



ASSIST NEWS

FIBA ASSIST NEWSLETTER A BIMONTHLY COMMUNITY UPDATE APRIL / MAY 2004

FIBA

We Are Basketball

FIBA.COM

OLYMPICS LIVE ON FIBA.COM!

The Olympic Basketball Tournament for men and women in Athens, Greece will be covered live on fiba.com. On the website all the games will be broadcasted with real time statistics and scores.

Display of talent at the FIBA Europe Cup Final Four gold medalist Marijonas Petravicius



WHAT'S IN STORE

GETTING READY FOR ATHENS

Semi-Finals and Finals Sold Out!

The countdown is on to the start of the Olympic Games in Athens, Greece. It is four years since Sydney and the ups and downs and unexpected turns of these past four years, leave the Basketball Tournament for Men wide open. The organizers are racing to finish the arenas to be ready for the test event on June 4 -6, 2004. On August 13, 2004 the battle for Olympic gold will begin.

After the downfall of Team USA in 2002 at the FIBA World Championships for Men, the USA is determined to make sure that this does not happen again. However, every other team is going to Athens with the hope that history repeats itself to prove that the rest of the world has caught up. It was clear at the World Championships in 2002 and the Olympic qualifiers that teams such as Argentina, Serbia and Montenegro, Lithuania, Spain and others have a definite chance of reaching the finals and winning a medal. Everything is up for grabs.

In women's basketball, at the last two Olympic Games, the podium has been shared by the powerhouses of women's basketball, USA, Brazil and Australia. Whether that will change in Athens is something to consider, but the 2002 FIBA World Championship for Women in China did not experience the same unexpected upset as the men. You can be sure that with the teams in training

and playing exhibition games there will be a display of great talent at the Olympic Games and fierce competition for Olympic gold.

Tickets for the Semi-Finals and Finals of the Olympic Basketball Tournament are sold out, to purchase tickets to all other games and for the complete schedule go to www.athens2004.com. ■



ATHENS 2004



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BASKETBALL WITHOUT BORDERS IN 3 CONTINENTS

FIBA together with the NBA will stage its international basketball and community relations outreach program Basketball without Borders for the first time on three separate continents in 2004.



BWB in Europe,
Africa and Latin
America



former NBA players and coaching personnel, acting as camp coaches, and will unite young players from across each region to take part in basketball instruction and competition, share living quarters with their new teammates and participate in daily seminars.

FIBA and NBA also will donate products, such as basketballs, rims, and nets, to local basketball federations. The seminars will promote education, leadership and healthy living and HIV/AIDS and drug abuse education and prevention.

The program will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil June 28-July 3, Treviso, Italy July 24-27 and Johannesburg, South Africa September 6-10. Basketball without Borders is an instructional camp for young basketball players that promotes leadership, friendship, healthy living and education. Each Basketball without Borders camp will feature current and

AMERICAN NEWS DOUBLE DELIGHT FOR UCONN AT NCAA FINAL FOUR'S

This year UConn can be twice as much happy and proud of the outstanding performances at the NCAA Final Four. Men's results: UConn 82 v Georgia Tech 73, women's results: UConn 70 v. Tennessee 61. The star of the men's Final Four was Emeka Okafor scoring 24 points against Georgia Tech. Diana Taurasi scored 17 points and was named Final Four's Outstanding Player of the year for the second year in a row.



FIBA
AMERICAS
We Are Basketball

"With the great cooperation shown in the success of the first three camps in Europe since 2001, the expansion to bring Basketball without Borders to Africa and the Americas will give the opportunity to more youngsters to improve their skills both on-and-off the court and to meet their basketball idols," said FIBA Secretary General Patrick Baumann. "This is a first step towards making this venture truly international, and further proving that basketball is a universal language, jointly promoted by NBA and FIBA."

Due to the success of past European camps and the Africa 100 Basketball Camp the program was expanded to reach different continents and give the same opportunities to young basketball players in other parts of the world.

For further information go to www.fiba.com ■

BEST CLUBS AT FIBA WOMEN'S WORLD LEAGUE

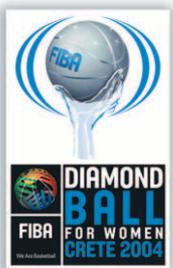
After the great success of the inaugural Women's World Cup last year, the best women's clubs in the world will come together again for the first time to compete in the Preliminary Round of the FIBA Women's World League.



With the exception of Euroleague winner US Valenciennes Olympic from France all the other champions are newcomers in the League. Group A will play May 21 - 23, 2004 in Taipei, Chinese Taipei, hosted by the Chinese Taipei Basketball Association with the following champions: CB Taipei (TPE), WKBL All-Star Team (KOR), Baltiyskaya Zvezda (RUS), Dandenong Rangers (AUS). Group B will play May 28 - 30, 2004 in Sao Paulo, Brazil, hosted by the Brazilian Basketball Federation with the following clubs: ADCF-UNIMED (BRA), Habana Basketball Club (CUB), US Valenciennes Olympic (FRA), First Bank Basketball Club (NGR). The best two placed teams from both preliminaries qualify to the Final Round to be played on 12 - 17, October 2004 in Russia. ■

2004 FIBA DIAMOND BALL

Some of the best basketball teams from all five continents will meet again at the FIBA Diamond Ball, an invitational tournament in where there will be a women's tournament for the first time.



It will be a final test for the teams before the kick-off of the Olympic Basketball Tournament for Men and Women. The competition for men will take place in Belgrade, Serbia & Montenegro July 31 - August 3, 2004. The teams participating are, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Lithuania, China, Serbia & Montenegro. Press accreditation deadline for this event is June 15, 2004. The FIBA Diamond Ball for Women will take place in the host country of the Olympic Games. The countries participating on August 5 - 8, 2004 in Crete, Greece are Australia, Brazil, Greece, Korea, Nigeria and China. ■

FIBA'S WORLD UPDATED INTERNAL REGULATIONS

The updated Internal Regulations have been approved by the FIBA Central Board last November 2003.

The Internal Regulations are rules by which FIBA works. The main FIBA competitions that are subject to the Internal Regulations are events such as Olympics and World Championships.

The Internal Regulations are now available to download on www.fiba.com in English and French. One of the key changes in the Internal Regulations relates to the Regulations governing Doping Control which have been rewritten following FIBA's acceptance and signature of the WADA Code on January 28, 2004.

All regulations came into force on April 1, 2004, except the Regulations governing the International Transfer of Players, which will come into force on July 1, 2004, after the end of the major worldwide club competitions for the 2003 - 2004 season. ■

Cover of the updated Internal Regulations



JAPAN AND BRAZIL 2006

As the months pass FIBA and the Local Organizing Committee have been furthering their preparations for the World Championships for Men and Women.

After FIBA's Sports Director, Lubomir Kotleba visited Japan in January another FIBA representative traveled to Japan. Olivier Godallier, Marketing Manager, visited with LOC representatives regarding the logo, mascot and further organizational tasks. So far, three venues have been selected for the championship, a remaining two are to be confirmed. The final decision on all five venues will be announced at a press conference in June. At the same time the LOC and FIBA will launch the event logo and the mascot for the event.

Brazil, one of the hotbeds of women's basketball on the globe, is getting ready for the FIBA World Championship for Women in 2006. Mr. Godallier also traveled to the South American country to meet with the LOC, the Brazilian Basketball Federation. He met with both the President of the Federation, Mr. Gerasime Bozakis and the Finance Director Mr. Roberto Beck. The marketing agency for the LOC also met with Mr. Godallier. As with Japan, the logo and mascot will be launched at a press conference later this year. The final venues have been confirmed. The preliminaries will take place in both Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro and the finals will be played in Rio de Janeiro. ■



EUROPEAN NEWS MITTELDEUTSCHER BC, BATLISKAYA ZWEZDA AND US VALENCIENNES ON THE TOP OF EUROPE

Mitteldeutscher BC (GER) took the title 84 - 68 over Dijon (FRA) at the FIBA-Europe Cup Men Final Four on March 28, 2004. The women's cup went to Batliskaya Zvezda (RUS) with a 68 - 64 win over Mav Coop Szolnoki (HUN) on April 4, 2004. In the Women's Euroleague the title was won by US Valenciennes Olympic (FRA) 93 - 69 over Lotos VBW Clima Gdynia (POL). The FIBA Europe League Final is scheduled for the 24th April 2004 in Kazan, Russia. For results go to www.fibaeurope.com.

FIBA VISITS THE NBA

A group of FIBA representatives headed by FIBA Secretary General Patrick Baumann and FIBA Secretary General Emeritus Borislav Stanković traveled to New York City to meet with the NBA for a two-day workshop covering a variety of subjects of common interest.



The topics included the participation of NBA players in official international competitions, the international transfer of players, the Basketball without Borders youth development camps in Europe, Africa and South America,

women's basketball, the upcoming Olympic Games and the global fight against doping.

"We were honored to host our colleagues from FIBA and discuss ways to continue to grow interest and participation in the sport of basketball while building upon our long-standing relationship with FIBA and its member federations around the world," said NBA Commissioner David Stern.

"We are very pleased with the open and constructive dialogue we have had over the past few days," said FIBA Secretary-General Patrick Baumann. "We will continue the great relationship with the NBA, a relationship which was initiated by Mr. Stanković and has resulted in the tremendous growth of the game all over the globe, especially since the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona. We are very optimistic that together we can tackle the challenges which lie ahead of us."

FIBA and the NBA have agreed to continue these discussions in the coming months to strengthen and develop the collaboration between the two organizations and combine efforts in the continuing commitment to grow the sport of basketball around the world. ■

NEW FEATURES ON FIBA.COM

Complete coverage of 2004 Olympics, FIBA Media Guide Online Soon

Since the launch of the brand new www.fiba.com the tweaking hasn't ceased. New features and improvements have been made over the past months by FIBA's webmaster Nicolas Chapart in cooperation with WIGE Data.

The website currently has many options for anyone interested or involved in the basketball world. Recent additions in the "News" section have been the "Interview of the Week". In the run up to Athens 2004 there will be interviews with the Olympic national team coaches for men and women. So far there have been features on Australia, New Zealand, Angola, Nigeria, Greece, Puerto Rico and Japan. Those basketball fans that will not have the possibility to watch the Olympic Basketball Tournament on the national television stations can follow all the games with the live score and real time statistics on fiba.com; there will also feature exclusive interviews and a look behind the scenes. Also new in the "News" section are "Press Clippings". This is a section that illustrates what other media are producing and



writing about basketball and FIBA. Also in the "News" section articles and features can be sorted by FIBA Zone and country by using a search tool in the archive.

In "The Game" section an alphabetical Glossary of basketball terminology is now available. For the basketball fan "Goodies" are available in the "About FIBA" section under "Free Downloads". These include 6 FIBA wallpapers and 2 FIBA screensavers.

Major additions to be completed by the end of April, are a "FIBA Officials" section. This section contains listings of FIBA active referees and commissioners. As previously announced, the FIBA Media Guide will also be available online from the end of April. Another new addition will be the FIBA Directory which is a listing of the contact details of all commissioners, honorary members, board members and officially recognized bodies. This function will be available this spring on fiba.com. ■

FIBA TV ATTENDS SPORTEL DUBAI

The first ever Sportel Dubai show took place from the 15th -17th of March and representatives from the world of sports television gathered at the Meridien Hotel in Dubai for the three day event. The FIBA Television Department were represented by Paul Stimpson and Stephanie Mignot.

The range of FIBA TV properties available for distribution include all of the Continental Championships (Men and Women) from all five of the FIBA Zones plus the World Championships (Men, Women, U-21 and U-19), and initial interest was expressed from many broadcasters particularly for the 2005-2007 events.

FIBA TV were busy with a constant stream of meetings with new broadcasters particularly from the Middle East and Asia, as well as other meetings to further the discussions with existing potential broadcast partners to finalise future agreements. Confirmation of these agreements will be announced at a later date.

In addition to meeting with television broadcasters, there were also meetings with technical service providers to discuss FIBA's various satellite requirements for the future events.

While in Dubai, the UAE Basketball Association took Stephanie and Paul to visit the stadium in Sharjah that will host the 2004 FIBA Asia Champions Cup (which is included within the FIBA TV properties) from the 15th - 22nd May, in order to discuss the technical set up for the television production. ■

ASIAN NEWS ASIAN CHAMPIONS CUP FOR MEN

Clubs are currently qualifying through their regional championships for the Asian Championship Cup for Men. The event will take place May 15 – 22, 2004 in the United Arab Emirates. After Sharjah Club from the United Arab Emirates won their national championship, they qualified for the Asian Champions Cup and will host the event. All other participating clubs will be known the end of April. Stay tuned to www.fiba.com.





Janeth in Athens

Athens will be Janeth's fourth Olympics and with Brazilian

Federation having found sponsors, Janeth will not play in the WNBA this season and can stay at home in Brazil preparing. "It would be great to get the gold, I like to dream, and you always have to dream with the best. Brazil now has a very talented team, with many young players and others with much experience." ■

PEOPLE NAMES AND FACES

Lorraine Landon Receives IOC Award

Basketball Australia's Lorraine Landon was awarded by the IOC the prestigious 2004 IOC Women and Sport Trophy in Marrakesh, Morocco on March 7, 2004.



Landon was nominated for the award by FIBA Secretary General Patrick Baumann for her outstanding dedication and long time commitment, hard work towards sports and in particular

basketball. Upon receiving her award Landon stated, "When I first heard about it I was surprised and shocked. I was not aware of the nomination and the news came as a complete surprise. It is a wonderful honor not just to me personally, but also to the work we are doing in Australia, to the people who I have worked with over many years particularly during the Sydney 2000 Olympics and last but not least to the wonderful sport of basketball." ■



Silver Plate Awarded to George E. Killian

FIBA Secretary General, Patrick Baumann and FIBA Secretary General Emeritus were present at an event honoring former FIBA

President, Mr. George E. Killian and his retirement from the NJCAA in Colorado Springs, USA. At this event, Patrick Baumann took the opportunity to award Mr. Killian with the first FIBA Silver Plate. The award is given to any person or organisation having distinguished itself in the field of basketball or having rendered great services to sport nationally and/or internationally. FIBA Americas President Mr. Rick Traer and Secretary General Jenaro Marchand were also present at the event including Mr. Bill Wall, former CEO of USA Basketball. ■

Manfred Ströher Honored

Former German Basketball Federation President and current FIBA Treasurer, Manfred Ströher was awarded the "Premio Pietro Reverberi Oscar del Basket". The award was bestowed upon him while he was in Reggio Emilia on March 1, 2004 by the Mayor Cesare Beggi. ■



Dalipagic to Hall of Fame

The class to be enshrined at the Basketball Hall of Fame on Sept. 10, 2004 was recently announced by John L. Doleva, Basketball Hall of Fame CEO. Among the finalist was international guard and Yugoslavian Olympian, Drazen Dalipagic. Dalipagic was one of the best playmakers Europe has ever produced. The outstanding scorer has won 12 medals in international competition including gold medals at the FIBA World Championships, Olympics and European Championships. ■



DON'T GET DISCONNECTED FIBA DIRECTORY CHANGES

Cook Islands Basketball Federation

New email address: sosene@oyster.net.ck

Cayman Islands Basketball Federation

New email address: c.i.b.a@candw.ky
New Telephone: +1 (345) 2443513
New Fax: +1 (345) 946 9161
or +1 (345) 949 8487

Latvian Basketball Federation

New Address and Telephone Number: 106/3 Brivibas str.
Riga, LV-1001, Latvia
Tel: +371 729 2088

STAY TUNED

EVENT CALENDER

MAY 2004

- 15/05/04 - 22/05/04 15th Asian Champions Cup for Men 2004 in Dubai, United Arabs Emirates
- 21/05/04 - 23/05/04 1st FIBA Women's World League - Preliminary Round, Group A in Chinese Taipei
- 25/05/04 - 29/05/04 U18 South American Championship for Men 2004 in Guatemala City, Guatemala
- 28/05/04 - 30/05/04 1st FIBA Women's World League 2004, Preliminary Round, Group B in Sao Paolo, Brazil

JUNE 2004

- 02/06/04 - 12/06/04 Centrobasket Junior Women 2004 in Guatemala
- 07/06/04 - 12/06/04 9th European Promotion Cup Men in Andorra

JUNE 2004

- 14/06/04 - 19/06/04 U20 South American Championship for Men 2004 in Ancud, Chile
- 19/06/04 - 24/06/04 17th U18 Asian Championship for Women 2004 in China

STAY TUNED

MEETING CALENDER

MAY 2004

- 03/05/04 - World Council for Basketball for Persons with a Disability in Alcobendas, Spain
- 05/05/04 - World Finance Council in Geneva, Switzerland
- 14/05/04 - 16/05/04 7th Board and 2nd General Assembly of FIBA-Europe in Prague, Czech Republic

JUNE 2004

- 12/06/04 - 13/06/04 Central Board of FIBA in Paris, France

02 2004

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