

Natalia
Partyka



About Natalia

- Natalia Partyka is a Polish table tennis player whose disability did not stop her from fulfilling her dreams.
- „I am ambitious and I fight” she says.



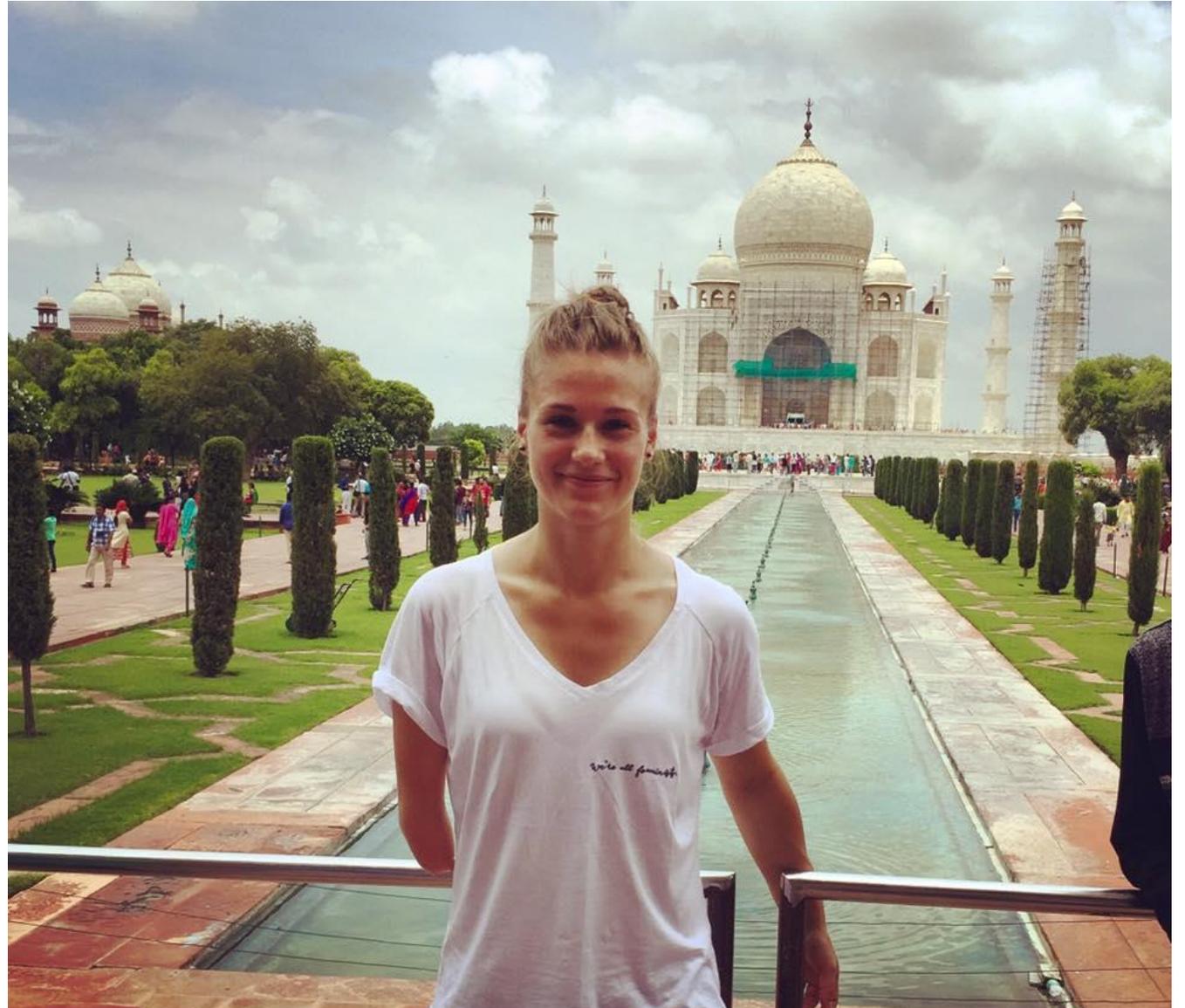
Her Life

- Natalia Partyka was born in 1989 in Gdańsk, without a right forearm.
- That didn't stop her from quickly finding a passion that allowed her to live a normal life.
- She started playing table tennis at the age of 7, all thanks to her big sister.



Her interests

- Natalia Partyka has many interests besides table tennis. She loves music, psychology and traveling.
- Natalia also wants to take advantage of her position to promote sport among disabled people and create good opportunities for it through the scholarship fund she established.



How did it start? Why table tennis?

- First club – MRKS Gdańsk
- First coach – Aleksander Mielewczyk
- First club for disabled people – START Wejherowo
- Training Center of Polish Table Tennis Federation



Achievements

Natalia has already achieved a lot during her career so far:

4 gold medals in individual games at the Paralympic Games:

- in Athens 2004
- in Pekin 2008
- in London 2012
- in Rio de Janeiro 2016

She also got a gold medal in Rio in 2016 but in the team game.

Now she is preparing for the olympics in Tokyo.



How important is table tennis in Natalia's life?

Quoting Natalia's words:

Table tennis is my biggest passion and in fact I cannot imagine my life without the celluloid ball. Despite the fact that sport means a lot of sacrifices and days spent away from home I have never regretted that I started to train, because all the years spent on trainings and tournaments have taught me a lot. Playing gives me a lot of joy and satisfaction so with table tennis for sure I bind my future.



What is success for Natalia?

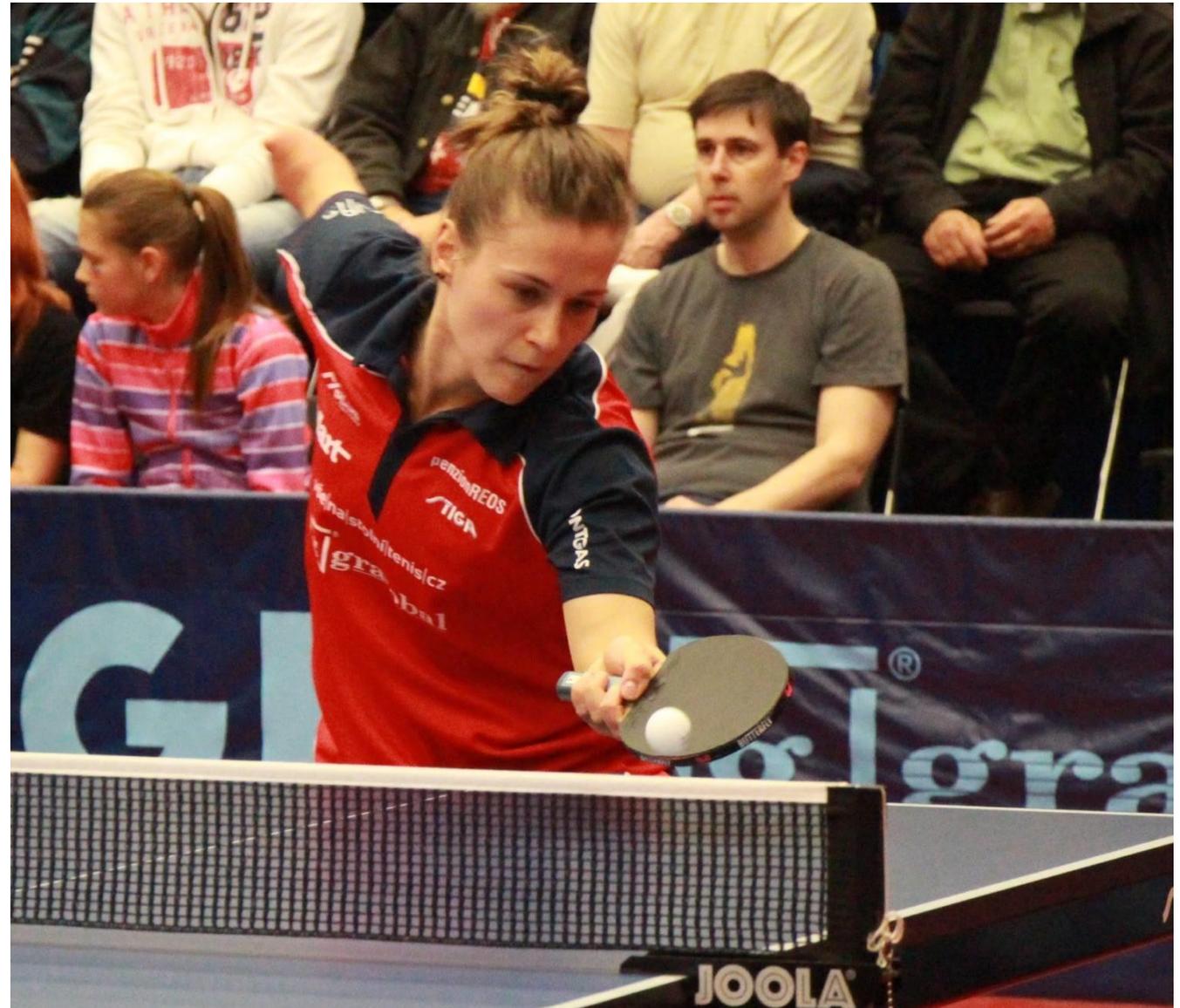
Asked for the definition of the word success she replied:

Success for me is having a passion and realizing it. Success is about growth, work, perseverance, the values we hold on to and the courage to reach for our dreams. It's a sense of being in the right place at the right time.



Is disability a problem for her?

"Disability doesn't give me any extra special attention."



She is a
real hero

