

ASSISTNEWS

FIBA ASSIST NEWSLETTER A BIMONTHLY COMMUNITY UPDATE DECEMBER 2004 / JANUARY 2004



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FIBA'S WEB

A new addition to the FIBA website is the Andrew Gaze column. The fivetime Olympian for his native Australia has now put his skills on paper rather than on the court. Gaze's column has gained nopularity and so far has had 5 column stories. Go to www.fiba.com to read the column and place your comments.

> Rudy Fernandez, one of the biggest prospects from Spain.



We Are Basketba

WHAT'S IN STORE

FIBA ORGANIZER

As the world governing body of basketball, FIBA's goal is to further develop and grow basketball around the world, and within its' 212 national federations. An initiative in FIBA's long term strategy is to develop management tools in order to help ensure that national federations are able to better oversee their organization.

The management tool that is currently being developed by FIBA is a software which will be complimentary distributed to every national federation. This software consists of a database program where information regarding all competitions, statistics, players, coaches, referees, contacts etc. can be entered and be uploaded on to a website.

The software also includes a variety of functions to maintain the database for competition schedules, results, memberships (licensing), printing reports etc. That national federation can enter the information and have the possibility to offer the data, not only the FIBA family, but to all basketball fans. National federations will have their own website, not only including data from the software but the federations will be able to manage the website.

For more information regarding this project, please contact the Development Department, Mr Zoran Radovic (radovic@ fiba. com), Mr Anicet Lavodrama (lavodrama @fiba.com) or the IT Manager, Mr Wolfram Klug (klug@fiba.com). ■

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FIBA U19 & U21 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2005

In 2005, the major FIBA competition to look forward to is the youth world championships next summer in Tunisia and Argentina. The qualifiers for both tournaments are complete, with a very competitive list of the national teams.

The FIBA U21 World Championship will be played in Mar del Plata, Argentina, with the following teams:

Argentina (host), Australia, Canada, Greece, Iran, Israel, Lithuania, Nigeria, China, Puerto Rico, Slovenia, USA

The FIBA U19 World Championship for Women will be played in Hammamet and Nabeul, Tunisia, July 15 – 24, 2005 with the following teams:

Australia, Canada, Hungary, China, Korea, Puerto Rico, Russia, Serbia & Montenegro, Spain, Tunisia, USA, 1 berth (Africa)



Australian young superstar, Andrew Bogut, has already confirmed his participation in the U21.

The draw for the championship will take place "Palais des sports d'El Menzah" which is where the logo for the competition will be introduced.

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ASIAN NEWS FIBA ASIA LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE.

After the website being under construction for some time, the FIBA Asia website is up and running. Keeping in line with FIBA's new branding, FIBA Asia's, website has been redesigned. The website offers the latest news on the Zones' competitions, basketball rules and officiating rules are available for download, there is also a picture gallery and the calendar. To view the new website: www.fibaasia.net

FIBA'S WORLD

JAPAN IS GETTING READY FOR 2006



The 5 hosting cities for the 2006 FIBA World Championship have recently been visited by a FIBA delegation. The purpose of the visit, which signaled the kick off for the final phase for the preparation of the world's most important basketball event, was an inspection of the 5 sports venues and the infrastructure such as team hotels and local transport in Japan.

The FIBA group had a mammoth schedule in traveling across Japan in just five days and visiting the hosting cities Hamamatsu, Hiroshima, Sapporo, Sendai, and Saitama. FIBA Sports Director Lubomir

facilities were fully satisfactory."

The capacity of the arenas in the Preliminary Round range between 5.000 and 6.000 seats, the Final Round in the Saitama Super Arena will accommodate 22.000 fans. FIBA Event Director Paul Stimpson commented about the spectator capacity: "The venues we saw are a perfect fit for our championship and they are all very well maintained and fully functional for basketball. Small adjustments have to be made in some cities, but in general we are very comfortable with the facilities. The location of the venues and their spectator capacities go alongside with the goal of the LOC to promote the sport all over the country and have full arenas."

The tour also included a visit at the headquarters of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) in Tokyo. Eighteen months before the championship kicks off on 19th August 2006, all staff has been hired for the major sectors of the event management and a general concept for the event marketing has been developed. The LOC will focus its ticket sales to the Japanese market and projects an 80% sale of the total public ticket contingent.

The FIBA World Championship in Japan 2006 will see 24 teams from 5 continents, so far only host Japan and Olympic Champions Argentina are qualified. The remaining teams have to go through a grueling qualification phase in summer 2005, where their ranking at the continental championships will decide on their spot for Japan. 2006 will also see a novelty – 4 teams will receive a wild card from FIBA which will be based on sporting results and economic criteria. The draw for the four groups of six will be held as early as December 2005.

FIBA World Championship - Quick Facts:

The FIBA World Championship is played every 4 years and determines the best basketball nation of the world. The first World Championship was played in 1950 in Argentina and has been organized 14 times since. Yugoslavia is leading the role of honor with 5 gold medals followed by the Soviet Union and USA with 3 gold medals each. The 2002 FIBA World Championship was played in Indianapolis, USA, when Yugoslavia won gold and Argentina silver. The host country finished with an unexpected 6th place. It was the first time a USA team represented by NBA players lost a game in this competition.

The FIBA inspection team in the Hamamatsu Arena.



The Saitama Super Arena will host the final round of the championship.



Kotleba: "The visit was addressing a lot of details – the venues including all their supporting facilities, the television and media arrangements, the team hotels, the local transport between the four cities of the Preliminary Round and Saitama and security. The trip was organized perfectly and the



OCEANIA NEWS AUSTRALIAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

The first competition for FIBA Oceania in 2005 is the Australian Youth Olympic Festival. The opening ceremony will be held at the Sydney Olympic Park on January 19, 2005. The event has 15 participating sports, including basketball which will be played from 20th – 23rd of January at the Hills Basketball Stadium in Castle Hill. For more information go to www.fibaoceania.com



FIBA'S WORLD

TURKEY 2010!

"Meet where the continents meet", that was the slogan of the winning bid project for the 2010 FIBA World Championships.

At FIBA's most recent Central Board meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the Central Board decided that Turkey would host the 2010 World Championship.



The Turkish General Director of Youth and Sports, Mr Mehmet Atalay together with FIBA Asia Secretary General Dato' Yeoh Choo Hock and TBF President Turgay Demirel.

The Central Board voted on three candidates, France, a combined bid from Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia & Herzegovina and the final candidate and

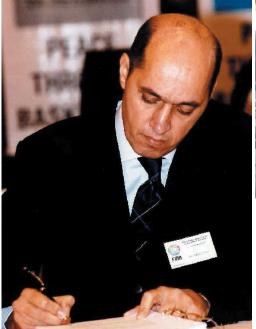
winner, Turkey. According to the proposal from Turkey, the 2010 World Championship will be played in the cities of Antalya, Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir.

Turgay Demirel, the President of the Turkish Basketball Federation stated after the announcement: "This is a big day for Turkey. We are delighted to host the FIBA

World Championship in 2010. We will make the World Championship the most prestigious and important sports event in the year 2010. We will start our global promotion campaign in cooperation with all continental organizations of FIBA after the Beijing Olympics in 2008."

The decision was preceded by a presentation from each bidding country and a report by a FIBA Evaluation Commission, headed by FIBA's first Vice President Bob Elphinston. "All three bids

were exceptionally good. This was a very difficult decision for the Board, but at the same time it showed the big interest from our members to host our prime event."



in France, Portugal and Spain.



Above: The Turkish delegation was accompanied by 26 journalists, which showed the vivid interest in the country winning the 2010 bid.

On the left: TBF President Turgay Demirel signing the host federation agreement.

BUSINESS CORNER FIBA TV PRESENT IN BEIJING, CHINA

FIBA TV was recently present at the 2004 Annual International Sports Marketing Forum that was held in Beijing from the 10th -12th of December.

Paul Stimpson, Head of FIBA TV, was one of the guest speakers along with speakers from the Beijing Olympic Committee, FIFA, UEFA, Sportfive, Prescient Marketing,



CCTV, Samsung, Volkswagen China, SOHU.com and a host of other companies involved with sports marketing in China.

The FIBA presentation centred on the recent globalisation of FIBA and included not only the development of the new FIBA worldwide branding but also the centralisation of the FIBA and FIBA Zones television and selected marketing rights. The presentation also referred to the great success of the Athens Olympics Basketball competition. Basketball was the most viewed TV sport in China at the Athens Olympics and is the most popular sport in the country.

There were over 300 delegates present at the Forum which included representatives from television and the written media as well as Chinese sport marketing companies, Beijing National Olympic sponsors and other companies investigating on how to best develop their future involvement in sports. The presentation was received very positively by the delegates and has initiated various discussions related to television, marketing and other future opportunities.

The FIBA Television Department will return to Asia in March of next year when they will be present at the Sportel Hong Kong Television show. ■

AFRICAN NEWS ELECTIONS IN ANGOLA On 4th December 2004 the Basketball Federation of Angola has carried out its elections for a new Board. Following this, GUSTAVO DIAS VAZ DA CONCEIÇÃO has been confirmed as new President for the 2005 – 2008 term of office. As Vice President a very well known sports figure of African basketball has been elected: JEAN-JACQUES CONCEIÇÃO who has played for his home country in the 1992 Olympics, in the FIBA World Championships in 1990 and 1994, and in many African Championships. At his last international appearance at the African Championship in Egypt in 2003 he helped to qualify his country for the 2004 Olympics in Athens. He also pursued a professional career with clubs





DON'T GET DISCONNECTED

FIBA DIRECTORY CHANGES

Singapore Basketball Federation New Address:

Singapore Basketball Centre 601 Aljunied Crescent #01-04 Singapore 389862

Ruben Magnano

Ruben Magnano who led the Argentinean men's team to silver medal at the FIBA World Championships in 2002 and to the gold medal at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games has signed with Italian club Varese as head coach. Magnano is currently in discussions with the Argentine Basketball Federation (CABB) regarding the possibility to combine both head coaching duties.



NAMES AND FACES

Nowitzki Top Scorer

German sensation Dirk Nowitzki was ranked top scorer of the NBA for several weeks after he scored a personal best of 53 points in a game against the Huston Rockets on 2nd December 2004. He is currently ranked 3rd in overall points per game with 26.0, behind Kobe Bryant and Allen Iverson. He is ranked in the top 10 of no less than 19 statistical categories of the league and is one of the hot candidates for MVP this season.



Anselmo Lopez dies at age 94

Anselmo Lopez, the "Father of World Mini Basketball", passed away at the age of 94 on

December 14, 2004 in his hometown Madrid, Spain. He was one of key members within the FIBA family. Lopez represented Spain as a player and a coach and was the Federation president from 1966-1971. He also received the highest FIBA award, the FIBA Order of Merit in 1994 in Toronto, Canada and has been an Honorary Life member of FIBA.

Mainini, Muratore and Saez elected President

French Basketball Federation President Yvan Manini has been re-elected during the Federation board meeting on December 11, 2004, which was held at the French Olympic Committee headquarters in Paris. Horacio Muratore is to remain President of the Argentinean Basketball Confederation for four more years, the ABC's general assembly has confirmed on 28th November at is meeting in Buenos Aires. Jose Luis Saez, former vice-president of the Spanish Federation was elected President at the Spainsh Federation General Assembly on November 20, 2004 at the Hotel Melia Castilla in Madrid, Spain. All three Presidents have been elected for a four year term.



Above: Dirk Nowitzki On the left: Ruben Magnano

On the right: From the left: Mr Yvan Mainini, Mr Horacio Muratore and Mr Jose Luis Saez.







EVENT CALENDER

Deaflympics Games in Melbourne, Australia

19/01/05 - 23/01/05

3rd Australian Youth Basketball Festival 2005

in Sydney, Australia

FEBRUARY 2005

9th South American League for Men's Clubs 2005

MARCH 2005

Draw for the 4th FIBA U21 World Championship for Men in Mar del Plata, Argentina

Tba South American Championship for Women

18/03/2005

Draw for the 6th FIRA II19 FIRA World Championship for Women in Nabeul, Tunisia

19/03/05 - 24/03/05

FIBA Africa Clinic for International Referees in Tripoli, Libya

MEETING CALENDER

21/01/05 - 22/01/05

FEBRUARY 2005

MARCH 2005

Tba

APRIL 2005 27/04/05 - 2<u>8/04/05</u>

World Technical Commission

in San Juan, Puerto Rico

Board of FIBA-Europe

FIBA Central Board in Geneva, Switzerland

FIBA Medical Council in Paris, France

06 2004

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FIBA'S WORLD

CENTRAL BOARD MEETING IN KUALA LUMPUR

Strengthened Governance Model for FIBA and Innovative Regulations for Federation-League **Relations**

The Central Board meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 4th and 5th December 2004, decided on the host for the 2010 FIBA World Championship (see related article), but also discussed two important proposals affecting FIBA's structures: the future FIBA Structure and Governance in view of the 2006 Congress and the Regulations on the relations between Federations and Leagues.

FIBA Statutes

The Central Board acknowledges, that FIBA is a sport-political organization that combines sporting values with the need for business-oriented management principles and tools to meet the increasing organizational, sporting, and commercial requirements and interests.

The following principles have been approved by the Central Board in relation to the FIBA Statutes and are now submitted to the FIBA Commission for Legal

Matters to include them in its work when it prepares the amendments to the FIBA Statutes for the 2006 World Congress.

- 1. The role of Congress as supreme authority with a decisive role remains unchanged.
- 2. The definition and composition of FIBA remains unchanged (Article 1 of FIBA Statutes).
- 3. The role of Central Board as the decisive body between sessions of Congress remains unchanged and is reinforced.
- 4. The Zones are autonomous in matters of continental nature, but remain bound by the FIBA Statutes, by the FIBA Internal Regulations and decisions of the Congress and the Central Board.
- 5. The composition of the Central Board remains similar with the following adaptations and principles:
 - **a.** The Presidents of Zones must be members
- b. The Women representation shall not decrease from current level in order to quarantee a gender balance.
- c. Zone Secretaries General and FIBA Secretary General
- i. All Zone chief administrators to have the same title as "Secretary General"
- ii. All Secretaries General to have the same role and responsibilities in their Zones as the FIBA Secretary General in current Statutes
- iii. Zones are responsible for selecting their Secretaries General either by appointment or election.
- iv. To ensure continuity appointment or election should be for two 4-year terms at least.
- v. No voting rights at policy setting bodies of Zones or Central Board, but mandatory attendance.

- d. Quotas per Zones unchanged (in proportions)
- e. Rotation of FIBA Presidency unchanged.
- 6. The frequency of the Congress to stay the same, but FIBA contribution will be studied to increase attendance rates of member national federations.
- 7. The frequency of the Central Board meetings to remain unchanged, but evaluate need for Urgency Committee

Regulations Governing League Organisations

We introduced in the last Assist Newsletter edition of October-November 2004 the working document produced by the Special Working Group. The Central Board approved this work, amending it on a few points. Those texts and the approved amendments were submitted to the Commission for Legal Matters at its meeting in Geneva mid-December 2004. The text hereafter is the draft regulation prepared by the Legal Commission that will return to the Central Board for its final approval at a meeting in spring 2005. Therefore as work is still in progress, there might still be changes in the final applicable Internal Regulations.

The Board also agreed on the proposal made by the Special Working Group to introduce a dispute resolution mechanism allowing the Central Board to take decisions to solve conflicts between parties. The Legal Commission has not yet worked on this point.

Finally, the Central Board also approved the proposal made by the Special Working Group to create a permanent FIBA (World) Forum to exchange views and detect trends in leagues and national federations.

Here is the proposed text from the Legal Commission:

1. Definition

A League is an entity which organises and manages an approved club competition.

Leagues may exist at national, continental, or intercontinental level.

Continental leagues and intercontinental leagues are hereinafter also referred to as "international leaques".

2. Recognition of Leagues

- 2.1 A League organised wholly within the national boundaries of a country shall require recognition by the respective National Federation affiliated with FIBA (World).
- 2.2 A continental League organised wholly within the geographic area of one of the FIBA Zones shall require recognition by the respective FIBA Zone.
- 2.3 An intercontinental League drawn from across the geographic boundaries of two or more of the FIBA Zones shall require recognition by FIBA (World) Central Board.
- 2.4 Recognition is granted under the condition that these Regulations are respected in their entirety.

3. Key Principles in the Relationship Between Leagues and FIBA (World), the FIBA Zones, and the **National Federations**

3.1 A League shall respect the authority of FIBA (World) as the sole competent authority for men's and



Top photo: The FIBA **Central Board** meeting was very well organized by Dato Yeoh Choo Hock and the Basketball Federation of Malaysia.

Bottom photo: FIBA President Carl Men Ky Ching.

women's basketball throughout the world, recognised as such by the International Olympic Committee.

- **3.2** A League shall respect the authority of the respective FIBA Zone, as delegated to it by FIBA (World).
- **3.3** A League shall respect the authority of the respective National Federation of FIBA (World) as the sole competent authority for men's and women's basketball in its country, as recognised by FIBA and by the respective National Olympic Committee.
- **3.4** A League shall respect FIBA (World) General Statutes and Internal Regulations, and those of respective FIBA Zones and National Federations. Where there is any conflict, the Statutes, Regulations, etc. of FIBA (World) shall prevail.
- **3.5** In order to ensure permanent lines of communication, a League should be "represented" at national and or international levels as appropriate.
- **3.6** Non-compliance with the provisions of this Regulation may lead to the suspension of the National Federation and/or the withdrawal of the recognition of the League.
- **3.7** Any exceptions to this Regulation, or any permanent changes to it, can be approved by FIBA (World) Central Board only.
- 3.8 It is generally acknowledged that economical questions related to the management of a League shall be solved by the League and its clubs exclusively, unless otherwise agreed by the parties. Sporttechnical questions are generally managed by the federative structure, in particular nomination of referees and disciplinary processes. Unless parties agree otherwise, it is recommended that those two sporttechnical aspects remain responsibility of the federative structure.

4. Detailed Provisions Governing Recognition of Leagues

- **4.1** A League shall not operate in a manner which brings discredit to FIBA (World), the FIBA Zones, the National Federations, or the sport of basketball in general.
- **4.2** Provided that a League respects and observes the provisions of this Regulation and the other FIBA Internal Regulations, and also those of the respective Zone and National Federation as applicable, it shall be free to operate as best suits its own interests.
- **4.3** The competition that a League is managing and organising at national level shall qualify its top team/s through the National Federation to the corresponding international competition organised by the appropriate body of FIBA or by an international League recognised by FIBA.
- **4.4** All League Clubs must be affiliated with the National Federation of the country in which they are domiciled, and ensure also that their players are licensed by that National Federation.
- **4.5** All League Clubs must play in the official national championships.
- **4.6** Where an existing League, which operates wholly within the geographic boundaries of a country, agrees to admit up to two teams from another country in the same Zone into the existing league structure,



then that League may continue to operate as though it continues to be wholly within the geographic boundaries of the National Federation where it was founded, subject to the agreement of both National Federations and subject also to the general supervision of the respective FIBA Zone.

- 4.7 The League shall use only referees and commissioners from the list of national referees and commissioners approved and published by the National Federation or, if the League is an International League, those from the approved and published list of FIBA (World) referees and commissioners.
- 4.8 A League shall respect and observe the FIBA (World) harmonised calendar.
- **4.9** A League shall respect and observe the FIBA (World) Official Basketball Rules and Mechanics of officiating, and will further assist FIBA (World) in adapting these Rules.
- **4.10** A League shall respect the rules of the National Federation for the transfer of players within its own geographic boundaries, and also the FIBA (World) Internal Regulations governing the International Transfer of Players, including the special provisions affecting

young players as contained in section 4.3.2 of these Regulations

- **4.11** A League shall respect FIBA (World) Regulations governing Players' Agents, and also those of the National Federation where these have been established.
- **4.12** A League shall encourage and allow its players to participate in the Official Competitions of FIBA as members of national teams in accord with section 4.4.3 of the FIBA Internal Regulations governing the International Transfer of Players.
- **4.13** A League shall enforce a reasonable antidoping testing regime. It shall also enforce the antidoping regulations of the National Federation and/or those prescribed by the national government and its agencies, and also the Internal Regulations of FIBA governing Doping Control see Regulation 6.
- **4.14** To the extent to be negotiated in good faith by each of the parties, a League shall contribute financially to the development of grassroots activities, to the national team program, and to the costs of services the National Federation may provide to the League. Similar arrangements apply to International Leagues.



Photo top: FIBA Secretary General Patrick Baumann, FIBA President Carl Men Ky Ching and FIBA first Vice President Bob Elphinston.

Photo middle: Julio Subero with Horacio Muratore and President Ching.





FIBA Africa President Dr. Alain Ekra.