# Featured Player: JIAN LI



Photo: Rich London

### **Fact Sheet:**

• USATT rating: 2574

• Highest rating: 2692 (March 2017)

• Born: Aug. 13, 1988, in Shandong Province, China

• Started playing table tennis at age 8 at the urging of his father

• Moved to the U.S. in 2015

• Home: Fresh Meadows, N.J.

• Full-time coach at the Topspin Table Tennis Club in Hillsborough, N.J.

• Winner of the Arnold Challenge, 2016 and 2017

• Three-time champion of the Westchester Open; seven-time runner-up

Player he most admires: Ding Song

• Blade: Koji Matsushita Offensive

• Rubber: Hurricane 3 (forehand), Spectol (pips-out)(backhand)

• Style: Combination chopper/smasher

• When not coaching and playing table tennis, enjoys music

• Surprising fact: "I think my guitar talent is better than my ping-pong"

• Goal: to teach students to be their best

### **ALEX AVERIN**



Rating: 2286 Home: Newark, NJ

Birthdate: May 26, 1998 (21 years old)

Birthplace: New Bern, NC

• College student and coach at the Lily Yip Table Tennis Center in New Jersey.



Rating: 2660

Highest rating: 2732 (Dec. 2015)

Home: New York City

Birthdate: Feb. 12, 1997 (22 years old)

Birthplace: Nanjing, ChinaBecame a U.S. citizen in 2015

• U.S. national champion, 2015

• Runner-up, 2016

• Competed for the United States at the 2016 Olympics

• Senior at New York University, studying sports law, minoring in economics

• 6'1"

 Has worked as a runway model at New York's Fashion Week

• During his spare time, coaches at SPiN New York

### **BOWEN CHEN**



Rating: 2527 Home: Fairfax, VA

Birthdate: June 27, 1998 (21 years old)
Birthplace: Loudi, Hunan Province, China
• Winner of the 2018 Miami Open. Full-time coach at the Maryland Table Tennis Center.

### **JEREMY HAZIN**



Rating: 2614

Home: Richmond Hill, Ont.

Birthdate: Feb. 27, 2000 (19 years old) Birthplace: Richmond Hill, Ont.

World-ranked #172 by the ITTFTop-ranked Canadian male player

• Youngest Canadian ever to compete in an ITTF World Championship (at age 13 in 2013)

• Won the Canadian men's title in 2017 at age 17 — the youngest Canadian champion ever

• Triple medalist at the 2017 Pan American Junior Championships (singles, doubles, and mixed doubles)

• Winner of the October 2018 Westchester Open

### **GBENGA KAYODE**



Rating: 2300 (est.) Home: Cagliari, Italy

Birthdate: Nov. 11, 1974 (44 years old) Birthplace: Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria • Professional player in Italy from 2011 to 2019. First trip to the U.S.

### **MISHEL LEVINSKI**



Rating: 2482 Home: Brooklyn, NY

Birthdate: Mar. 19, 1995 (24 years old) Birthplace: Beer Sheva, Israel

• Former Israeli junior national table tennis champion.

## **CEDRIC OBA**



Rating: 2332 Home: Newark, NJ

Birthdate: Dec. 11, 1992 (26 years old)
Birthplace: Abidjan, Cöte d'Ivoire

• Former champion of Cöte d'Ivoire.
Nine-time U2500 winner at Westchester.

### **CHENG WANG**



Rating: 2355 Home: Fairfax, VA

Birthdate: Apr. 6, 1996 (23 years old)
Birthplace: Changde, Hunan Province, China
• Coach at the Northern Virginia Table Tennis
Center. Student, Northern Va. Comm. College.

### **JIWEI XU**



Home: Whippany, NJ

Birthdate: May 31, 1996 (23 years old) Birthplace: Zibo, Shandong, China

• Plays professionally for Shandong Lumeng table tennis team. Runner-up in June & July.

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August 24-25, 2019



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