4th), 2016 (bronze), 2015 (5th)



Matt Hamilton
@Hamscurl
Hometown: McFarland, Wis.
DOB: 2/19/1989
- 2018 Olympic Gold Medalist
- Two-time National Champion
- World Championship: 2017 (4th), 2016 (bronze), 2015 (5th)



Tyler George
@Tgeorge1323
Hometown: Duluth, Minn.
DOB: 10/06/1982
- 2018 Olympic Gold Medalist
- Three-time National Champion
- World Championship: 2017 (4th), 2016 (bronze), 2015 (5th)



Joe Polo
@Joecurl01
Hometown: Duluth, Minn.
DOB: 12/10/1982
- 2018 Olympic Gold Medalist
- 2006 Olympic Bronze Medalist
- Six-time National Champion
- 2016 World Mixed Doubles Championship Bronze



For Speaking, Corporate Events, Clinics, and Sponsorship Contact:
Scott Kirkpatrick – Scott@ChicagoSEP.com – (312)-543-1457