



## TEAM ARMY BIO

Steve Bortle enlisted in the Marine Corps after high school, serving six years before transitioning to the Army Reserves in 2002. Deployed to Iraq in 2015, he later retired from the Army National Guard. During a deployment to Afghanistan, he suffered shoulder injuries and developed an autoimmune disease, leading to his placement in the WTU at Schofield Barracks, HI. At the WTU, CPT Bortle discovered adaptive sports during his recovery journey. He competed at the Warrior Games in 2015 before medical discharge due to his autoimmune condition.

In 2018, he excelled at the Army Trials, earning spots on both the Army's Warrior Games and the American Invictus Games teams. Unfortunately, during the Invictus Games long jump event, Steve sustained a hip injury requiring replacement. Undeterred, he pursued rehabilitation and embraced adaptive sports, culminating in a remarkable achievement: completing his first full Ironman Triathlon merely five months post-hip replacement.

Since retiring, Steve has dedicated himself to education, serving as a high school teacher, coach, and inspirational figure. Currently, he focuses on gym workouts, weight gain, and enhancing his bench press, with aspirations of entering bodybuilding competitions in the future, exemplifying his perseverance in the face of adversity.



Full Name

Steven James Bortle

Preferred Name

Steve

Rank/Abbreviation

Captain/CPT

Service Branch

Retired

Injury or Illness

Shoulder, Hip Replacement, UC

Hometown (City, State)

Ewa Beach, HI

Current Location/SRU

Ewa Beach, HI

## MEDIA CONTACT

Ms. Julia Oliveri | Army Recovery Care Program | 571-318-8472 | [www.arcp.army.mil](http://www.arcp.army.mil)

