



Katie Teft Minasola

Elite Gymnast
1996 U.S. Olympic Team Alternate



HALL OF FAME

Inducted 2016

Katie Teft, born September 2, 1981, competed for John and Kathryn Geddert from 1991-1999 at Great Lakes Gymnastics and Gedderts' Twistars USA.

Teft's track record of domestic competition is impressive in-and-of itself. At the 1993 Junior Olympics National Championship, she captured a first-place finish on the balance beam, as well as first place all-around in the children's division. Teft went on to claim two fourth place all-around finishes that year, first at the U.S. Classic and again at the U.S. Championship, both in the junior division. She also finished first on the floor and ninth all-around at the Catania Cup Classic in Sicily, Italy in 1993.

In 1994, Teft took first place in the all-around (junior division) at both the US Classic and the American Classic/World Championship Trials. She also anchored a first-place team finish as well as fifth all-around amongst competitors from across the globe at the 1994 Hilton Challenge, and finished eighth all around at the 1994 Coca-Cola National Championships. Teft's skills took her to Barcelona, Spain, where she competed in the Joaquim Blume Memorial and posted a third-place all-around finish.

The following year at the American Classic/Pan American Game Trials, she captured fifth place on bars and beam, while finishing sixth on the floor and fifth in the all-around. Teft's performance propelled her to become a member of the 1995 U.S. Pan American gold medal-winning team. Teft earned a fourth-place finish on the balance beam to contribute to the team victory at the Pan American Games in Mar del Plata, Argentina. She also performed at the 1995 Visa Challenge, guiding her team to a first-place finish, while individually she placed third in the all-around, sixth on vault, fourth on bars, sixth on beam and third on floor.

After her success at the Pan American Games, Teft was eighth in the all-around at the 1996 U.S. Classics, also tying for first in the uneven parallel bars. At the 1996 U.S. Olympic Trials, Teft ranked eighth all-around, which allowed her the opportunity to serve as an alternate for 1996 U.S. Olympic team. She also contributed to a first-place team finish at the 1996 Senior Pacific Alliance Championships in Kuantan, Malaysia, by placing second in the floor exercise and third on the bars.

Teft began her collegiate career as a freshman gymnast at the University of Massachusetts in 2000. In her debut season, she was honored as Atlantic 10 Rookie of the Week for three straight weeks (January 31, February 8 and February 14), tied the school record on bars (9.95) and beam (9.925), and scored 39.175 all around on two occasions, good for fourth place all-time at UMass.

As a sophomore, Teft tied her own all-time university record with a 9.95 on bars. She scored a 9.90 or higher six times in the event in 2001, including a conference-best 9.95. She also scored 9.80 or higher three times on beam that same year. In 2002, Teft established herself as the all-time UMass record holder on both bars (9.975) and went on to become the Atlantic 10 Conference Champion on bars with a score of 9.95. She also took fourth place on bars (9.80) at the 2002 NCAA Northeast Regional.

To complete her collegiate career, Teft transferred to Central Michigan University, where she set the school's all-time record on bars with two perfect 10.0 performances in 2003. She earned the top score of 9.975 on bars at the MAC Championships, and was also a regional champion on bars (9.90), which qualified her for Nationals.

Katie Teft Minasola was promoted to the associate head coaching position as she enters her sixth year of coaching at Iowa State University. Prior to her tenure at Iowa she spent seven years as the assistant coach at Michigan State University. Minasola continues to give back to the sport that she devoted her life to and truly loves.