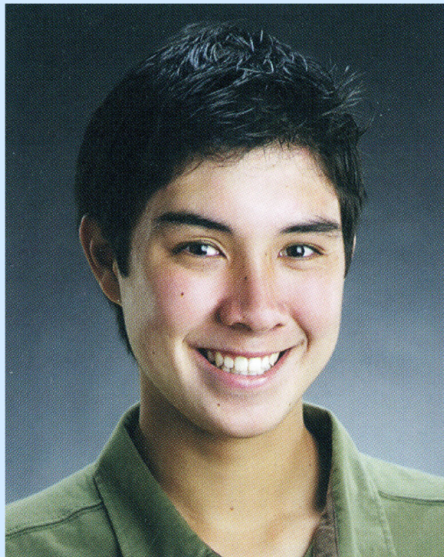




Erik Shoji '08

As the son of University of Hawai'i women's volleyball coach Dave Shoji, Erik Shoji '08 grew up absorbing the collective wisdom of his father's training culture. By the time Erik started his varsity career as a Punahou freshman, he was ready to contribute to a program that had a long history of success in the Hawai'i prep arena.

Shoji's remarkable palmares during his four seasons of high school volleyball: three state championships, four ILH titles, and four first-team All-State honors. It is a testament to his skill and versatility that he played a different position each year – first, defensive specialist, then libero, then outside hitter, and finally, setter – and was judged best in state every season regardless of where he saw action on the floor. He was inducted into the HHSAA Hall of Honor in 2008.

During most of Shoji's high school career boys volleyball was contested in the fall, enabling him to compete during the spring in another sport he was exceptional at: tennis. He was a member of four state championship teams and his junior year, with partner Alex Ching '08, won a state doubles title. When the boys volleyball season switched to spring during Shoji's senior year, he managed busy practice and competition schedules to play it and tennis concurrently.

Shoji's volleyball dominance continued after Punahou; he played libero for four years at Stanford University, where he became the first four-time AVCA All-American first-teamer in history and won a national championship in 2010.

Shoji has been the USA Volleyball Men's National Team libero since 2013, competing in the Olympics in 2016, 2020, and 2024, and winning two bronze medals.

He currently plays professional volleyball in Poland and is training to represent the USA at the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.