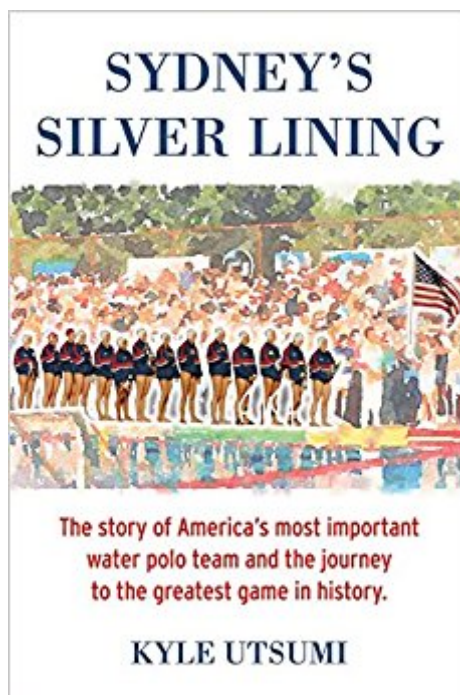




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# Sydney's Silver Lining: The Story Of America's Most Important Water Polo Team And The Journey To Th



## Synopsis

When women's water polo was added to the program for the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games, there was a real danger the United States, one of the pioneering nations in the sport, would miss the cut for the inaugural event. Down to its final chance to qualify for Sydney, the underdog Americans beat the odds to crash the Olympic field. And they weren't finished. To win an Olympic medal, the United States women would have to turn the tables on a bitter rival and topple a giant. To accomplish these feats and achieve Olympic glory, they would need to form and rely on an impenetrable circle of strength. One hundred years after men's water polo became the first Olympic team sport, the women made it the newest one in Sydney. Sydney's Silver Lining covers the fight for the long-overdue acceptance of women's water polo on the grandest stage in sports, and the personal battles each team member overcame to become a part of history. Sydney's Silver Lining will surprise and inspire both long-time water polo enthusiasts and casual fans discovering the sport for the first time -- the same way the American and Australian women captivated a record-setting audience when they battled for gold at the Sydney Olympics.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Kyle Utsumi has spent more than 30 years involved in water polo as an athlete, journalist, and coach. He has been coaching with the Stanford Water Polo Club since 1994. Utsumi served as head coach of the Youth National Team from 2001-2003 and the Junior National team from 2004-2009. Recently, Utsumi was an assistant coach with the Stanford University women, helping the team capture NCAA titles in 2011, 2012, 2014, and 2015. Utsumi's fascination with the Olympic Games began in 1984, when the 11-year-old Orange County native attended the Olympic swimming

and water polo competitions at USC and Pepperdine. He worked as a journalist for water polo in Atlanta and Sydney, and served on the USA Women's Water Polo staff at the Olympic Games in Athens and Beijing. Utsumi was in attendance when the USA women won gold in London in 2012.

Great story about a great team.

I took a copy of Kyle's book with me to Maui and read it during the Olympics over the last couple of weeks. It is wonderful read that chronicles many of the events that lead to women's water polo being included in the summer games. As a current women's water polo coach knowing the history puts what I do on a daily basis into historical context. The book also gave me ideas to adopt into my coaching and reinforced things I am already doing. I am truly grateful that Kyle took the time to put this story together. I am also extremely appreciative to all the players and coaches, that have come before me, that have made my job possible today. - Doug Wright, Davis Water Polo Club/ Davis Senior High School

This book is the quintessential story of the journey of women's water polo. The recap of the events and insight into the thoughts and feelings of the women involved in Sydney are outstanding. This book is a must read for anyone who wants to know the beginnings of it all. Inspiring read for any young girls/women that play water polo and also for anyone who supports them.

Great read!!! Once I picked this up I could not put it down. It is a great story about the challenge to get women's water polo into the Olympic Games, and then to get the US women's team qualified for the games, and the many personal struggles along the way. Well researched and more importantly, well written! A great story never before told.

An inspiring read for anyone interested in sports and/or the Olympic Movement. This is the endearing story of how a handful of women persevered to establish the foundation for what has evolved into the most dominant women's water polo program in the world. The story has relevance for anyone who reads it.

Must read! Great book, well written, inspiring, emotional, fun, educational... Highly recommended!

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