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## CC United Wins National Junior Olympics

Submitted by Sean McFarland



Names of Players in Team Photo: Back row: Bardia Koopah, Jay Mills, Charlie Saunders, Caleb Boggan, Kyle Thomas, Tommy O'Conner, Chase McFarland, Ben Larsen, Brock Zamanian, Grant Watson, CJ Indart, West Temkin, Gil Gvishi, Mark Laurlund, Leo Lueddemann, Nate Rego, Brodie Sladek; front row: Kirk Jensen, Jack Brown, Matt DeTrane, Garrett Dunn, Sean Thomas Photo provided

Led by head coach Matt DeTrane, and assistants Jack Brown and Garrett Dunn, the CC United 18U team won the 2021 USA Water Polo Junior Olympics National Championship held July 17-20 in Orange County, California. The CC United Water Polo Club is based in Orinda and draws players from the East Bay Area. Founded in 2011, CCU has been knocking on the championship door at JO's, registering a half dozen top five finishes across different age groups over the last few years. This year's 18U team finally brought home the Gold for the club, as they went 7-0 during the grueling four-day event, which is the largest of its kind in the world.?

CCU players Caleb Boggan, Charlie Saunders, Nate Rego, Brodie Sladek, and Bardia Koopah rounded out a CCU team that devoted two years to practicing, training, and developing a complete team approach - all while dealing with the grueling conditions of COVID. Their hard work, and that of their teammates and coaches, resulted in CC United winning the 2021 Junior Olympics National Championship.

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