



**Team  
NORTH  
AMERICA**

**FEI™**   
**Youth  
Equestrian  
Games**  
Aachen 2022



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**  
**TEAM NORTH AMERICA**  
**ATHLETE PROFILES**

<b>COSTA RICA</b>	<b>3</b>
Shannon Grubba	3
<b>GUATEMALA</b>	<b>5</b>
Carlos Andrés Meany Morataya	5
<b>HONDURAS</b>	<b>7</b>
Gabriela Maradiaga Reina	7
<b>MEXICO</b>	<b>9</b>
Xaviera Maurer Buch	9
<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	<b>11</b>
Mimi Gochman	11



## **COSTA RICA**

### **Profile**

#### **Shannon Grubba**

**Age:** 18

**Gender:** Female

**Country:** Costa Rica

**Team:** North America

**Competing since:** 2014





## Questionnaire

### What's the best thing about riding horses?

The best thing about riding horses is the union that it creates between horse and rider. This connection is essentially what drives me to continue riding and growing in the sport. Many think that the sport is simply about the competition and the results; I believe that it is more about getting to know your horse at a personal level in order to achieve your goals.

### What does it mean for you to compete at the Youth Equestrian Games?

The Youth Equestrian Games allowed one of my greatest dreams to come true. This prestigious event serves an opportunity for my generation to experience the Olympic sensation. Not only this, but we get to do so in the renowned environment of Aachen, Germany. This is a great accomplishment that I look forward to. It will undoubtedly be something that I will never forget.

### Who is your favourite rider of all time?

My favourite rider, and the one who inspires me the most is Ben Maher.

### What music do you listen?

I listen to a wide variety of music genres, such as latin pop and R&B.

### What's your favourite movie or TV show?

My favourite movie, and the funniest one I know, is Forrest Gump.

### What other sports do you enjoy besides Equestrian?

I enjoy playing Volleyball and swimming.

### How would you define yourself as a horse rider?

I would define myself as a driven and passionate rider. I consider myself to be very focused on my goals and committed to working hard in accomplishing them. I turn my mistakes into learning experiences and use them as opportunities to grow.

### What is your dream in Equestrian Sport?

My dream is to pursue my Olympic aspiration. Since Costa Rica has never participated in Olympic show jumping. My goal is to become the first Costa Rican equestrian to ever participate in the Olympics. I would like to be the one who brings my country to the next level in equestrian sport.





## **GUATEMALA**

### **Profile**

### **Carlos Andrés Meany Morataya**

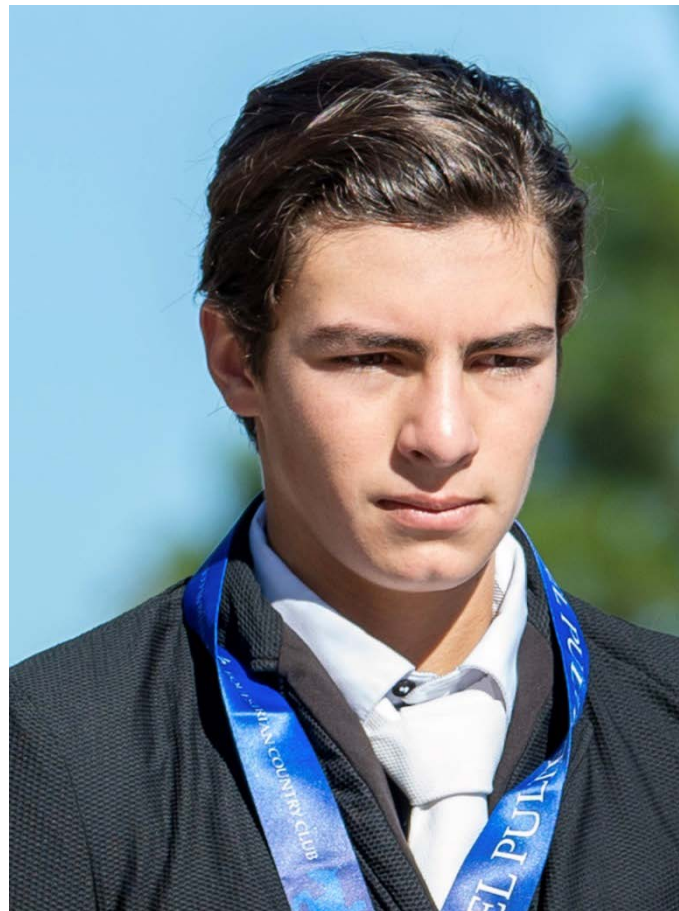
**Age:** 16

**Gender:** Male

**Country:** Guatemala

**Team:** North America

**Competing since:** 2014





## Questionnaire

### What's the best thing about riding horses?

The feeling when I am competing.

### What does it mean for you to compete at the Youth Equestrian Games?

It is a dream for me to be able to represent my country in such an important event.

### Who is your favourite rider of all time?

Daniel Deusser.

### What music do you listen?

Reggaeton

### What's your favourite movie or TV show?

Peaky blinders

### What other sports do you enjoy besides Equestrian?

Riding downhill and moto endure.

### How would you define yourself as a horse rider?

Competitive and disciplined.

### What is your dream in Equestrian Sport?

My dream is to win a gold medal in the Olympics and to win the Chio Aachen Grand Slam.





# HONDURAS

## Profile

### **Gabriela Maradiaga Reina**

**Age:** 16

**Gender:** Female

**Country:** Honduras

**Team:** North America

**Competing since:** 2012





## Questionnaire

### What's the best thing about riding horses?

I love the connection I have with my mare.

### What does it mean for you to compete at the Youth Equestrian Games?

It is a dream come true; I have always dreamed in competing in this event. And, since it is in Aachen, I am even more excited.

### Who is your favourite rider of all time?

Laura Kraut

### What music do you listen?

I like listening Pop Music.

### What's your favourite movie or TV show?

Full House

### What other sports do you enjoy besides Equestrian?

Basketball

### How would you define yourself as a horse rider?

I consider myself a much disciplined person. I enjoy sharing with my horses as well as watching Grand Prix competitions to be able to learn more.

### What is your dream in Equestrian Sport?

I would love to one day be able to go to the Youth Equestrian Games.





# MEXICO

## Profile

### **Xaviera Maurer Buch**

**Age:** 15

**Gender:** Female

**Country:** Mexico

**Team:** North America

**Competing since:** the age of 7





## Questionnaire

### What's the best thing about riding horses?

Being close to them.

### What does it mean for you to compete at the Youth Equestrian Games?

So far it will be the best experience of my life. As a rider you always expect to be able to compete in Aachen, I can't believe I'm going to do it that soon.

### Who is your favourite rider of all time?

My dad, Antonio Maurer. But I also admired many others. Ashlee Bond, Vincent Voorn, Matthew Sampson and Paola Amilibia

### What music do you listen?

My favourite singer is The Weekend

### What's your favourite movie or TV show?

My favourite movie is War Horse.

### What other sports do you enjoy besides Equestrian?

Soccer and volleyball which I play at school.

### How would you define yourself as a horse rider?

I am very disciplined, I train almost every day, I like to try to understand horses although I still have a lot to learn from them.

### What is your dream in Equestrian Sport?

My dream will come true in a couple weeks, entering at the main stadium of Aachen and winning a medal for my country, hopefully GOLD.

After that, the Central American Games, Pan American Games, the WEG and the Olympics. I want to have it all.



# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## Profile

### **Mimi Gochman**

**Age:** 17

**Gender:** female

**Country:** United States of America

**Team:** North America

**Competing since:** I was 2years old





## Questionnaire

### What's the best thing about riding horses?

The connection between horse and rider and that there is a true partnership to grow. I also love that the horses are just as competitive as I am, and they want to win just as much. Horses will always be such amazing animals, and to be able to compete at a high level, there has to be complete trust between rider and horse.

### What does it mean for you to compete at the Youth Equestrian Games?

I am so honored to be able to compete at the Youth Equestrian Games. The location of Aachen and being able to see the behind the scenes of the grand prix and senior team riders and see their process is the best education and learning experience as well. I am also excited to see and meet the best riders of other nations and learn from them as well. I am so excited to compete and learn from others and be able to compete in the amazing venue of Aachen.

### Who is your favourite rider of all time?

I idolize a lot of riders, but recently Beezie Madden, Mclain Ward, and Martin Fuchs are some of my favorite riders though.

### What music do you listen?

I listen to a lot of pop music, but always enjoy suggestions from my sister because she has pretty good music taste.

### What's your favourite movie or TV show?

Greys Anatomy or Criminal Minds

### What other sports do you enjoy besides Equestrian?

I love to snow ski and water ski/wakesurf

### How would you define yourself as a horse rider?

I like to define myself as someone who always wants to do better and learn more. I want to be successful, but I want to always strive to be a better horsewoman and learn more about horses and create a stronger bond with them forever.

### What is your dream in Equestrian Sport?

To compete on the US Senior Teams and go to World Cup Finals, World Equestrian Games, and eventually hopefully the Olympics.

