



## SAMPANTHA RUSCU Paralympic Cyclist



## **CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

2x Paralympic Bronze Medalist

2017 World Champion in the 3k Individual Pursuit

2x ParaPan Am Games
Gold Medalist

## **Meet Sammy Bosco**

It all started with a hunter green mountain bike, finished up with a powder-coated bright yellow RockShox fork and a green dinosaur horn. With a smile so bright shining through my dirt-covered face it could light up a moonless night, I dreamt of becoming a professional mountain bike racer. As I zipped along the trails of Kincaid Park, I'd dream of maneuvering over true roots in Spain, through hairpin turns and jagged terrane of Italy, and being stopped by the occasional moose taking a nap in the middle of my home trails in Alaska.

But, at 11 years old, the bike, those trails, and that dream were soon replaced with shiny silver crutches and three years of surgeries to fix a leg-length discrepancy acquired from being born with a bowed tibia. Now I am left with permanent damage: an ankle that doesn't move more than eight degrees and really dislikes cold weather, nerve damage that lets my toes and calf be lazy, a right leg that lets me claim two different heights when someone asks how tall I am, two different shoe sizes, and a generally smaller right leg.

Now I'm a 2× Paralympic bronze medalist from the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, former world champion (3K individual pursuit in 2017), 3× ParaPan Am Games champion (2015 road race, 2019 500 meter time trial and 3K individual pursuit), 14× national champion, 2× Women's Pro 1/2 (able-body) California State Time Trial Champion, World Cup Overall Winner (2017), and multi-time World Champion and World Cup Medalist. And currently training to make the Tokyo Paralympic Games roster.

## **Learn More at sammiecranks.com**









