

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Saturday, July 31, 2021



## 2020 Olympic Games – Day Seven Recap, July 31

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### USA Swimming Event Medal Count at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
USA	8	9	9	26

### Team USA Athlete Medal Count at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020

Athlete	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Katie Ledecky	2	2	0	4
Caeleb Dressel	3	0	0	3
Lilly King	0	1	1	2
Ryan Murphy	0	1	1	2
Allison Schmitt*	0	1	1	2
Regan Smith	0	1	1	2
Hali Flickinger	0	0	2	2
Zach Apple	1	0	0	1
Bowe Becker	1	0	0	1
Brooks Curry*	1	0	0	1
Bobby Finke	1	0	0	1
Lydia Jacoby	1	0	0	1
Blake Pieroni	1	0	0	1
Chase Kalisz	1	0	0	1
Brooke Forde*	0	1	0	1
Jay Litherland	0	1	0	1
Paige Madden	0	1	0	1
Katie McLaughlin	0	1	0	1
Bella Sims*	0	1	0	1
Erica Sullivan	0	1	0	1
Alex Walsh	0	1	0	1
Emma Weyant	0	1	0	1
Erika Brown	0	0	1	1

Catie DeLoof*	0	0	1	1
Kate Douglass	0	0	1	1
Natalie Hinds	0	0	1	1
Annie Lazor	0	0	1	1
Simone Manuel	0	0	1	1
Kieran Smith	0	0	1	1
Olivia Smoliga*	0	0	1	1
Abbey Weitzeil	0	0	1	1

*\*Includes medal(s) from prelim swims in relay event(s)*

### **Men's 100m Butterfly – Final**

**Gold – Caeleb Dressel (Green Cove Springs, Fla./Gator Swim Club), 49.45\***

Silver – Kristof Milak (HUN), 49.68

Bronze – Noe Ponti (SUI), 50.74

*\*World record*

### **Race Notes**

- Dressel's swim sets a new world record, besting his previous world-record mark of 49.50 set at the 2019 FINA World Championships.
- Dressel now holds eight of the top-10 times in the world.
- This win marks Dressel's third medal in Tokyo, his fifth overall.
- Dressel had a reaction time of .60 and posted splits of 23.00 and 26.45.

### **Quotes**

**Caeleb Dressel:** "That was a really fun race to be a part of – really fun. I'm sure it was fun to watch, I'm just excited for the sport. It was well executed – body wasn't as good as it could have been, that is just the body I was given on this day. I felt better yesterday for the fly, but it's fine. I knew what I had to do to execute, and it hurt. It hurt really bad, but it's fine, I knew what my race plan was and stuck to it and it got the job done, fortunately. What a close race. Two of the fastest times in history - you don't get that very often, so to be a part of that is very special. To be able to look back on that – Kristof [Milak] is a young kid. I am too. I guess I'm one of the old ones in the sport now, but the event is only going to get faster and I'm aware of that and it's just exciting that it took a world record to win."

**Caeleb Dressel** on if he could have gone faster: "I say that after every race – Kristof [Milak] could have gone faster, if he was standing right here, he would say the same thing. I think I'm speaking for everybody in this sport. Every swim, you can always go faster. If not, if I ever have a swim where I say, 'no, that's it,' then I'll retire. Today, I could have gone faster. Last year, I could have gone faster. Next year, I am going to be saying the same thing. It's never a perfect race but I executed it as well as I could have on this day. I probably could have found a couple hundredths or a couple tenths, but that was the time I was given today, and I executed it as well as I could have."

### **Women's 200m Backstroke – Final**

Gold – Kaylee McKeown (AUS), 2:04.68

Silver – Kylie Masse (CAN), 2:05.42

Bronze – Emily Seebohm (AUS), 2:06.17

**4. Rhyan White (Herriman, Utah/University of Alabama/WFFM), 2:06.39**

**5. Phoebe Bacon (Chevy Chase, Md./Wisconsin Aquatics/NCAP), 2:06.40**

### Race Notes

- Bacon sets a new personal best at her first Olympic Games.
- White leaves Tokyo with fourth-place finishes in the 100- and 200-meter backstroke.

### Quotes

**Phoebe Bacon:** “I’m bummed I didn’t medal, but it’s my first Olympics and first Olympic final so I can’t be too bummed about coming in fifth.”

**Rhyan White:** “It was really fun being in the final. It’s kind of heartbreaking, obviously, getting fourth. Me and Phoebe [Bacon] put up a really good fight. I think we represented our country well.”

**Rhyan White:** “I’ve been exposed to a lot of new feelings, obviously we’ve all been nervous before, but I’ve never raced against some of these people and this is the real deal, so it’s a lot of newness to me, but I’ve enjoyed every minute of it.”

### Women’s 800m Freestyle

**Gold – Katie Ledecky (Bethesda, Md./Nation’s Capital/Alto Swim Club), 8:12.57**

Silver – Ariarne Titmus (AUS), 8:13.83

Bronze – Simona Quadarella (ITA), 8:18.35

**4. Katie Grimes (Las Vegas, Nev./Sandpipers of Nevada), 8:19.38**

### Race Notes

- Ledecky wins her third-consecutive Olympic gold medal in the event, becoming just the fourth swimmer to ever three-peat on the Olympic stage.
- Ledecky has now earned seven Olympic gold medals in her career, putting her just one shy of Jenny Thompson for most by a female swimmer in history.
- Ledecky now has the most individual medals (six) of any female swimmer in history.
- Grimes is the youngest swimmer on the U.S. Olympic Swimming Team.
- Grimes is the 46<sup>th</sup> U.S. swimmer to compete at the Olympic Games at age 15 or younger.

### Quotes

**Katie Ledecky:** “It felt like [Titmus] was there the whole time. I knew anyone in that field could move up if I started to slip, so I just tried to hold really steady and do what I know how to do.”

**Katie Ledecky:** “It’s been a long week; I knew it was going to be hard. Obviously, Ariarne [Titmus] had a tremendous time and a great race as well, and she made it tough. It was a lot of fun to race. I just trusted myself, trusted that I could pull it out and swim it whatever way I needed to.”

**Katie Ledecky:** “It’s amazing [to three-peat for gold]. I think I saw a statistic like two years ago that nobody has ever three-peated in that event, and that’s been in the back of my mind for so many years now – both in a good way and also in a very – sometimes that thought gets to you a little and you think, ‘I wonder if there is a reason why people aren’t three-peating,’ and I know that. It’s tough, it’s tough to win one gold. To do it three times in a row in that event is amazing and that was a really fast field, I knew I had to bring it.”

**Katie Ledecky:** “I’m really happy [with my overall performance in Tokyo]. I just wanted to end on a really good note. I just knew that I would be – it would just linger with me if I ended on a bad note - so I just tried to use that as motivation to finish on the best note possible.”

**Katie Ledecky:** “It’s awesome [racing with Titmus]. We’re really friendly and it’s amazing what she has accomplished this week as well. I’m really thrilled to have that kind of competition; it is something that fuels me. I know it fuels her as well. I hope that I can keep up and stay competitive here moving forward. Just seeing this week, as well, a lot of young swimmers are coming up. Katie Grimes - what a kid. She’s so fun and she’s got a really bright future. People like her, Summer McIntosh from Canada, people from all over the world. I know it’s not going to be an easy journey moving forward but I’m just appreciating every moment of it.”

**Katie Grimes:** “It was tough, but fun. I was really nervous going into that, but I was just so happy to be in the final with such an amazing heat of girls, I just wanted to enjoy myself and not worry about a time or anything. I was really hoping to get on the podium, but I’m happy with being fourth right now, I think that’s pretty good.”

**Katie Grimes:** “[Ledecky] is awesome. She’s a perfect teammate. To be able to swim next to her in that final was incredible. I’ve watched her so many times at the Olympics before. I’ve looked up to her so much and she is such an awesome person. I’m really thankful to call her my teammate.”

**Katie Grimes:** “Being able to represent USA in a heat like that is so special to me. I’m not just doing it for me or my team, I’m doing it for my country. To be able to get fourth out of that and compete in that heat, I’m just super thankful. I’m happy with it, I obviously wanted to do a little better, but I can’t ask for much.”

### **Men’s 50m Freestyle – Semifinal**

**1. Caeleb Dressel (Green Cove Springs, Fla./Gator Swim Club), 21.41**

**T-5. Michael Andrew (Encinitas, Calif./MA Swim Academy), 21.67**

### **Race Notes**

- Both swimmers advance to tomorrow’s final.
- Dressel’s 50m freestyle came roughly 45 minutes after his gold-medal win in the 100m butterfly.
- Andrew is two-tenths off his personal best of 21.46.
- Should Andrew and Dressel medal in the event, it would be the fifth time that two Americans share the podium in the 50m freestyle. The feat happened in 1988, 1992, 2000 and 2016.

### **Quotes**

**Michael Andrew:** “I’m going to try and go into it really open minded. I know my best is a 21.46 from Pan Pacs in 2018, so it would be nice to go faster than that. I think to medal, it’s going to have to be a 21.4 or a 21.3. So that’s the goal - is going fast.”

**Michael Andrew:** “It was great. The goal was to make top eight, so we achieved that. [It was] a bit faster than the heats, so now we just work on it and figure out what we can do to get faster tomorrow.”

**Michael Andrew:** “I think, for all eight of us in there, we have a lane – we have a chance. Coming in, I know what I’m capable of. It’s been a really tough meet for me, in many ways, and I’m excited for another opportunity to medal.”

### Women's 50m Freestyle – Semifinal

1. Emma McKeon (AUS), 24.00\*

**4. Abbey Weitzeil (Santa Clarita, Calif./California Aquatics), 24.19**

**T-11. Simone Manuel (Sugar Land, Texas/Alto Swim Club), 24.63**

*\* Olympic record*

### Race Notes

- Weitzeil set a personal best with her time of 24.19 today.
- Weitzeil is now the fourth-fastest American of all time in the event.

### Quotes

**Abbey Weitzeil:** "It was good, but it's going to be a blood bath in there [in the finals]. It's going to come down to the touch. I feel like I have a good shot, so I'm going to give it everything I've got."

### Mixed 4x100m Medley Relay – Final

Gold – Great Britain, 3:37.58\*

Silver – China, 3:38.86

Bronze – Australia, 3:38.95

**5. United States, 3:40.58**

**Ryan Murphy (Jacksonville, Fla./California Aquatics/Bolles)**

**Lydia Jacoby (Seward, Alaska/Seward Tsunami Swim Club)**

**Torri Huske (Arlington, Va./Arlington Aquatic Club)**

**Caeleb Dressel (Green Cove Springs, Fla./Gator Swim Club)**

*\*World record*

### Race Notes

- Olympic debut of the event.
- Murphy posted a 52.23 backstroke split, Jacoby posted a 1:05.09 breaststroke split, Huske posted a 56.27 butterfly split and Dressel posted a 46.99 freestyle split.
- Dressel's swim was his third of the session.
- Jacoby's goggles fell off on her dive into the pool.

### Quotes

**Ryan Murphy:** "I felt like it [my backstroke leg] was solid. I was trying to get us a lead – I was next to two girls, so I was trying to get a solid lead there just to try and set up the rest of the team. I think it was solid. Then, the rest of the group did really well. I'm really proud of Lydia [Jacoby] and how she handled those circumstances. Anyone who has swam with their goggles in their mouth, like she did - she did fantastic there. The rest of the relay did really nice as well."

**Ryan Murphy:** "I think in every race, you're trying to swim in your own lane. This one was a little bit harder just because there's such big lead changes, and whether you are swimming in front or swimming from behind, you are really trying to make up ground on the front end just to try to keep a lead or catch up to a lead. I think it does make it a little more challenging to swim your own race, but we're all pretty much professionals here and we're used to doing that."

**Ryan Murphy:** "I think it [the addition of the event to the Olympic Games] definitely adds a level of excitement. Watching that race - even as someone who is in the race - is really exciting. The lead

changes are so drastic that I think for the viewer, you really have to be dialed in to every lane, where I think in a lot of swim races, you're kind of just focused on two, three or four lanes. So I think it definitely adds an element of making sure you're watching the whole field for the viewers."

**Lydia Jacoby:** "I've never really had that happen before, so it's out of my control at that point once I was in the water, so I just swam as best I could with what was happening at the moment."

**Torri Huske:** "I feel like there were definitely things that I could have done better – like into my walls, I feel like I was a little long. I tried my best, but there are definitely things that I could have done better."

**Torri Huske:** "I was really nervous going into that [race] about that [the choppiness of the water]. It wasn't actually that bad. It wasn't as bad as I thought it would be."

**Caeleb Dressel:** "Mentally, it [his three races today] actually got a little easier each race, which is really weird to say. I was a little out of sorts in the ready room for the fly. The sport was a little more fun when no one knew my name, to be honest. I was a little shaky, it was kind of weird, I was a lot calmer for the 100 free. Like I said, I knew what my race plan was, so no matter what my brain was trying to throw at me – ignore it, get in the water and do my thing. In the 50 [freestyle], I knew I had to get top eight, so that was a little bit of an easier feat than trying to win a gold medal there. Then, the relay. Relays are fun for me. I knew what my job was. I think if they were all standing here, none of us executed as well as we should have. The standard for U.S. is gold and fifth certainly doesn't cut it. For me, speaking on my part, I didn't do my job, I wasn't happy with my split. So next year, at Worlds, we'll give it another go and put the pieces together again, so there's a tough one right there, but we'll get over it and move forward and I'm looking forward to tomorrow."

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