THE 6-8 ACADEMY

WHAT IT IS

The 6-8 Academy is the world's first high performance training program for water polo.
The Academy is not a club or a team - it is **an independent high-level immersive water polo experience.**

Athletes can continue to play for their high school or club teams either while at the Academy or before and after attending the Academy for a semester.

WHO WE ARE

The 6-8 Academy was created by Olympic legend Tony Azevedo and Olympic Champion Maggie Steffens. Today, the Academy is run by Tony and his father, world-renowned Coach Ricardo Azevedo, with Maggie acting as a mentor and guest coach.

Tony and Ricardo are joined by a star-studded line-up of seasonal coaches including 3x Olympian, Silver Medalist & Pepperdine Coach Merrill Moses and Olympic Gold Medalist Amanda Longan.

HEAD COACH

Ricardo Azevedo

Considered to be one of the premier coaches in the world. Highlights include:

- Head Coach for the USA Men's Water Polo Team, USA Junior Team and Long Beach State University
- Head Coach of the professional Italian team RN Camogli in 2007, unexpectedly leading his young team to the division Championship title game in 2008
- Head Coach of the Chinese Men's & Women's National Water Polo Teams, leading them for the 2016 Rio Olympics

MAIN COACH & MENTOR

Tony Azevedo

- 5x Olympian & Silver Medalist
- 4x NCAA MVP & Former Team USA Captain
- Stanford Grad, Harvard Masters

COACH & MENTOR

Maggie Steffens

- 3x Gold Medalist, Current Team USA Captain
- Named best female athlete In the world by FINA
- Stanford d.School, BS and Masters in Management Science & Engineering

HEAD GOALIE COACH

Amanda Longan

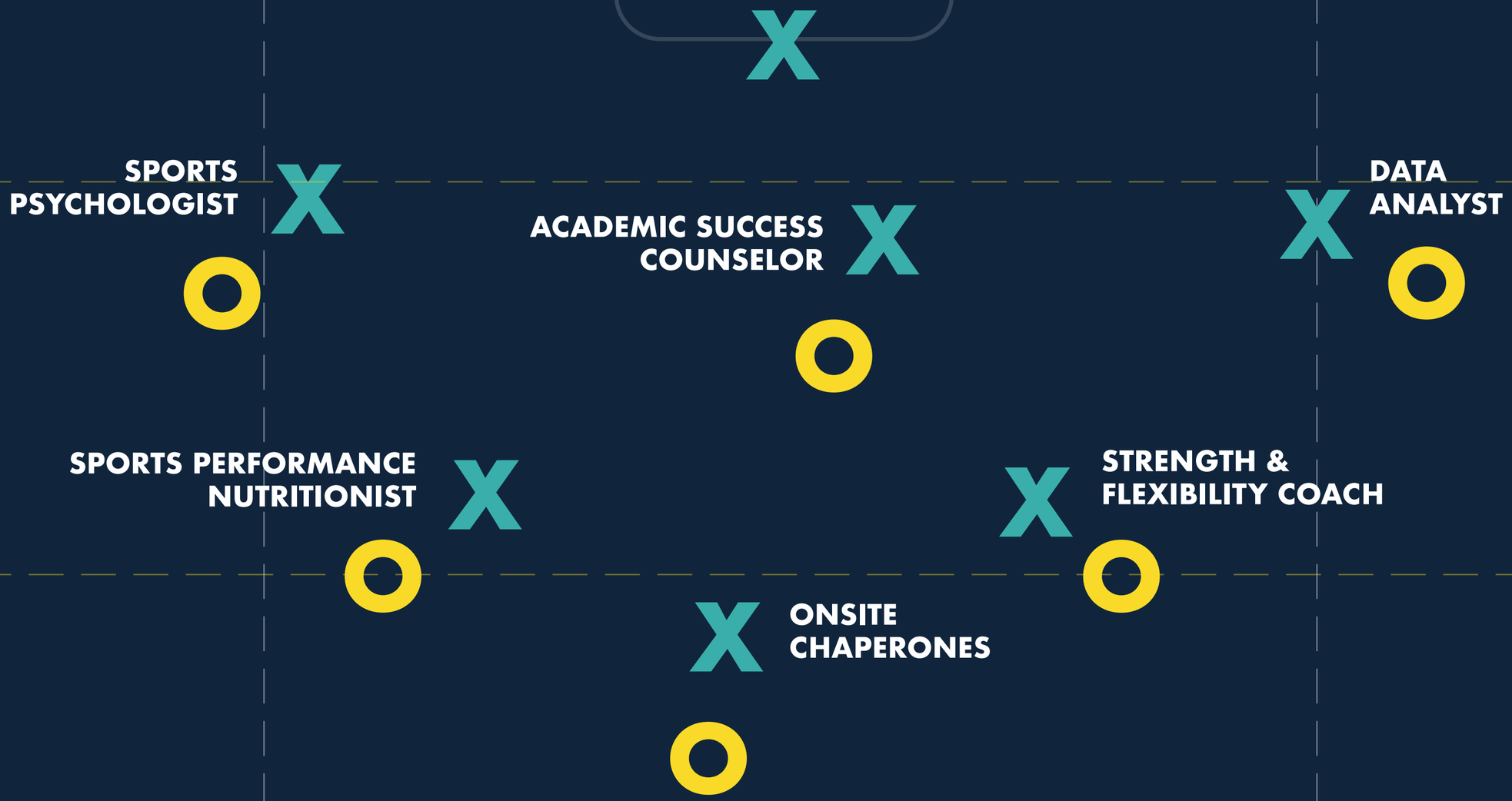
- Olympian & Gold Medalist
- NCAA Star & Pete Cutino winner at USC

PART-TIME COACH & MENTOR

Merrill Moses

- 3x Gold Medalist & Silver Medalist
- Current Pepperdine Coach

WE ROUND OUT OUR TEAM WITH AN ONSITE...



ELIGIBLE ATHLETES

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES

Looking to get recruited, rapidly improve their skills or achieve a specific goal (like playing professionally overseas).

- Local athletes (Southern CA): local athletes often join the Academy as commuters to supplement their current high school and club training regimens.
- Out of state/ international: athletes from around the US and the world come to the Academy to gain access to the highest quality water polo resources that are not available in their hometowns.

GAP YEAR ATHLETES

Either already committed to college and looking to prepare for their first season, or athletes taking a break to search out better recruiting opportunities.

RISING 7TH/8TH/9TH

Younger athletes in the prime stage of development interested in gaining access to the highest level coaching and fundamental preparation for a long-term successful career.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Top-notch water polo training
- Video breakdown
- Individualized Gym/Conditioning
- Personal Virtual Reality
- Nutrition Counseling
- Sports Psychology
- Academic Success

COLLEGE CONSULTING & RECRUITING

- Personalized goal setting and college selection with Tony Azevedo & Maggie Steffens
- Individual consulting sessions to help each athlete work through the process in detail (building a resume, creating the right video clips, when/ how to reach out to coaches, email drafts and more)

A FEW OF THE SCHOOLS WHERE OUR ATHLETES ARE NOW PLAYING:

ACADEMICS

- Athletes can be enrolled in any form of online or hybrid school program that works with the Academy schedule
- Certain athletes choose to continue online school through their existing high schools and others move to a completely independent program

THE 6-8 PERSONAL TOUCH

At the 6-8 Academy, the focus is on creating a **unique and personalized experience** for each athlete. Regular evaluations and meetings with Tony and the 6-8 staff help athletes track and analyze progress over time, creating a true path for each athlete to achieve their goals.

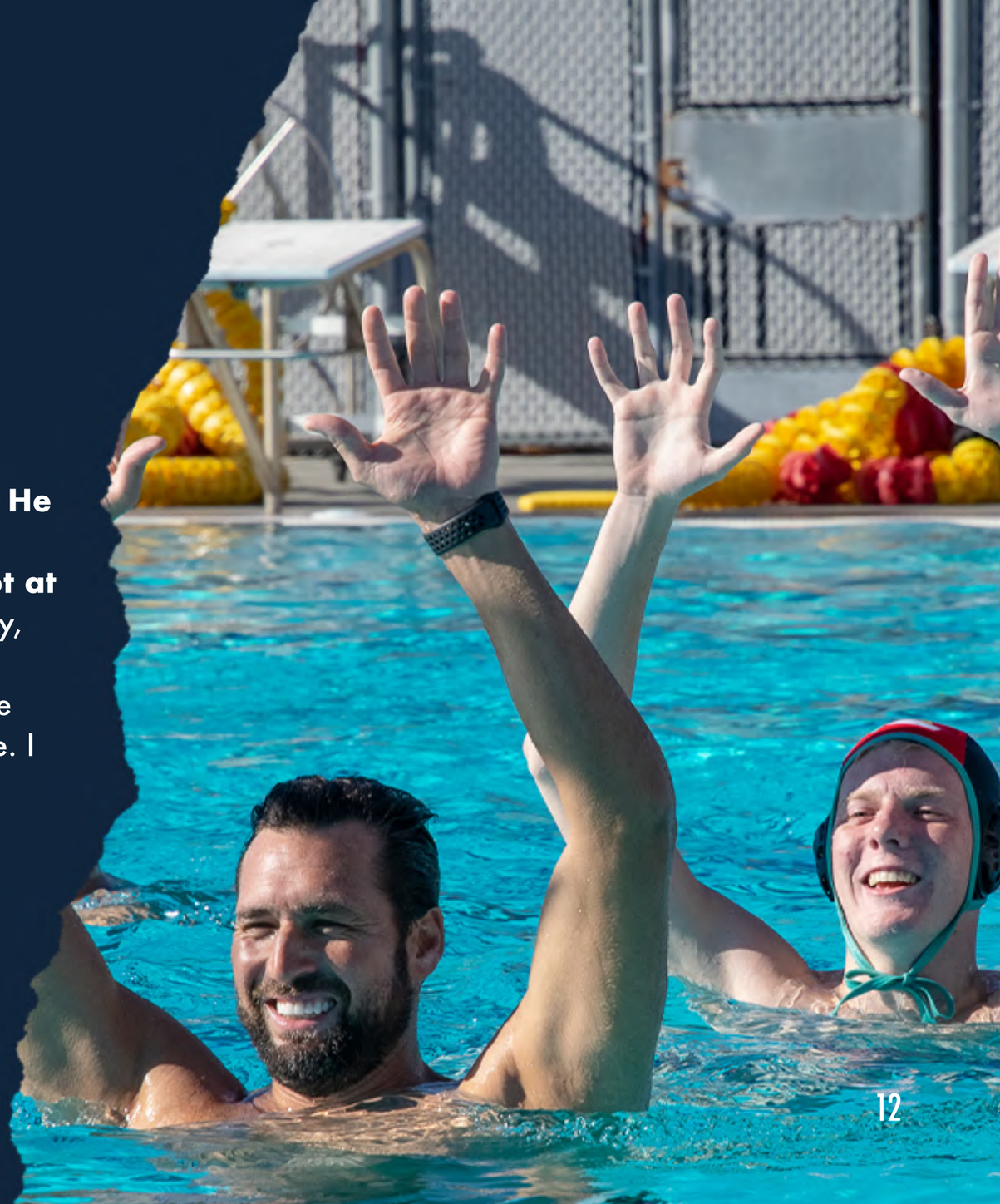
PERKS & BENEFITS

- Priority registration for Tony's most popular events that sell out quickly (Winter Camp, Italy Spring Break, shooting sessions and more)
- Priority consideration for Tony's All Star Croatia Trip and other international experiences

TESTIMONIALS

"Our son came to 6-8 having already played at a very high level. **He was seeking to improve, be surrounded by other dedicated scholar-athletes, and earn a recruitment spot at a Division 1 college. He got all that and more.** Rico, Tony, and Maggie got to know him and focused on specific areas of improvement. From the mental side of the sport to nutrition advice and stretching to prevent injury, 6-8 was the complete experience. I recommend the program to anyone who asks!"

- Kevin, Dad of Multiple Semester Academy Participant



"**The Academy fosters a terrific environment of competitiveness and improvement**. There is something very special about being surrounded by people who are equally committed to water polo, and it enables the most effective training. You get to know your team mates in and out of the pool, competing to make each other better every day while also building new friendships. My time at the academy not only improved my water polo, but helped me develop into a mature all-around athlete and prepared me for college. I developed skills to protect my body, the most important thing to an athlete, as well as mental fortitude. The workshops about mindset have continued to benefit me in my athletic career and also in my everyday life. Finally, Tony, Maggie, Rico and all the coaches create a family and a home for all of their athletes."

- Kate, Original Academy Athlete (participated for more than 1 year)

"After participating in several of Azevedo's phenomenal clinics and camps, our son asked if he could apply to attend the 6-8 Academy. It did not disappoint! We were so impressed with the way the 6-8 Academy focused on coaching the whole athlete. **Not only did all aspects of ourson's water polo game improve with the personal training he received from the amazing list of Olympian, college, and elite coaches, but 6-8 also improved our son's confidence, mental attitude, and nutritional acumen.** Thanks to the 6-8 Academy our son is headed off to a D1 college feeling prepared and excited to play at the next level!"

- Bill & Michelle, Parents of Fall Semester Academy Participant

"My son participated in the Winter 2022 Semester and I am thoroughly blown away by his increased level of play. All aspects of his game improved, especially his confidence. His passion and game knowledge increased immensely. **For me, the Academy brought such peace to my life. I knew my son was getting Olympic level training and competition daily as 6-8 gave him the tools needed to reach his potential.** I'm so grateful to 6-8 and the entire Azevedo family for the positive impact the program had in all our lives."

- Meghan, Mom of Multiple Semester Academy Participant

Read more testimonials at https://6-8sports.com/academy/

MOLD YOUR FUTURE
ACHIEVE YOUR DREAMS

JOIN THE 6-8 FAMILY

For more information on tuition and how to apply,
email **sara@6-8sports.com**