Allysa Seely, Paratriathlon, 2016 Paralympic Gold Medalist.

A few weeks after Allysa raced her first Triathlon, she began to lose feeling in her legs. This marked the beginning of nearly two years of doctors, specialists and hospital stays. Allysa was diagnosed with Chiari 2 Malformation, Basilar Invagination and Ehlers Danlos Syndrome. The delay in diagnosis and treatment resulted in a traumatic brain injury and an incomplete spinal cord injury at 20 years old. Allysa was taken back for brain and spine surgery. It wasn’t likely she would walk without assistance. Allysa's determination served her well and after months of inpatient and outpatient, Allysa crossed the finish line of the 2011 Collegiate National Championships, as the first ever athlete with a physical disability to do so. The lasting effects of the neurological injury became harder to battle leading to her left leg being amputated and relying on total parenteral nutrition to power her athletic career. Since that time Allysa has competed all around the world. She is a three time World Champion and in 2016 she realized another dream as she became the first Paralympic Gold Medalist in Triathlon.