



Chloe Sutton ...at a glance



Swimming

Career Highlights

- 2008 Olympian (10km Marathon Swim)
- 2012 Olympian (400m freestyle)
- 2010 Pan Pacific gold medalist (400m freestyle)
- Three-time USA Swimming National Champion
- Won the 400 free at the 2011 All-Star Europe vs. United States Duel in the Pool meet

Vital Statistics

- Born:** February 3, 1992
- Hometown:** Vandenberg AFB, California
- Resides:** Mission Viejo, CA
- Height:** 5'9"
- Education:** University of Nebraska
Independent Study Program '10

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getting to know...

Chloe Sutton

Biography

Chloe Sutton made her first Olympic Team in 2008 when she was just 18 years old, as one of the first-ever members of the United States open water Marathon Swim team for the Beijing Games. But just because she reached the pinnacle of racing in the oceans didn't mean that she was resigned to it for the rest of her career.

She grew up in a military family; having a father who was an officer in the United States Air Force, Sutton moved around a lot and learned early in life to become very adaptable. By the time she had gotten to high school, she had learned not only to accept change, but to embrace it.

Her adaptability explains how she made the transition between open water and pool swimming in the lead-up to the London Olympics. Moving from swimming in nature to swimming in the four walls of a pool might seem like an easy translation, but in reality it's a huge change. Open water swimming is more about "feel" and "going with the flow" whereas pool swimming is a much more technically-specific sport that requires precision with every motion. Pool swimming also comes with ramped-up pressure.

The 10,000 fans that packed the CenturyLink Center in Omaha (one of Sutton's many former hometowns) is a ten-fold increase over the biggest crowds ever seen at an open water event. "You go to things like the Olympic Trials and you see the crowds and how excited people get about swimming," she said in late 2011 about the excitement surrounding pool races.

Chloe thrived under that pressure and earned her way onto a second Olympic Team; this time she qualified in the women's 400 meter freestyle. That makes her the first American in history to ever earn Olympic spots in both pool and open water swimming. At the 2012 version of the Summer Olympics, she earned a top-10 finish in that 400 free. Though only 21-years old, this young woman has already had a lifetime of experiences.

Swimming is a sport that always changes and challenges athletes, but Sutton has already shown the tremendous ability to overcome and adapt to those changes. As a result, she remained at the top of the sport for nearly a decade.