

Local National Sports Center for the Disabled Athlete Named to the U.S. Paralympics Nordic Skiing National Development Team

DENVER – June 15, 2016 – The National Sports Center for the Disabled (NSCD) announced today that one of their distinguished athletes, Joy Rondeau, has been named to the 2016-17 U.S. Paralympics Nordic Skiing National Development Team. Rondeau, who is a Colorado native from Granby, has been training with the National Sports Center for the Disabled competitive Nordic/Biathlon program for nearly two years under the direction of Shawn School and Mark Birdseye on a year-round basis.

"We are excited to see one of our own being represented on the 2016-17 U.S. Paralympics Nordic Skiing National Development Team," said Mark Birdseye, NSCD Nordic Coach. "Joy is an outstanding athlete and all around hard worker and we are eager to see what the future holds for this amazing woman. We wish her the best of luck."

Rondeau was named to the 2016-17 Development Team following a Spring Camp she attended in Bend, OR. She is a sit Nordic skier and her training has included a rigorous amount of on snow winter Nordic training combined with summer dry land training that includes strength training in the weight room, mountain boarding on the roads of Grand County, speed intervals on the track on her mountain board and other cross-training activities. Rondeau competed in her first World Cup Paralympic Nordic event this past March for the U.S. National Paralympic Nordic Team in Germany.

The 2016-17 U.S. Paralympics Nordic Skiing National Team is made up of seven renowned athletes, five of which are Paralympians. Two-time Paralympic medalist, Oksana Masters, will headline the team and will be joined by military veterans Sean Halsted (ret. Air Force), Bryan Price (ret. Army and Paralympic medalist) and Andy Soule (ret. Army). The remaining athletes include Rondeau, Mia Zutter and Jake Adicoff. In addition to Rondeau, Oksana Masters and Andy Soule have trained with the NSCD in the past.

Rondeau looks forward to continuing her training and development in the sport and hopes to represent the U.S. in the next Winter Paralympic Games in South Korea. For more information on this year's team, visit the <u>Team U.S.A Paralympics</u> website.

About NSCD

The National Sports Center for the Disabled (NSCD) began in 1970 as a one-time ski lesson for children with amputations for the Children's Hospital of Denver. Today, the NSCD is one of the largest outdoor therapeutic recreation agencies in the world. Each year, thousands of children and adults with disabilities take to the ski slopes, mountain trails and playing fields to learn more about sports and themselves. With specially trained staff and its own adaptive equipment lab, the NSCD teaches a variety of winter and summer sports and activities to individuals with almost any physical, cognitive, emotional, or behavioral diagnosis. For more information about the NSCD visit http://nscd.org/ or like us on Facebook for updates about our programs and athletes.

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