Matthew Chau

Athlete Biography

Young gun, Matthew Chau will make his Olympic debut at Rio in the men’s double event alongside Sawan Serasinghe.

Chau picked up his first badminton racquet at age 10, following his parents to the Monash University Badminton Club where they played socially. The now 21-year-old fell in love with the all rounded nature of the sport, and says he enjoys that badminton demands speed, strength, endurance, skill, tactical smarts and hard work from its athletes.

Chau first partnered with Serasinghe at the 2013 Australian Youth Olympic Festival and the duo went on to secure the Rio quota spot for Australia by winning the 2016 Oceania Championships title. They are currently ranked 46th in the world.

The Melbournian also took home the men’s doubles title at the Waikato International tournament and competed at his first World Championships last year at just 20-years of age in Jakarta, Indonesia.

When he’s not playing, Chau studies a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Engineering and enjoys cooking.

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Badminton

Fast Facts
**Sport**    Badminton

**Event/s**    Doubles Men

**Height**    185

**Age**    21

**Lives**    Melbourne, VIC, Australia

**Status**    Selected

**Nickname**    Matthew

**Weight**    77

**Born**    Mount Waverley, VIC, Australia

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**Recent Performances**

- 32nd (Men’s Doubles) – 2016 Australian Open (Sydney, Australia)
- 1st (Men’s Doubles) – 2016 Oceania Champion (French Polynesia, Tahiti)
- 1st (Men’s Doubles) - 2015 Oceania Team Championships (Auckland, New Zealand)
- 4th (Men’s Doubles) – 2016 Tahiti Phone International Challenge (French Polynesia, Tahiti)
- 1st (Men’s Doubles) – 2014 Oceania Championships (Ballarat, Australia)

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**Education**

- **Primary**    Wheelers Hill Primary School (VIC, Australia)
- **Secondary**    Melbourne High School (VIC, Australia)
- **Tertiary**    Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Engineering (2013 - )

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**Training**

- **Coach**    Lasse Bundgaard (2013 - current)
- **Club**    Badminton Academy of Victoria (Victoria, Australia)
- **Institute/Academy**    Victorian Institute of Sport
- **Primary Training Base**    Melbourne, Australia

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**Q&A**

**Superstition/s**    Have to use the same racket if I’ve been playing well in a tournament

**Favourite food**    Too many favourites, probably sushi

**Favourite holiday destination**    Japan or Italy

**Favourite music**    Chill music

**Dream car**    Lamborghini

**Star Sign**    Scorpio

**I would spend my last $10 on**    Some food, probably sushi

**If I could try another Olympic sport it would be**    Handball

**Most Inspiring Olympic Performance?**    Cathy Freeman winning the 400m

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First Olympic Memory? Cathy Freeman winning 400m gold
Most Influential person in your career/life Old coach Lenny Permana
Why this sport? Followed my parents to the courts at a young age and loved it
Athlete Biography

Hsuan-Yu Wendy Chen will make her Olympic debut at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, representing the green and gold in the women’s singles event.

Born in Taiwan, Chen tasted her first senior success when at only 15-years-old she claimed a silver medal in the women’s singles at the 2008 Australian Open Badminton Championships. In 2011, the now 23-year-old was selected to represent Australia the World Junior Badminton Championships where she impressively made it through to the third round of the 128 player field.

In 2012, Chen was selected in the Australian National Team to compete at the finals of the Uber Cup. Chen continued to dominate the Australian field when she claimed the 2012 Australian title in both the women’s singles and doubles competitions.

Despite not being seeded in the top five, Chen blitzed the field at the 2015 X-TRM Oceania in Auckland where she took out the singles crown.

Chen went on to be crowned 2016 Oceania Champion in the singles event, which ultimately earnt her the right to compete at the Olympic Games.

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Badminton

Fast Facts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Badminton</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Event/s</td>
<td>Singles Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>56</td>
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<td>Born</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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**Status** Selected

**Height** 167

**Age** 23

**Lives** Australia

Robin Middleton

Matthew Chau

Sawan Serasinghe
Athlete Biography

Leanne Choo is set to make her second Olympic appearance at Rio where she will represent Australia in the mixed doubles alongside partner, Robin Middleton.

She rose to prominence after taking out the U/17 Australian Championships in the singles, doubles and mixed doubles in 2006 and then went on to compete at her first World Junior Championships in the same year.

Choo began competing with London partner Renuga Veeran in 2010 and not long after they were selected to compete at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi. The pair performed well to reach the quarter-finals before going down to Canada.

Originally living and training in Adelaide, Choo made the decision to move to Melbourne in 2011 to train with the Australian squad to further her badminton career and push for selection to compete at London. The pair were ranked 35th at the end of the Olympic qualifying period and went on to thrash their South African opponents in their opening Olympic match. Unfortunately, the pair placed third in their pool and did not advance to the quarter-finals.

Choo paired up with Middleton in 2014 and the pair has had great success thus far, claiming the Oceania Championship title in 2016 that ultimately booked their ticket to the Games.
Fast Facts

**Sport** Badminton  
**Event/s** Doubles Mixed  
**Weight** 58  
**Born** Adelaide, SA, Australia  

**Status** Selected  
**Height** 167  
**Age** 25  
**Lives** Melbourne, VIC, Australia

Matthew Chau

Hsuan Chen

Sawan Serasinghe

Career Highlights

- 2012 Olympics Quarter Finals

Education

- **Primary** Glen Osmond Primary School (SA, Australia)
- **Secondary** Glenunga International High School (SA, Australia)
- **Tertiary** Interior Architecture - Monash University

Training

- **Coach** Lasse Bundegaard (2007 - current)
- **Institute/Academy**
- **Primary Training Base** Melbourne, Australia (primary)
- **Secondary Training Base** Adelaide, Australia (secondary)

Q&A
Favourite food  Burgers
Favourite holiday destination  LA
Favourite music  R&B
Dream car  Maserati
Star Sign  Gemini
If I could try another Olympic sport it would be  Basketball
Most Influential person in your career/life  My mum
Athlete Biography

Robin Middleton will make his debut for Australia at the Rio Olympic Games, alongside London Olympian Leanne Choo in the mixed doubles event. The pair secured Rio qualification after they claimed the mixed doubles Oceania Championships title in 2016.

Middleton and Choo were the most successful Australians at the 2015 World Championships in Indonesia advancing to the second round. Badminton has been a life-long sport for the 31-year-old who picked up his first racquet at age five.

Born in Leeds, in the UK, Middleton travelled to Australia via New Zealand in 2011 to watch the Rugby World Cup and fell in love with the culture, lifestyle, people and weather.

Middleton donned the green and gold for the first time in the men's doubles at the 2014 Commonwealth Games with London Olympian, Ross Smith. Together, the pair went into the tournament seeded fourth, but their campaign ended in the quarter-finals after losing to the eventual gold medallists, Goh V Shem and Tan Wee Kiong of Malaysia.

Since partnering up with Choo, the pair were undefeated in mixed doubles at the 2015 Sudirman Cup in China and went on to claim victories at the Sydney and Maribyrnong International Tournaments.

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Fast Facts

**Sport** Badminton  
**Event/s** Doubles Mixed  
**Status** Selected  
**Height** 188  
**Weight** 85  
**Age** 31  
**Born** Leeds, United Kingdom  
**Lives** Melbourne, VIC, Australia

Recent Performances

- 1st (Mixed Doubles) – 2016 Oceania Badminton Championships (French Polynesia, Tahiti)
- 4th (Mixed Doubles) – 2016 Brazil International Badminton Cup (Sao Paulo, Brazil)
- 1st (Mixed Doubles) – 2015 Sydney International (Sydney, Australia)
- 2nd (Team Australia) – 2015 Sudirman Cup (Dongguan, China)
- 1st (Mixed Doubles) – 2015 Victor Maribyrnong International (Maribyrnong, Australia)

Education

- **Primary** Archbishop Cranmer Primary School (Leeds, England)
- **Secondary** The Grammar School of Leeds (Leeds, England)
- **Tertiary** Economics with Politics

Training

- **Coach** Harry Jarvis, Barbara Jones and Andy Wood (1997 - current)
- **Club** Swann Hill Badminton Club (Victoria, Australia), Roundhegians Badminton Club (Leeds, Yorkshire, UK)
- **Institute/Academy**
- **Primary Training Base** Melbourne, Australia (primary)

Q&A

- **Favourite food** Roast Beef and Yorkshire pudding
- **Favourite holiday destination** America (Texas, California). Spain or Greek Islands
- **Favourite music** Indie rock probably
- **Dream car** Aston Martin DB9
- **Star Sign** Aquarius
Tattoos/Piercings  None
If I could try another Olympic sport it would be  Basketball
Most Inspiring Olympic Performance?  Derek Redmond 400m final Barcelona 1992. That’s what the Olympics is all about.
First Olympic Memory?  Cathy Freeman in the 400m final at the Sydney 2000 Games
Most Influential person in your career/life  Apart from my Parents and coaches (mentioned earlier), it would be Ben Tompkins and Chris Bainbridge
Why this sport?  My Dad was scared at a young age I would just watch TV all weekend, so he introduced me to this sport.
Athlete Biography

Badminton player, Sawan Serasinghe will make his first Olympic appearance at Rio, competing in the men’s doubles with Matthew Chau. They head into Rio as the 46th highest ranked pairing in the world.

Playing badminton since the age of five, Serasinghe was born in Galle, Sri Lanka, and moved to Australia when he was 11-years-old.

Serasinghe trains at the National Training Centre in Melbourne, and took out back-to-back Oceania Championships titles with Chau in 2015 and 2016. The 22-year-old also won the 2014 Sydney International Challenge mixed doubles (with Setyana Mapasa), against some of the best players in the world.

The Melbournian’s first international experience was at the 2013 Australian Youth Olympic Festival where he competed in the men’s doubles with Chau and also took the court in the men’s singles competition.

Off the court, Serasinghe studies a Bachelor of Business Information Systems at Monash University.

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Sport  Badminton
Event/s  Doubles Men
Height  178
Age  22
Lives  Melbourne, VIC, Australia

Status  Selected
Nickname  Kooj
Weight  79
Born  Galle, Australia

Matthew Chau

Hsuan Chen

Robin Middleton

Career Highlights

- 2015 Oceania Men's Doubles Champions - Auckland, New Zealand
- 2014 Sydney International Mixed Doubles Champions - Sydney, Australia
- 2015 Norwegian International Mixed Doubles Champions - Sandefjord, Norway

Education

- Primary  Richmond College (Galle, Sri Lanka)
- Secondary  Glen Waverley Secondary College (Vic, Australia)
- Tertiary  Bachelor of Business Information Systems - Monash University (2012 - present)

Training

- Coach  Lasse Bundgaard (2010 - current)
- Primary Training Base  Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre
- Secondary Training Base  Victorian Institute of Sport

Q&A

Superstition/s  Always have to wear two pairs of socks during a match.
Favorite food  Apple Crumble and Vanilla Ice Cream
Dream car: Porsche Cayman GT4
If I could try another Olympic sport it would be: Olympic weightlifting
Most Inspiring Olympic Performance? Lin Dan (Badminton Men's Singles Finals) - 2012 London Olympic Games
First Olympic Memory? 2004 Athens Olympic Games Opening Ceremony