

= Carli Lloyd =

Carli Anne Lloyd ( born July 16 , 1982 ) is an American soccer player , two @-@ time Olympic gold medalist , FIFA Women 's World Cup champion , and 2015 FIFA Player of the Year . She currently plays for the Houston Dash in the National Women 's Soccer League ( NWSL ) and the United States women 's national soccer team . Lloyd scored the gold medal @-@ winning goals in the finals of the 2008 Summer Olympics and the 2012 Summer Olympics . She has represented the United States at three FIFA Women 's World Cup tournaments : the 2007 FIFA Women 's World Cup , in which she helped the U.S. win bronze ; the 2011 FIFA Women 's World Cup , in which the U.S. won silver ; and the 2015 FIFA Women 's World Cup , where Lloyd scored a hat trick in the final in captaining the U.S. to its third title .

During the United States ' 5 ? 2 win over Japan in the 2015 FIFA Women 's World Cup Final , Lloyd became the first person ever to score three goals in a FIFA Women 's World Cup final , and the second soccer player in history to score a hat trick in any senior FIFA World Cup Final , after Sir Geoff Hurst . Lloyd scored three goals in the first 16 minutes of the final , with the first two occurring in the first five minutes of the game and within three minutes of each other . She received the Golden Ball Trophy as the best player of the tournament and earned the Silver Boot for her six goals and one assist during the tournament .

Lloyd has played in over 220 matches for the U.S. national team and scored over 80 goals . She previously played for the Chicago Red Stars , Sky Blue FC , and Atlanta Beat in Women 's Professional Soccer ( WPS ) . In 2013 , she was allocated to the Western New York Flash for the inaugural season of the NWSL and helped her team win the regular season championship . After two seasons with the Flash , she was traded to the Houston Dash prior to the 2015 season .

= = Early life = =

Born to Stephen and Pamela Lloyd , Carli was raised in Delran Township , a small community located in South New Jersey about twenty minutes northeast of Philadelphia . Lloyd began playing soccer at age five . Of her exposure to soccer at a young age , Lloyd 's mother , Pamela said , " At that age , it was coed , and Carli was hanging with the boys . She always loved it and showed a lot of ability from an early age , but she also has always worked hard . " Lloyd has one brother , Stephen , and a sister , Ashley .

Lloyd attended Delran High School from 1997 to 2000 where she played soccer under the tutelage of the late Rudy " The Red Baron " Klobach . As a high school athlete , she was known for her exceptional ball control and skill at distributing the ball from the midfield . During her senior year , she scored 26 goals and served eight assists while captaining her team to an 18 ? 3 record . The Philadelphia Inquirer twice @-@ named her Girls ? High School Player of the Year in 1999 and 2000 . She was named to the Star @-@ Ledger All @-@ State First Team twice and received 1999 and 2000 Parade All @-@ American honors . In 2000 , she was named the Courier Post Player of the Year and the South Jersey Soccer Coaches Association ( SJSCA ) Midfielder of the Year .

= = Rutgers Scarlet Knights , 2001 ? 2004 = =

Lloyd attended Rutgers University from 2001 to 2004 and played for the Scarlet Knights women 's soccer team under head coach Glenn Crooks . She was named First @-@ Team All @-@ Big East for four straight years ? the first athlete at Rutgers to do so . She ended her collegiate career as the school 's all @-@ time leader in points ( 117 ) , goals ( 50 ) , and shots .

During her freshman season , Lloyd started every match and was the team 's leading scorer with 15 goals for a total of 37 points . She was named to Soccer America 's All @-@ Freshman Team and was the first Rutgers player to earn Big East Rookie of the Year honors . As a sophomore , she was the team 's leading scorer for the second consecutive season with 12 goals and seven assists for 31 points . The same year Lloyd was a finalist for the Hermann Trophy , widely considered the highest accolade for collegiate soccer players . During her third season with the Scarlet Knights , she scored

13 goals and served 2 assists for a total of 28 points and was named a Big East Academic All @-@ Star . As a senior , she was a starter for 18 of the 20 games she played , scored 10 goals and served one assist . Lloyd was named the 2004 Big East Midfielder of the Year .

In 2013 , Lloyd was inducted into the Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni .

= = Playing career = =

= = = Club = = =

= = = = W @-@ League Experience , 1999 ? 2004 = = = =

While still in high school , Lloyd played for W @-@ League teams Central Jersey Splash in 1999 , New Brunswick Power in 2000 , and South Jersey Banshees in 2001 . In the summer prior to her senior year at Rutgers , Lloyd played for the New Jersey Wildcats in 2004 with teammates Kelly Smith , Many Makoski , Tobin Heath , and Heather O 'Reilly . She made only one appearance for the club .

= = = = The WPS Years , 2009 ? 2011 = = = =

With the return of a top @-@ flight women 's professional soccer league to the United States via Women 's Professional Soccer , Lloyd 's playing rights were allocated to the Chicago Red Stars in 2008 . During the league 's inaugural season , she started in 14 of her 16 appearances for Chicago playing a total of 1 @, @ 313 minutes on the pitch . She scored two goals : one in the 23rd minute of her team 's 4 ? 0 win over the Boston Breakers on April 25 ; and the other during the 24th minute of a 3 ? 1 defeat of the Los Angeles Sol on August 2 . The Red Stars finished sixth on the season with a 5 ? 5 ? 10 record .

Following the conclusion of the season , Lloyd was declared a free agent and subsequently signed with her home state club and 2009 WPS champions , Sky Blue FC , for the 2010 season . In April 2010 , during a match against her former team , Chicago Red Stars , Lloyd slipped and broke her ankle . The injury kept her off the pitch for most of the season although she did return for two games in September .

In December 2010 , Lloyd signed with expansion team Atlanta Beat for the 2011 season . Of her signing , Beat head coach James Galanis said , " She is a fantastic midfielder and someone who is fully focused on the game . I have known her from her college days , and I have had the opportunity to train her and improve her game individually . She has made a lot of sacrifices off the field to reach her dreams , and she is going to bring a lot of professionalism to the team . " Lloyd scored two goals in her ten appearances for the Beat . She scored the team 's lone goal in a 4 ? 1 defeat by the Boston Breakers on April 9 . Her second goal on the season was an equalizer during the 70th minute of a 2 ? 2 draw against the Western New York Flash . The Beat finished their first season in last place with a 1 ? 4 ? 13 record .

= = = = Western New York Flash , 2013 ? 2014 = = = =

On January 11 , 2013 , Lloyd joined the Western New York Flash in the new National Women 's Soccer League as part of the NWSL Player Allocation . After recovering from a shoulder injury suffered earlier in the year , Lloyd made her debut for the Flash on May 12 , 2013 during the team 's 2 ? 1 defeat of FC Kansas City . She scored her first goal in a match against her former club , Sky Blue FC , helping the Flash win 3 ? 0 . During a match against the Washington Spirit on June 28 , Lloyd scored a hat trick leading the Flash to a 4 ? 0 win . She was subsequently named NWSL Player of the Week for her performance .

Lloyd finished the 2013 season with 10 goals , the third most goals scored on the season . The

Flash finished first during the regular season with a 10 ? 8 ? 4 record and advanced to the playoffs . During the Flash 's semifinal match against Sky Blue FC , Lloyd scored both of the Flash 's game @-@ winning goals : one in the 33rd minute and the second coming during stoppage time . Her two goals resulted in a 2 ? 0 win that advanced the Flash to the championship final against the Portland Thorns FC . The Flash were defeated 2 ? 0 during the final .

= = = = Houston Dash , 2015 ? present = = = =

On October 16 , 2014 , Lloyd was traded to the Houston Dash in exchange for Becky Edwards , Whitney Engen and a third @-@ round pick in the 2016 NWSL draft .

= = = International = = =

= = = = Youth national team = = = =

Lloyd represented the United States at the under @-@ 21 level before making the jump to the senior team at the age of 23 . As a member of the under @-@ 21 team , she played at the Nordic Cup four times winning consecutive titles from 2002 to 2005 in Finland , Denmark , Iceland , and Sweden respectively . During the first round of the 2003 Nordic Cup , she served the assist in the U.S. ' 1 ? 0 win against Denmark . At the 2004 Nordic Cup , she scored two goals and served one assist while starting in every match . The following year at the 2005 Nordic Cup , she scored three times including one goal during the championship match against Norway .

= = = = Senior national team = = = =

Lloyd made her first appearance for the United States women 's national soccer team on July 10 , 2005 , against Ukraine . She scored her first international goal on October 1 , 2006 against Taiwan . At the 2006 Four Nations Tournament , Lloyd won a third cap . She earned the first two starts of her career at the 2006 Algarve Cup , gaining a place in the starting 11 against Denmark and in the championship game against Germany . She played in 19 games , starting 13 , and scored one goal .

= = = = Algarve Cup and FIFA Women 's World Cup , 2007 = = = =

After scoring once in her first 24 matches with the national team , Lloyd scored four goals at the 2007 Algarve Cup . As the tournament 's top scorer , she was awarded Most Valuable Player tournament honors . Lloyd logged her first brace for the national team during a 6 ? 1 win against New Zealand .

The same year , Lloyd played in her first FIFA Women 's World Cup tournament . Heading into the tournament , the national team had not conceded a game in regulation time in nearly three years and was considered a favorite to win the tournament in China . During their first match of the tournament , the U.S. tied North Korea 2 ? 2 . The team faced Sweden in their next match on September 14 and won 2 ? 0 with two goals from Abby Wambach . The U.S. finished group play with a 1 ? 0 win over Nigeria women 's national football team on September 18 .

During the quarterfinal match against England on September 22 , the U.S. won 3 ? 0 . All three goals were scored within 12 minutes . The U.S. faced Brazil in the semifinal in what would become a controversial and game @-@ changing match for the team . Coach Greg Ryan decided to bench starting goalkeeper , Hope Solo , and instead started Brianna Scurry , a veteran goalkeeper who had started in three World Cups and two Olympics , but who had started very few matches since the 2004 Olympics . The U.S. was defeated 4 ? 0 by Brazil . The loss relegated them to a final match against Norway , which they won 4 ? 1 , to secure third place standing at the tournament . Lloyd started three of the five games in which she played at the tournament .

Throughout 2007 , Lloyd started 13 of the 23 matches in which she played . She ranked third on the team in scoring with nine goals and three assists .

===== 2008 Beijing Olympics =====

During the championship match of the CONCACAF Women 's Olympic Qualifying Tournament , Lloyd scored the U.S. ' only goal during stoppage time on a free @-@ kick . The U.S. eventually defeated Canada 6 ? 5 in penalty kicks . She scored two goals during the 2008 Olympics : the game @-@ winning goal in the team 's 1 ? 0 defeat of Japan during the tournament 's group stage and another game @-@ winning goal in overtime against Brazil during the final helping the U.S. win gold .

Lloyd was named the 2008 U.S. Soccer Athlete of the Year along with Tim Howard . She was on the starting lineup in all 35 games in which she played in 2008 , tying for the team lead in matches started during the year . Her 2 @,@ 781 minutes on the pitch for the U.S. ranked third on the team in minutes played . Her nine goals and nine assists resulted in her best scoring year yet on the national team .

===== From Injury Recovery to 100th Career Cap and CONCACAF Women 's World Cup Qualifying , 2009 ? 10 =====

In 2009 , the U.S. national team competed in eight games , of which Lloyd was on the starting lineup in five . At the 2010 Algarve Cup , Lloyd scored the game @-@ opening goal in the final helping the U.S. clinch the championship title after defeating Germany 3 ? 2 .

Although she suffered a broken ankle in the fourth game of the 2010 WPS Season while playing for Sky Blue FC , she played in 15 matches for the United States in 2010 , starting 14 . Lloyd started all five games at the 2010 CONCACAF Women 's World Cup Qualifying Tournament , scoring two goals , including the United States ' lone goal during the championship match . She ended the tournament with five assists and was named the Player of the Match three times during the tournament . After the U.S. finished third at the tournament , they traveled to Italy to vie for a place at the 2011 FIFA Women 's World Cup in the UEFA @-@ CONCACAF play @-@ off against Italy . Playing every minute of the series , Lloyd scored three goals with five assists during the series . She earned her 100th career cap during the second leg of the series .

===== Algarve Cup , Four Nations Tournament , and FIFA Women 's World Cup , 2011 =====

2011 saw the U.S. team making preparations for the 2011 FIFA Women 's World Cup and training starting with the Four Nations Tournament . Lloyd scored the lone goal for the U.S. in the opening match loss to Sweden . In the championship match , the U.S. defeated Canada 2 ? 0 with Lloyd scoring the first goal and being named Player of the Match .

At the 2011 Algarve Cup , Lloyd scored three goals including the first goal in the championship match ; subsequently named best goal for the tournament . She was named player of the match for the 2nd time in the tournament . The team won the cup , making it their eighth title win .

At the 2011 FIFA Women 's World Cup , Lloyd scored the final goal in a 3 ? 0 win against Colombia for her first World Cup goal . Throughout the tournament , she tallied an assist , a goal , and one successful penalty kick in the shootout against Brazil to send the U.S. to the semifinals vs. France . In the World Cup final , after finishing the game tied 2 ? 2 the U.S. went on to penalty kicks with Japan . Along with two teammates who failed to convert their penalty kicks , Lloyd mishit the ball over the crossbar . The U.S. won the silver medal at the tournament .

===== CONCACAF Olympic Qualifying Tournament and London Olympics , 2012 =====

The national team opened 2012 with the Olympic Qualifiers in Vancouver , Canada . The U.S. was

placed in Group B with the Dominican Republic , Guatemala , and Mexico . In the first match , the United States routed the Dominican Republic by a score of 14 ? 0 with Lloyd tallying one goal and one assist . In the second match , the U.S. again defeated Guatemala 13 ? 0 with Lloyd again finding the back of the net and providing an assist .

The game to win the group and thus play the second place team from Group A occurred between the U.S. and Mexico . The U.S. was previously defeated 2 ? 1 by Mexico during the 2010 CONCACAF Women 's Gold Cup . This time , the U.S. beat Mexico 4 ? 0 with Lloyd netting her first career hat trick . She was subsequently named player of the match .

In the semi @-@ final , the U.S. faced Costa Rica . During the second half , the U.S. scored two goals , the second coming from Lloyd . The U.S. beat Costa Rica 3 ? 0 with Lloyd named player of the match for the second game in a row . During the final match against Canada , the U.S. defeated Canada at home 4 ? 0 to move on to the Olympics as the CONCACAF champions . Lloyd finished the tournament with six goals and three assists and tied for the team lead in goals scored .

At the 2012 Summer Olympics in London , Lloyd scored the go @-@ ahead goal in the 56th minute of the team 's opening match against France , to boost the U.S. to a 3 ? 2 lead ; the match ended with a final score of 4 ? 2 . She scored her second goal of the tournament against Colombia during the group stage .

During the Olympic gold medal match against Japan , played at London 's Wembley Stadium , Lloyd scored both American goals in the team 's 2 ? 1 victory . Her four goals in the tournament tied for the second highest on the U.S. squad . She is the only player ( of either gender ) in history to score the game @-@ winning goal in two separate Olympic gold medal matches ; her first occurred during the Beijing 2008 final against Brazil .

After scoring her 46th international goal in the 13th minute of a friendly against New Zealand in October 2013 , Lloyd became the highest @-@ scoring midfielder in the team 's history , passing Julie Foudy , who finished her career with 45 goals .

= = = = 2015 FIFA World Cup = = = =

In April 2015 , Lloyd was named by head coach Jill Ellis to the 23 @-@ player roster for the 2015 FIFA Women 's World Cup in Canada . Lloyd captained the team during four of the team 's matches , including the quarterfinal against China , semifinal against Germany and final against Japan and scored six goals during the tournament , finishing the tournament on a four @-@ game goalscoring streak that spanned the knockout stage and that culminated in a hat trick in the game 's opening 16 minutes during the final against Japan . The last goal was hailed by Reuters as " one of the most remarkable goals ever witnessed in a Women ? s World Cup " , and featured Lloyd catching Japanese goalkeeper Ayumi Kaihori off her line and chipping her virtually from the halfway line .

For her efforts in leading the United States to a record third World Cup title , and first since 1999 , she won the Golden Ball as the best player of the tournament . While Lloyd 's six goals were enough to match Celia Sasic as the tournament 's top scorer , Sasic won the Golden Boot for playing fewer minutes and Lloyd was awarded the Silver Boot . Lloyd also became the first woman to score a hat trick in a World Cup final and the first player , male or female , to do so since Geoff Hurst did so for England against West Germany in the 1966 final at Wembley . Furthermore , her third goal earned her a nomination for the Puskás Award , FIFA 's annual award for Goal of the Year .

= = = International goals = = =

= = Honors and awards = =

= = Individual = =

Algarve Cup Most Valuable Player : 2007

U.S. Soccer Athlete of the Year : 2008  
FIFA World Player of the Year Shortlist : 2012 , 2015  
FIFA Puskas Award Nominee : 2015  
NWSL Player of the Week : July 2013 , July 2014  
NWSL Player of the Month : July 2015  
CONCACAF Women 's Player of the Year : 2015  
CONCACAF Goal of the Year : 2015  
FIFA Women 's World Cup Golden Ball : 2015  
FIFA Women 's World Cup Silver Boot : 2015  
FIFA Women 's World Cup All @-@ Star Team : 2015  
FIFA Women 's World Cup Dream Team : 2015  
FIFA Women 's World Cup Goal of the Tournament : 2015  
Women 's Sports Foundation Sportswoman of the Year Team Sport Award : 2015  
Sports Illustrated Sportsman of the Year Nominee : 2015  
IFFHS World 's Women Best Playmaker : 2015  
FIFA World Player of the Year : 2015  
Nominee for 2016 ESPY Award for Best Championship Performance

= = = Team = = =

United States  
Olympic Gold Medal : 2008 , 2012  
FIFA Women 's World Cup Champion : 2015  
Runner @-@ up : 2011

= = Style of play = =

Although she was initially criticised for being inconsistent at the beginning of career , and for losing possession too easily , Lloyd later developed into one of the best players in the world , and is highly regarded in particular for her outstanding determination , mental strength , and work @-@ ethic . A tenacious , energetic , and hard @-@ working player , she also is known for her control , technique , and passing accuracy , and is capable of aiding her team both defensively and offensively , due to her stamina , strength , and tackling , as well as her ability to get into good attacking positions , and either score goals or create chances for team @-@ mates . These abilities , coupled with her tactical versatility , enable her to be deployed in several midfield positions ; although she began her career in the centre , as a defensive midfielder , she is most comfortable when moved to a more advanced role , as an attacking midfielder behind the forwards . Lloyd has also earned a reputation as a " clutch player " , due to her tendency to score decisive goals ; a powerful striker of the ball , she is capable of scoring from any position on the pitch , and can finish well both with her head and with her feet inside the area .

= = Personal life = =

Lloyd lives with her fiancé , Brian Hollins , in Mount Laurel , New Jersey . She has done philanthropic work for Habitat for Humanity . She plans to get married to him after the 2016 Olympic Games .

= = In popular culture = =

= = = Endorsements = = =

Lloyd currently has an endorsement deal with Nike . In 2011 , she was the focus of a promotional

feature for the sports company entitled , Pressure Makes Us : Carli Lloyd . Following the 2015 FIFA Women 's World Cup , Lloyd starred in a commercial for Xfinity and signed an endorsement deal with Visa . In August 2015 , she co @-@ starred in a Nike commercial called Snow Day also featuring Rob Gronkowski and Sydney Leroux .

= = = Magazines and television = = =

Lloyd has been featured in Glamour , Shape , and Sports Illustrated magazines . She has made appearances on Good Morning America , The Daily Show with Jon Stewart , and Live with Kelly and Michael . In 2012 , she appeared in an ESPN feature called Title IX is Mine : USWNT .

= = = Video Games = = =

Lloyd was featured along with her national teammates in the EA Sports ' FIFA video game series in FIFA 16 , the first time women players were included in the game . In September 2015 , she was ranked by EA Sports as the # 1 women 's player in the game .

= = = Ticker Tape Parade and White House Honor = = =

Following the United States ' win at the 2015 FIFA Women 's World Cup , Lloyd and her teammates became the first women 's sports team to be honored with a Ticker Tape Parade in New York City . Each player received a key to the city from Mayor Bill de Blasio . In October of the same year , the team was honored by President Barack Obama at the White House .