



# Chris Waddell



*13-time Paralympic Medalist*



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Chris Waddell always thought that the lessons he learned as a ski racer at Middlebury College would provide the foundation for later success. He had no idea how profoundly one moment could change and paradoxically enhance that conviction. On December 20<sup>th</sup>, 1988 his ski popped off in the middle of a turn. He fell, broke two vertebrae, and damaged the spinal cord. Paralyzed from the waist down he learned and achieved more than he could have imagined.

He returned to college just two months after the accident and started mono-skiing in less than a year. Two years later he was named to the U.S. Disabled Ski Team. He went on to become one of the most decorated Paralympic athletes in any sport, winning twelve medals in mono ski. Also a track athlete, he is one of only a handful of athletes to win World Championships in both winter and summer sports. He competed in four Winter Paralympic Games and three Summer Paralympic Games, earning thirteen overall medals. In World Championship competition, Waddell won nine total medals: four gold, one silver, one bronze; six in the winter and three in the summer.

Waddell has been inducted into the US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame and the Paralympics Hall of Fame. The Dalai Lama honored him as an "Unsung Hero of Compassion". People Magazine named him one of the "Fifty Most Beautiful People in the World". Skiing Magazine placed him amongst the "25 Greatest Skiers in North America". Middlebury College presented him with a Doctorate in Humane Letters.

In September of 2009 Waddell became the first nearly unassisted paraplegic to summit Mt. Kilimanjaro. The film documenting the climb has won awards throughout the world. He has appeared on Dateline, Oprah and 20/20. He is the founder of the One Revolution Foundation and is an accomplished and very experienced professional speaker who tours the country sharing his universal message, "***It's not what happens to you. It's what you do with what happens to you.***"



Resides: Park City, UT  
Hometown: Granby, MA  
Website: [www.one-revolution.org](http://www.one-revolution.org)  
Twitter: @one\_revolution

