FIBA MID-TERM ACTIVITY REPORT 2019-2021

FIBA Mid-Term Congress
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*All pictures featured in this report have been taken either prior to the pandemic or are respecting the COVID-19 measures in place at the time.
AT FIBA, we aspire to attract as many people as possible to basketball and to become the most popular sports community in the world; this is our vision. For that reason, the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019 – right after my election as FIBA President – was such a source of satisfaction and encouragement regarding the global development of the sport.

For me personally, it was a huge honor to be there as your new elected President. I accepted this responsibility with humility and the promise to dedicate myself fully to FIBA to serve the interests of our beloved sport across all corners of the world.

As the biggest World Cup ever staged, it highlighted the growth of basketball with 32 teams involved and more countries taking part from different continents. Moreover, we saw huge interest from TV and social media with record-breaking results. I remain grateful to the Local Organizing Committee and the host cities for their efforts, and also to President Xi of the People’s Republic of China, whose presence at the Opening Ceremony was a great honor.

2019 was also a pivotal year in the growth of women’s basketball. We saw the implementation of the new women’s national competition system, with the FIBA Women’s Olympic Pre-Qualifying Tournaments played in Africa, the Americas and Asia-Oceania. Twenty-two teams were competing for a spot in the Qualifying Tournaments for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, with all 32 games streamed live. This new competition system will help the development of women’s basketball, and so too with the FIBA 3x3 Women’s Series which was also launched in 2019. It is not only about having more female players on the court, though; we also want more women involved in basketball through administration and management.

Therefore, the election of Carol Callan as the first female President for the Americas was a significant moment too. It demonstrated for me that we are in line with what we say – we now have six seats filled by women on the Central Board and two on the Executive Committee, all providing insight and influence.

There were further steps forward in 2020. We approved new rules for additional female referee FIBA licenses and an obligation to have a female coach in women’s youth events, as well as seeing the launch of Adelaide and WLEAD, programs to guide the next generation of female leaders. If you provide opportunities and create pathways for women in basketball, I firmly believe you will also bring everybody behind them – families and communities.

A central objective of my tenure is to enlarge the global basketball community and my belief is that 3x3 basketball will play a vital role in attracting many people as possible. This discipline has already grown dramatically over the last five years, notably with its inclusion in the Olympic Games program for Tokyo 2020, which offers smaller basketball countries such as Mongolia a precious opportunity to take part in a major global event.

The fact that FIBA succeeded in completing the 3x3 World Tour 2020 – albeit in a scaled-down format with five events – certainly underlined our commitment to this discipline. I was proud that we could execute not just that event but many others in 2020, despite the unprecedented challenges brought about by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

FIBA was one of the first International Federations to take drastic measures at the beginning of the pandemic. In February, we moved all of the FIBA Women’s Olympic Qualifying Tournaments from Foshan (China) to Belgrade (Serbia) and were able to organize it professionally and safely for our players within nine days.

After our decision the following month to suspend all FIBA competitions, and further to the announcement of the new dates of the Olympic Games in 2021, we then managed, with the efforts of our FIBA Family, to approve – in just nine days – an adapted calendar for the next three years.

With the health and safety of all participants the top priority, we saw the successful staging of the November 2020 and February 2021 windows of the FIBA Continental Cup Qualifiers. These two windows were a huge achievement thanks to the continuous implementation of extensive precautionary measures, developed by the FIBA Medical Commission after consulting with the World Health Organization and the NBA. A concerted effort by FIBA HQ together with all FIBA’s National Offices demonstrated once again our capacity to organize operations safely on such a large scale during difficult times.

FIBA has consistently held successful bubble-based events since the start of the pandemic, in addition to continental qualifiers, these events include the FIBA 3x3 World Tour and several club competitions, for example the Basketball Champions League, in Europe and in the Americas, or EuroLeague Women.

In short, FIBA has been able to deliver safe competitions on all continents and, for this, we owe thanks to the Medical Commission, the Competitions Commission and other experts for their preparatory work; and to the Central Administration and management.

I write this in May 2021, at a time when we have just seen the historic launch of the Basketball Africa League – FIBA’s collaboration with the NBA, and a new stage, we hope, for some magnificent basketball spectacles. And there will be no shortage of opportunities so that all voices and communities are represented. There are many things that the FIBA Family has achieved in this regard. Our rotating continental presidency ensures a voice for all. We have invested significantly across the globe via initiatives like the Basketball For Good programs. In March 2020, we reviewed and strengthened FIBA’s internal integrity and ethics policies, including the appointment of the first FIBA Integrity Officer. Yet, only three months later, we took fresh action with a pledge to work with our Players’ Commission to develop concrete action against racism in basketball and issued a message encouraging the members of our basketball community to write to FIBA and share their experiences and ideas.

“The promise to dedicate myself fully to FIBA to serve the interests of our beloved sport across all corners of the world.”

Board, the Executive Committee and the Zone Boards for their invaluable decision-making. Furthermore, FIBA introduced new events such as the FIBA U17 Skills Challenge and the FIBA Esports Open, along with publishing more than 250 webinars for National Federations, players, coaches, game officials and others supporting their development and learning activities.

But all this wouldn’t have been possible without a fantastic effort by the whole basketball family, with our National Federations at the centre, which I would like to heartfully thank for their commitment to keep our sport alive during these challenging times.

In the middle of 2020, we asked ourselves within the FIBA Executive Committee another important question: “Is FIBA doing enough to combat racism?” We are a global organization that has already undertaken initiatives targeting inclusivity, equality and greater representation, yet we must always seek to identify where we can do more for the basketball community.

As a proud African serving as FIBA President, I know how important it is that we provide people of all ethnicities and backgrounds with equal opportunities so that all voices and communities are represented. There are many things that the FIBA Family has achieved in this regard. Our rotating continental presidency ensures a voice for all. We have invested significantly across the globe via initiatives like the Basketball For Good programs. In March 2020, we reviewed and strengthened FIBA’s internal integrity and ethics policies, including the appointment of the first FIBA Integrity Officer. Yet, only three months later, we took fresh action with a pledge to work with our Players’ Commission to develop concrete action against racism in basketball and issued a message encouraging the members of our basketball community to write to FIBA and share their experiences and ideas.
FOREWORD: ANDREAS ZAGKLIS

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ANDREAS ZAGKLIS
FIBA SECRETARY GENERAL

NOTWITHSTANDING THE MYRIAD DISRUPTIONS and ongoing challenges resulting from the 2020 global pandemic, FIBA remains resolute in our desire to continue driving all aspects of the game of basketball to new heights.

Only a few months after the FIBA Congress 2019, we were faced with one of the most significant challenges in our 89-year history, a global pandemic that severely impacted our lives. It strongly affected all sports activity, both at local and regional level, and impedes international travel for the better part of the year 2020 and the first months of 2021. The basketball community showed a great level of collaboration and solidarity, setting clear priorities: the health of the participants, the integrity of our sport, the protection of our competitions and the continuation of implementing our strategy to the benefit of the National Federations.

While the impact of the pandemic is not yet behind us, there is certainly a sense of pride and accomplishment that we need to share as FIBA Family.

The operational capacity and quality decision-making exhibited by our organization has improved both our credibility and standing within the Olympic Movement and society in general. You will read in more detail throughout this Activity Report the steps that FIBA took, often faced with unpredictable health developments and inconclusive scientific data, to safeguard the health of the players, protect the competitions, and maintain a solid financial and commercial position for itself and its members.

During this time, we adapted ourselves, our organization and our programs accordingly, and in today’s new digital working world, we are perhaps closer than ever to the National Federations. Through the wide use of video conferences and calls.

Despite the impact and challenges of the global pandemic, we are fully focused on the strategy and direction adopted by the last FIBA Congress.

This growth program collectively endorsed, underpinned by our mission, our vision, and our values – Smart, Progressive, Open, Responsible, Together – revolves around eight strategic objectives for the 2019-2027 cycle that will guide FIBA and our 213 National Federations. Critically, the Central Board and the Congress have identified three of these strategic objectives as priorities for 2019-2023:

- Empower National Federations
- Women in Basketball
- Enlarge FIBA Family

The full implementation and execution of these priority objectives, together with ongoing work on the remaining five strategic objectives, will ensure basketball remains one of the world’s most dynamic and popular sports as we continue along our development journey.

I am pleased to report significant progress is being made in all areas of our business and especially on the three priority objectives, with FIBA staff at our HQ and in our five Regional Offices reaching new levels of efficiency and harmonious collaboration, for an even improving service to the National Federations.

In addition, other important stakeholders, including players, coaches and officials, as well as our commercial, innovation and broadcast partners across the world, continue to embrace our plans and work with us, remaining well aware of the significant opportunities as our growth program is realized.

Throughout this report, you will read more about the specific detail of our plans and what our programs have delivered to date, but I would like to provide a snapshot look at some of the outcomes of our three strategic priorities.

EMPOWER NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

We have long been aware of the importance of our National Federations, hence our genuine desire to strengthen and empower them. We continue to see on a daily basis the importance of quality leadership at all levels, and we believe the development programs we have instituted, or are about to implement, across our National Federations will ensure they are managed and staffed by innovative, forward-thinking people capable of delivering world’s best practice when it comes to organizing, professionalizing and commercializing basketball.

Our FIBA PLUS development program has already onboarded to the program approximately 500 National Federations, with a new National Federation onboarded to the program approximately every two weeks, that enabling administrators in specific countries to better understand planning processes in order to drive growth. What’s more, in 2021 we will see the launch of the FIBA Academy, which will complete the picture, so that the National Federations have two identifiable platforms under which the development (FIBA PLUS) and educational programs (FIBA Academy) are delivered to them by the FIBA Regional Offices around the world.

WOMEN IN BASKETBALL

Our long-held understanding of the importance that women play in all aspects of basketball, coupled with the spectacular growth of women’s sport across the globe in recent years, made the decision to prioritize our Women in Basketball Strategy a logical one.

We are thrilled with the way our esports project took off and continues to grow with three FIBA Esports Open competitions organized in less than a year, demonstrating impressive growth in the participating National Federations between the first (17) and third (60) edition. We believe this initiative, and others, including our involvement in emerging platforms for content delivery, thanks to our partnership with Twitch, will add enormous value to our game, starting with new, younger audiences.

Later this year, the basketball family will cast their eyes to Tokyo, Japan, to watch one of FIBA’s most successful innovations reaching Olympic acclaim: 3x3 basketball makes its exciting debut as an Olympic discipline. Seeing countries compete for medals in 3x3 for the first time, alongside those competing in the traditional men’s and women’s basketball events, will only underscore our belief that basketball is at the cutting-edge of global sport and has unlimited potential.

Over the next two years we will be called to deliver at the highest level our two primary tournaments – the FIBA Women’s World Cup Australia 2022 and the FIBA Basketball World Cup Philippines – Japan 2023. There is no doubt that a lot of hard and coordinated work is awaiting us, but we have proven capable of reaching the high objectives we have set.

Although we must continue to tread with a degree of caution in these challenging times, we are confident that by implementing and executing our strategic objectives and delivering top-class competitions we shall remain well and truly on track to see basketball retain its place at the top of the global sports hierarchy, thus enabling administrators in specific countries to attract even more females to the game.

ENLARGE FIBA FAMILY

Looking in and implementing our third prioritized strategic objective was also an obvious choice in a sports world where FIBA can be the leader in embracing innovation and private initiative within its federative traditional structures.

Expanding our boundaries and opening our doors to new partners, new ideas, new systems and new ways will help us all grow. We are thrilled with the way our esports project took off and continues to grow with three FIBA Esports Open competitions organized in less than a year, demonstrating impressive growth in the participating National Federations between the first (17) and third (60) edition. We believe this initiative, and others, including our involvement in emerging platforms for content delivery, thanks to our partnership with Twitch, will add enormous value to our game, starting with new, younger audiences.

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FOREWORD: ANDREAS ZAGKLIS
Born on July 9, 1925, in the city of Bihac, in modern-day Bosnia and Herzegovina, Stankovic studied veterinary medicine at the University of Belgrade, combining his education with a flourishing basketball career. He played for Crvena Zvezda – or Red Star – from 1946 to 1948, winning two national titles, and then represented two other Belgrade clubs, Zeleznicar and Partizan.

On the international stage he appeared for Yugoslavia 36 times between 1948 and 1953, including at the inaugural FIBA Basketball World Cup in 1950 in Buenos Aires – where he played at center for his nation in the 10-team tournament.

Stankovic went on to achieve coaching success with OKK Belgrade, leading them to four national titles. Fluent in several languages, he was also the first foreign coach to lead a team to the Italian title, a feat accomplished with Cantu in 1968.

FIBA Secretary General Andreas Zagklis said: “Whether as participant to the first World Cup game in 1950, as organizer of the first World Cup taking place in Europe (Yugoslavia, 1970) or as leader of the International Basketball Federation for a quarter of a century, Mr. Stankovic will always be one of the most important figures in the history of our sport. We are eternally grateful to him for all he did, without which FIBA would not be where it is today.”

STANKOVIC WILL ALWAYS BE ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT FIGURES IN THE HISTORY OF OUR SPORT. WE ARE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL TO HIM FOR ALL HE DID, WITHOUT WHICH FIBA WOULD NOT BE WHERE IT IS TODAY.”

ANDREAS ZAGKLIS FIBA SECRETARY GENERAL

In the 27 years he served as FIBA Secretary General between 1976 and 2002, Borislav Stankovic left a lasting impression on our sport, raising the standards of club and international competition around the world.
Internationale de Basketball. In his autobiography – The Game of My Life, published by the Serbian Basketball Federation – Stankovic wrote of how the Barcelona 1992 Olympic Games had sparked a surge of interest in basketball. “After the Olympics,” he said, “millions of children all over the world watching all that basketball talent on the court were inspired to bounce the ball on the floor rather than kick it.”

According to Stern, Stankovic held the view that “all roads led to interactions with the NBA”. Looking back in 2012 on that vital relationship between the two men, Stankovic himself reflected: “There always was a respect between us, a respect of the rules. There was a common idea that we needed to work together for the good of basketball in spite of having very different interests. His was that NBA become a global

One lesson from the senior man was that “when you’re responsible for something worldwide, you have to make sure that everyone can follow you and not just the strongest”. Another concerned the need to act together: “Mr Stankovic always said it’s a team sport,” said Baumann, “and there needs to be a pleasure of being together to accomplish great things.”

Stankovic took that ethos into his engagements with the then NBA Commissioner, David Stern, in the 1980s and 1990s. Stankovic believed that “you can only get better by playing against the best”, and so with Stern he lobbied for a unified sport. Hence the creation of the McDonald’s Open in 1987, which gave European club and national sides a chance to compete against the best of the NBA. Speaking at the first edition in Milwaukee, Stankovic said: “FIBA considers this tournament an experiment to open up new horizons of the basketball globe and a major step forward towards basketball unity through the world.” In the second edition, in Madrid in 1988, he would see his old national side, Yugoslavia, take on the Boston Celtics, Scavolini Pesaro and hosts Real Madrid.

The overall aim was to have professional players at the Olympics and, to this end, in 1989 the FIBA Congress dropped the word “Amateur” from its name as the Federation Internationale de Basketball Amateur became the Federation Internationale de Basketball. In his autobiography – The Game of My Life, published by the Serbian Basketball Federation – Stankovic wrote of how the Barcelona 1992 Olympic Games had sparked a surge of interest in basketball. “After the Olympics,” he said, “millions of children all over the world watching all that basketball talent on the court were inspired to bounce the ball on the floor rather than kick it.”

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As a member of the International Olympic Committee, Stankovic sat on or chaired numerous IOC and international sporting committees and commissions. Yet basketball was his great love. He was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1991, and received the FIBA Order of Merit in June 2015 and the Olympic Order in 1985.

The former Yugoslavia and Serbia coach Dusan Ivkovic remembers a poignant encounter with Stankovic at the Acropolis Cup event in 2019. “His vision wasn’t that good anymore, but he was there,” he said. “Although he couldn’t see players, he was there to feel the court, to hear the fans, to hear the ball. Unbelievable love and a whole life dedicated to the basketball. And, of course, to his family.”

Stankovic, who died in Belgrade, is survived by one daughter, two granddaughters and two great-grandchildren.
DAVID STERN

One of basketball’s greatest leaders and innovators, NBA Commissioner Emeritus David Stern passed away in January 2020 aged 77.

AS ITS COMMISSIONER from 1984 to 2014, David Stern was responsible for overseeing the unprecedented growth of the NBA, turning it into a worldwide phenomenon – one televised in more than 200 countries and territories. Under his tenure, the league was expanded to 30 teams, while the value of each franchise, as well as the salaries of coaches and players, soared – helped, in no small part, by the record-breaking TV contracts that were signed with the leading broadcasters.

Arguably Stern’s career high point, though, occurred across the Atlantic in Barcelona in 1992, when he saw the United States’ Olympic gold medal-winning basketball team “feted like a combination of the Beatles, the PHHarmonics and The Beatles”. It was a moment, he added, that “launched the globalization of the game”.

The impact of that 1992 ‘Dream Team’, featuring Michael Jordan, ‘Magic’ Johnson and Larry Bird, was to fuel worldwide interest in basketball, and it was the product of Stern’s constructive relationship with the then FIBA Secretary General, Borislav Stankovic. Shortly after becoming NBA Commissioner, Stern had made contact with Stankovic at a basketball convention in Milan. Both men shared a wish to see the NBA’s best teams compete against other league champions. They also shared a wish to see NBA players play for their national teams – which would enable professional players to compete at the Olympics.

Three years into his tenure, Stern organized the staging of the first McDonald’s Open with the aid of Stankovic and regularly attended the annual NBA/WWBA all-star wheelchair game. After stepping down from his post in 2014 and being succeeded by Adam Silver, he was named NBA Commissioner Emeritus.

Stem’s contribution to his sport earned recognition from the International Olympic Committee in 2012 with the award of the prestigious Olympic Order, which he received during half-time at the men’s Olympic Basketball Final. He was later inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2014 and the FIBA Hall of Fame in 2016. Speaking at FIBA Headquarters during the latter ceremony, he said: “I am proud of my collaboration with Borislav Stankovic to unite and strengthen basketball on a global basis.”

David Stern passed away on January 1, 2020. He had suffered a sudden brain haemorrhage 20 days earlier.

KOBE BRYANT

The world of basketball lost one of its all-time greats with the death of a USA legend in January 2020.

NEAR THE END Of Dear Basketball, the poem with which Kobe Bryant announced his retirement as a player in 2016, he wrote: “I’ll always be that kid/ With the rolled up socks.” To the watching world, he was that and so much more – USA basketball team member, LA Lakers hero, five-time NBA champion, two-time Olympic gold medalist. His sudden death in a helicopter crash on January 26 last year, aged just 41, together with his 13-year-old daughter Gianna and seven other passengers, sent out a deep and lasting shudder.

Bryant was a global figure. Born in 1978 in the basketball hotbed of Philadelphia, he was raised – for seven of his formative years – in Italy, though it was to Los Angeles that his precocious talent took him, in 1996, for the start of his 20-year career as a Laker. His popularity transcended the NBA – he was adored, for instance, in China where he was an ambassador for the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019 – and it transcended his sport too. He was a cultural and fashion icon. That farewell poem he penned even inspired an Oscar-winning animated film.

Son of a former NBA player, Joe Bryant, the young Kobe was six when his family moved to Italy where his father continued to play professionally. Grateful for his basketball education there, Bryant would later speak of the different approach to basketball schooling the European players received. “I wasn’t learning the between-the-legs, behind-the-back stuff,” he said. “I was learning tactical things like moving without the ball or making the fundamentally sound passes, left hand, right hand.” Just as he remembered Italy, so Italy remembered him: on the first anniversary of his death a square in Reggio Emilia, where he had played youth basketball between 1989 and 1991, was renamed in honour of him and Gianna.

Bryant enjoyed a glittering NBA career, winning five titles in all with the Lakers and being named 18-times All-Star, while his record in the international arena was no less impressive. In 2007, he started in all 10 of the USA’s games on their way to winning the FIBA Americas Cup and, the following year, he made his Olympic debut in Beijing. Showing sparkling form through the tournament, Bryant scored 13 points in the final quarter of the Gold Medal Game against Spain, and it was his late four-point play that propelled USA to an 118-107 victory.

Four years later, Bryant returned to the Olympic stage in London, playing another pivotal role as Team USA secured a second consecutive gold medal. Among the highlights were 20 second-half points in the Quarter-Final win over Australia, and another stellar performance in the Gold Medal Game where the defending champions once again got the better of Spain.

Off court, he was a mentor to other athletes. He supported women’s basketball, including players such as Australia’s Liz Cambage, and coached Gianna; they were travelling to a junior basketball tournament the day they died.

In his role as ambassador for the 2019 FIBA Basketball World Cup he was continuing a personal connection with Chinese basketball, which had begun with coaching clinics there in the late 1990s. The sport’s international dimension was something he embraced. “My first lessons in how to play the game were taught to me by Italian coaches, and basketball back then wasn’t as global as it is now. For it to come full circle, for me to be an ambassador of the game, to try to help spread the beauty of the game, particularly FIBA, is extremely important. It’s important for fans all over the world to see how beautiful this game is.” Because of Bryant, so very many did. Bryant loved basketball and the game loved him back.
2019-2021 AT A GLANCE

AUGUST 2019
XXI FIBA World Congress took place in Beijing, with the election of a new president and formation of the central board, executive committee and all commissions.

JUNE-AUGUST 2020
New initiatives introduced, such as FIBA Esports Open, FIBA Skills Challenge and the FIBA PLUS development program for National Federations.

MARCH 2020
Sydney, Australia, was announced as the host of FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup 2022.

NOVEMBER 2020 & FEBRUARY 2021
FIBA Continental Cup Qualifiers successfully executed in COVID-secure bubbles.

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2019
32 teams across eight host cities made FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019 in China the biggest ever.

MAY 2021
First-ever official FIBA competition held at FIBA’s Headquarters, with the return of the FIBA 3x3 Women’s Series, while the inaugural Basketball Africa League is launched with 12 teams – in partnership with the NBA.
LANDMARK WORLD CUP BREAKS NEW GROUND

The FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019 marked a new era for the sport with huge levels of interest and fresh forms of engagement.

“HISTORY WILL RECORD THAT 2019 WAS THE YEAR THAT THE FIBA BASKETBALL WORLD CUP CAME INTO A NEW ERA.”

ANDREAS ZAGKLIS
FIBA SECRETARY GENERAL

The FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019 concluded at Beijing’s Wukesong Sport Arena on September 15, 2019 with Spain triumphing 95-75 over Argentina to secure a second world title. Yet they were not the only ones with cause for celebration. With a larger field of 32 teams up from 24, this expanded edition featured 92 games across 16 days and generated unprecedented levels of interest and excitement. The Final alone had a total global reach of 160 million.

“History will record that 2019 was the year that the FIBA Basketball World Cup came into a new era,” reflected Andreas Zagklis, FIBA’s Secretary General, of an event that broke viewing and engagement records. For Zagklis, it was a milestone moment that had been 10 years in the making, following a multi-dimensional program of review, analysis and change designed to give the tournament “maximum impact”. And it began in November 2017 with 80 nations entering a ground-breaking qualifying campaign. Where previously entry had been decided by finishing positions in the Continental Cups, FIBA now established a format with national teams facing each other home and away, and this ensured greater visibility and more opportunities for interaction with the basketball community.

A total of 1.7 million spectators attended the Qualifiers, 150 of which were sell-outs. Some countries had not played a competitive home game for a decade and, as an example of the enthusiastic response, a crowd of 23,500 attended the Philippines v Australia qualifier in Manila. With FIBA undertaking the responsibility for the centralised TV production of all games, there was live TV coverage in more than 150 markets and this was supplemented by a global social media reach of 2.2 billion. With these figures, Zagklis was not exaggerating when he described the Qualifiers as “the biggest event we have ever put in place in our 90-year history”.

Fresh media and marketing strategies helped fuel anticipation in China – and the sense of a World Cup on a bigger scale – in the lead-up. The draw on March 16 in Shenzhen unfolded in front of an audience of 8,000 and featured a performance by US singer-songwriter Jason Derulo. He went on to sing the official FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019 anthem, ‘Champion’ featuring Chinese soul singer Tia Ray.

With the excitement building, there were Tissot countdown clocks in every host city and a range of promotional activities given star power by the involvement of three greats of the game in their roles as global ambassadors for the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019: Yao Ming, Chairman of the Chinese Basketball...
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Basketball World Cup

As for the action on the court at the 18th Basketball World Cup, holders and five-time winners USA ended in their lowest-ever position of seventh after a defeat in the Quarter-Finals by France (79-89). The French fell in turn to Argentina (66-80) in the Semi-Finals, the South Americans’ Luis Scola scoring 28 points and 13 rebounds on his way to becoming only the second player to reach the competition’s 700-point milestone.

Spain ended Australia’s ground-breaking run to the last four with a double-overtime victory (95-88) in the other Semi-Final. There was no consolation prize for the Australians in the Third-Place Game, which France won 87-59 for their second consecutive third-placed finish. On to a Final which, for the first time, featured a bespoke game ball – a limited edition version of the Molten BG5000, FIBA’s official tournament ball – and nobody made better use of it than Spain’s point-guard Ricky Rubio, who scored 20 points. The Tissot MVP ended the tournament with a record 130 assists and, together with teammate Marc Gasol, a veteran of Spain’s 2006 world title victory, featured in the All-Star Five along with Scola, Spain’s 2006 world title winner, teammate Marc Gasol, a veteran of Spain’s 2006 world title victory, and Dirk Nowitzki.

A bigger World Cup meant working with more commercial partners and they played a significant part too. With the support of Aeroflot, the Official Airline of the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019, the Naismith Trophy was taken on a Trophy Tour – a global journey starting from Beijing on May 23, 100 days before the tournament’s start. Within China, FIBA joined forces with Wanda, one of our key global partners, in launching the ‘Little Champions’ program aimed at capturing the hearts of the next generation of fans by giving over 1,000 youngsters the chance to step on to the court as player escorts. Such activations helped strengthen existing partnerships – during the tournament, Wanda renewed its commitment as a global partner until 2023.

As the action on the court came to its conclusion, FIBA saw a massive increase in its global reach, with a 50.4% increase in global TV reach, with an 80% increase in total cumulative average TV audience from 2014 edition. More than 70 million viewers watched the most-watched sports program of 2019 on Chinese TV, including: 20.5 million TV and 50.4 million online.

With a now stronger presence in China, and offices in Beijing, FIBA has been able to work with partners, old and new, in creating a World Cup legacy. Beijing Enterprises Group Company Limited (BEI), a FIBA global partner, opened the FIBA BG Basketball Academy in the Chinese capital in 2018, where FIBA Level 1 Coaches Courses are now being taught. More recently, at the start of January 2021, FIBA signed a cooperation agreement with Walmonos Sports that will introduce a FIBA training and certification system, in collaboration with the World Association of Basketball Coaches (WABC), to ‘coach the coaches’ and promote the development of Mini Basketball.

As for the future, FIBA has agreed an expanded global partnership of FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019, 2031, while Ganten, the Official Supplier of the tournament, Wanda renewed its commitment as a global partner until 2023. With a now stronger presence in China, FIBA has been able to work with partners, old and new, in creating a World Cup legacy. Beijing Enterprises Group Company Limited (BEI), a FIBA global partner, opened the FIBA BG Basketball Academy in the Chinese capital in 2018, where FIBA Level 1 Coaches Courses are now being taught. More recently, at the start of January 2021, FIBA signed a cooperation agreement with Walmonos Sports that will introduce a FIBA training and certification system, in collaboration with the World Association of Basketball Coaches (WABC), to ‘coach the coaches’ and promote the development of Mini Basketball.

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As the action on the court came to its conclusion, FIBA saw a massive increase in its global reach, with a 50.4% increase in global TV reach, with an 80% increase in total cumulative average TV audience from 2014 edition. More than 70 million viewers watched the most-watched sports program of 2019 on Chinese TV, including: 20.5 million TV and 50.4 million online.

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A CHALLENGE LIKE NO OTHER

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the landscape of sport entirely. Yet starting with a swift early response, FIBA has found solutions, showed leadership and innovation and – above all – done the utmost to uphold the safety and wellbeing of all involved in basketball.

WHEN THE SEVERITY OF the coronavirus outbreak became clear, FIBA was the first Olympic International Federation to call a general suspension of its competitions – a decision announced on March 12.

After this initial response, basketball’s governing body moved quickly once more after the International Olympic Committee’s (IOC) announcement of new dates for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games – within nine days FIBA had an amended international calendar for the next three years, which was duly announced on April 9. Then, by mid-May, after discussions with the IOC, FIBA confirmed that the rescheduled men’s FIBA Olympic Qualifying Tournaments would take place between June 29 and July 4, 2021, in order to allow more time for the national leagues to complete their play-offs.

Thanks to strong protocols developed in conjunction with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the NBA, basketball did return – both in national leagues and internationally, with FIBA staging in September the FIBA 3x3 World Tour Hungary Masters 2020 in Debrecen and Basketball Champions League Qualifiers in Cyprus and Bulgaria. These were followed, from September 30 to October 4, by the Basketball Champions League Final 8 in Athens, and then the 2023 FIBA Basketball World Cup European Pre-Qualifiers, FIBA AfroBasket Pre-Qualifiers and FIBA U18 African Championships. The FIBA Intercontinental Cup, meanwhile, was held as a single-game Final event in Buenos Aires in February 2021, with Hereda San Pablo Burgos from Spain crowned champions against Quimsa from Argentina.

INSIDE THE ‘BUBBLES’

To conclude the Continental Cup Qualifiers, FIBA dispersed with the home-and-away format and placed teams into groups across a range of venues in bio-secure hubs (‘bubbles’) with tournaments staged in November 2020 and February 2021.

FIBA’s Medical Commission developed precautionary measures after consultation with the WHO and held 18 webinars to highlight the COVID-19 protocols to the hosts, participating National Federations and local authorities. In the November window, all players and team members had to present two negative COVID-19 tests before traveling to the bubbles – with one test no later than 72 hours before the departure and the other one five days previously. Participants were tested again upon arrival. More than 5,000 PCR tests were submitted before traveling and more than 4,000 organized on site. Thanks to these efforts, only four games were postponed due to COVID-19 positive cases.

Overall, the November window saw 78 qualifying games, involving 72 teams and 870 players from around the world playing across 15 different cities in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe. In February 2021, there were 83 qualifying games featuring 74 teams and 943 players staged across 14 different cities in five continents. Thanks to the bio-secure bubbles, FIBA EuroBasket 2022 qualification was completed while 13 of the 16 teams booked berths at the FIBA AfroBasket 2021 and all 12 countries for the FIBA AmeriCup 2022 were confirmed. Qualification for the FIBA Asia Cup 2021 will be completed by the summer of 2021. Over the two windows in November and February more than 18,000 PCR tests were conducted overall.

FIBA took an identical approach with the second and third windows of the FIBA Women’s EuroBasket 2021 Qualifiers – also held in November 2020 and February 2021. There were 54 games played in 13 separate bubble tournaments, featuring 607 players from 32 different national teams. Overall, 3,212 tests were taken on site across the two windows with just 15 of them (0.47%) positive.

INNOVATIVE MEASURES

Amid the global shutdown, FIBA took its educational mission online. Its Regional Offices published webinars for National Federations, players, coaches, game officials and others to support them in development and learning activities. This included coaching clinics from the World Association of Basketball Coaches (WABC), which were available to view on FIBA’s YouTube channel and WABC social media platforms. Impressively, in a two-month period in the middle of 2020, more than 250 webinars were produced, with over 150 National Federations and 80,000 individuals taking part.

FIBA took an innovative approach in response to the postponement of the U17 World Cups, creating new events where teams could compete against each other remotely under COVID-19 regulations, in particular focusing on skills development. It established the FIBA U17 Skills Challenge for both boys and girls and also invested in esports, organizing two editions of the FIBA Esports Open.

FIBA sought further digital engagement with basketball fans by launching the #FirstBasket campaign to provide a positive message for the day basketball returned and holding voting campaigns for the Dunk of the Decade and Assist of the Decade. FIBA started streaming classic games from various competitions daily on its social media platforms and also live streamed action from a number of domestic leagues (Australia, France, Japan, Mali, Philippines, Slovenia, Switzerland) on its YouTube channel.

MEN’S CONTINENTAL CUP QUALIFIERS

18,000 PCR tests conducted over two windows

161 COVID-secure qualifying games played

18 educational webinars hosted by the Medical Commission for NFs and participants
AFRICAN VENTURE UNDERSLINES VALUE OF NBA COOPERATION

FIBA and the NBA continue to work together in a joint effort to combat the pandemic, as highlighted by the launch of the Basketball Africa League.

FIBA’S STRONG COOPERATION with the NBA dates back decades and remains as significant as ever. The passing in the past calendar year of FIBA Secretary General Emeritus Borislav Stankovic and former longstanding NBA Commissioner David Stern stirred memories of the pair bringing the two bodies closer for the betterment of basketball (see pages 10-14).

Today, more than these decades later, the partnership between FIBA and the NBA remains fruitful – be it in collaborating on the launch of the Basketball Africa League (BAL) or on the calendar changes necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. FIBA Secretary General Andreas Zagklis and NBA Deputy Commissioner Mark Tatum – an NBA representative on FIBA's Central Board and FIBA Executive Committee member – larded closely, for instance, on the rescheduling of the postponed Olympic Qualifying Tournaments, acquiring IOC approval to stage them in late June 2021 to ensure as many NBA players as possible would be available to play for their countries. The NBA and FIBA also held several rounds of discussion on 2021-22 NBA season, which started late due to the pandemic with a reduced regular season schedule (72 games, down from 82) and with the play-offs finishing in time prior to the start of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

Prior to that, FIBA had worked with experts from the NBA, as well as the World Health Organization and various National Federations, when preparing its restart guidelines after the pandemic had brought the sport to a halt. This pause meant the postponement of the inaugural 2020-21 NBA season, which was due to run from March to May across six African countries, with the Final Four scheduled for June in the Rwandan capital Kigali. Instead the BAL tipped off on May 16, 2021.

The BAL represents a new era for club basketball in Africa, with the NBA collaborating with FIBA for their first league outside North America. It has the benefit of a high-profile Global Ambassador in two-time NBA All-Star and 2012 Olympic Luol Deng. Other building blocks include an exclusive on-court...
THE FIBA HALL OF FAME recognizes men and women for their outstanding achievements and contributions or extraordinary dedication and service to the sport at international level.

The Hall of Fame was established in 2007 to coincide with FIBA’s 75th anniversary. It was set up as a shrine dedicated to those who have played critical roles in elevating basketball on the global stage.

Legendary Spanish coach Pedro Ferrandiz initially approached FIBA in 1990 with the idea of preserving and celebrating the heritage of international basketball. About a decade later he suggested the creation of a FIBA Hall of Fame to celebrate the history and legacy of basketball and its protagonists.

“ ‘The Hall of Fame represents a monument to the members of the basketball family,’ said Ferrandiz, who is considered the ‘father’ of the Hall of Fame.

Players and coaches are eligible for Hall of Fame induction. Administrators and other contributors receive the FIBA Order of Merit and referees are honored with the Radomir Shaper award.

The induction of the 2020 class was deferred because of the COVID-19 pandemic. A ceremony to induct the 2020 and 2021 classes will be held virtually on June 18, 2021.

Class of 2020

Players
Isabelle Fijalkowski (France), Mieczysław Lopatka (Poland), Steve Nash (Canada), Agnes Nemeth (Hungary), Park Shin-ja (Korea), Modestas Paulauskas (Lithuania), Kenichi Sako (Japan), Alexander Volkov (Ukraine), Jure Zdovc (Slovenia)

Coaches
Ruben Magnano (Argentina), Svetislav Pesic (Serbia), Tara VanDerveer (United States of America)

Class of 2021

Players
Mathieu Faye (Senegal), Hana Horakova (Czech Republic), Stanislav Kropilak (Slovakia), Oscar Moglia (Uruguay; posthumously), Detlef Schrempf (Germany), Penka Stoyanova (Bulgaria; posthumously), Sergey Tarakanov (Russia), Panagiotis Giannakis (Greece), Haixia Zheng (China)

Coaches
Chuck Daly (United States of America; posthumously), Tom Maher (Australia), Ettore Messina (Italy)
The United States won their seventh U19 world title, but only after holding off a strong challenge from Mali in the Final. Ricky Rubio, the MVP, played a key role in the Final in Beijing, scoring 20 points, and declared afterwards: “I’ve enjoyed this like a little boy.” Rubio and teammate Marc Gasol featured in the All-Star Five, alongside Luis Scola of runners-up Argentina, whose quest for a first World Cup title since 1950 goes on. France finished third for the second successive tournament after a 67-59 success against Australia in the Third-Place Game.

Spain emerged victorious from the enlarged 32-team event in China after overcoming Argentina 95-75 in the Final. Ricky Rubio, the MVP, played a key role in the Final in Beijing, scoring 20 points, and declared afterwards: “I’ve enjoyed this like a little boy.” Rubio and teammate Marc Gasol featured in the All-Star Five, alongside Luis Scola of runners-up Argentina, whose quest for a first World Cup title since 1950 goes on. France finished third for the second successive tournament after a 67-59 success against Australia in the Third-Place Game.

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A thrilling Final between Australia and the United States concluded the Bangkok event, held July 20-28, 2019. The unbeaten USA claimed a 78-74 overtime victory to take their seventh title in eight attempts – with a sizeable helping hand from TISSOT MVP Paige Bueckers, who contributed 17 points, eight rebounds and five assists. Bueckers led the tournament for assists and was joined in the All-Star Five by teammate Rhyne Howard. Australia’s Alexandra Fowler, Lola Pendance of third-placed Spain and Billie Massey of first-time semi-finalists Belgium completed the line-up.
February 2020 brought the FIBA Women’s Olympic Qualifying Tournaments to settle the field for Tokyo 2020. With berths already assured for Olympic hosts Japan and FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup holders USA, Canada led the way in Ostend, where hosts Belgium also advanced for the first time. Puerto Rico were the other first-time qualifiers after finishing in the top three in Bourges behind hosts France and Australia. Serbia’s capital, Belgrade, hosted the two other tournaments – one after it was moved from China due to the pandemic. From Group A, Serbia and Nigeria progressed, while China, Spain and Korea qualified from Group B.

FIBA WOMEN’S OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT, BELGIUM FEBRUARY 6-9, 2020

1. Canada
2. Belgium
3. Japan

MVP EMMA MEESEMAN, BELGIUM

FIBA WOMEN’S OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT, FRANCE FEBRUARY 6-9, 2020

1. France
2. Australia
3. Puerto Rico

MVP SANDRINE GRUDA, FRANCE

FIBA WOMEN’S OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT, SERBIA FEBRUARY 6-9, 2020

1. USA
2. Serbia
3. Nigeria

MVP NNEKA OGWUMIKE, USA

GROUP A

GROUP B

MVP MENG LI, CHINA

1. China
2. Korea
3. Korea
GLOBAL GROWTH OF 3x3 REFLECTED BY 2019 RECORD

A new FIBA 3x3 Women’s Series and an overall climb to 91 events marked out 2019 as the biggest year yet for the discipline, prior to basketball’s COVID-ensured halt.

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<td><strong>DOHA MASTERS</strong></td>
<td><strong>DEBRECEN MASTERS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16–19; Doha (Qatar)</td>
<td>August 29–30; Debrecen (Hungary)</td>
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<td>1. Riga (LAT)</td>
<td>1. Liman (SRB) 2. Utsi (LTU) 3. Riga (LAT)</td>
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<td><strong>FIBA 3x3 ASIA CUP</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FIBA 3x3 WOMEN’S SERIES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FIBA 3x3 WORLD TOUR</strong></td>
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<td>May 22–26; Changsha (China)</td>
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<td><strong>FIBA 3x3 WOMEN’S SERIES</strong></td>
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**2020**

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<td><strong>FIBA 3x3 WOMEN’S SERIES</strong></td>
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<td>September 14–16; Udine (Italy)</td>
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<td>1. France 2. Netherlands 3. Italy</td>
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<td><strong>LAS ANGELES MASTERS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>September 20–21; Los Angeles (USA) 1. Princeton (USA) 2. Liman (SRB)</td>
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**2021**

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<td><strong>JEDDAH FINAL</strong></td>
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<td>December 18–19; Johannesburg (South Africa)</td>
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**SNAPSHOTS**

FIBA 3x3 U23 World Cup, meanwhile, was the nation’s first in basketball.

Thoughts turned to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games in November 2019 with the awarding based on the FIBA 3x3 Federation Ranking of eight berths for the discipline’s inaugural Olympic event – to Serbia, the Russian Olympic Committee, China and Japan (men); and the Russian Olympic Committee, China and Mongolia and Romania (women). With the Olympics’ postponement, the two qualifying events to decide the other eight spots were rescheduled to May–June 2021. Amid the cancellations, however, there was some positive news, with FIBA saving the FIBA 3x3 World Tour 2020 season, which comprised five events including the Jeddah final.

**FIBA 3x3 WOMEN’S SERIES**

**TURIN STOP**

June 14–15; Turin (Italy)

1. France 2. Italy 3. USA

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**EUROPE MASTERS**

**BUCHAREST FINALE**

August 10–11; Bucharest (Romania)

1. Canada 2. Russia 3. Poland

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**TOKYO STOP**

September 20–21; Tokyo (Japan)

Nigeria dug deep to retain their FIBA Women’s AfroBasket title at the expense of hosts Senegal. Playing in front of 15,000 fans at a sold-out Dakar Arena – African basketball’s biggest-ever crowd – they prevailed 60-55, but only after Senegal drew level in the last quarter. “It’s entrenched in our DNA to be ready for a tight game, make smart decisions and take care of the ball and that’s what we did,” said coach Otis Hughley Jr of his unbeaten team, which included MVP Ezinne Kalu. History was repeated for Mali too, claiming third place as in 2017.

USA won their second continental crown and, in the process, denied Canada a hat-trick of titles with a 67-46 victory in the FIBA Women’s AmeriCup 2019 Final. The Americans benefitted from the experience of veteran Sylvia Fowles, the tournament MVP who scored 12 points in just 17 minutes of Final action – leaving her with an average of 13.2 along with 7.8 rebounds from the September 2019 event. With Canada’s 17-game winning streak ending, Jamie Scott contributed 12 points and seven rebounds in a losing cause in San Juan where the Final spectators had earlier seen home hopefuls Puerto Rico beaten to third place by Brazil.

As in 2015, Japan overcame China in the Final of the FIBA Women’s Asia Cup 2019, although their fourth straight continental crown did not come easy – with Japan leading 71-68, China’s Shao Ting saw a shot bounce off the front of the rim in the final seconds. Japan had earlier trailed by 10 points in the first half before a fightback featuring 24 points and eight assists from point guard Nako Motohashi, the MVP. Teammate Yuki Miyazawa joined her in the All-Star Five in Bengaluru, India, along with China’s Shao Ting and Xu Han, and Rebecca Allen of third-placed Australia.

Spain became the first defending champions since the Soviet Union in 1991 to retain the European title as they secured a fourth FIBA Women’s EuroBasket 2019 at an edition co-hosted by Latvia and Serbia. As in 1993, 2013 and 2017 they beat France in the Final, winning 86-66 as they built on the momentum generated by a 71-66 Semi-Final win over Serbia. “We felt free after the game against Serbia,” said Spain coach Lucas Mondelo, who saw Marta Xargay lead the way in the Belgrade final with 23 points to join her teammate Astou Ndour, the MVP, in the All-Star Five.
CONTINENTAL QUALIFIERS PROVE A SUCCESS DESPITE PANDEMIC

It required a significant operational effort but the vast majority of Qualifiers for the Continental Cups went ahead as planned in November 2020 and February 2021. Staff at FIBA’s Headquarters, as well as the Regional Offices in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania, all contributed in the face of the challenges brought by COVID-19, overseeing 161 games across the two windows.

In November there were 78 games played by 72 teams split between 15 protected environment bubbles across the world; in February, 83 games involving 74 teams took place in bubbles across 14 different cities. Only 12 games in total failed to go ahead.

In the FIBA AmeriCup Qualifiers, Venezuela qualified as winners of Group A, ahead of the 2019 FIBA World Cup silver medallists Argentina, and had the best defensive record with 66.3 points against per game. Brazil and the USA were the first two qualified teams in the region, and the latter ended with the highest points-per-game average (93.3).

Lebanon and Bahrain were the first teams to join hosts Indonesia in securing tickets to the FIBA Asia Cup, taking the top two places in Group D – in Lebanon’s case with six straight wins recorded.

Liz Mills made FIBA AfroBasket history as the first female coach to lead an African men’s team to the continental finals with a Kenya side who had been absent from the Finals since 1993 but who highlighted their improvement with a 74-73 victory over 11-time African champions Angola in Group B. In Europe, Slovenia, the holders, made it 14 consecutive appearances while Bulgaria won through to the Final Round for the first time in a decade. Denmark, with Gabriel Lundberg achieving an unsurpassed individual PPG average of 25.3, highlighted their progress by coming within one basket of a first-ever Final Round appearance.

The four hosts of FIBA EuroBasket 2022 – Czech Republic, Germany, Georgia and Italy – qualified automatically as hosts.

**QUALIFIED TEAMS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>AFRICA/FIBA AFROBASKET (14/16 TEAMS)*</th>
<th>AMERICAS/FIBA AmeriCup (12 TEAMS)</th>
<th>ASIA/FIBA ASIA CUP (3/16 TEAMS)*</th>
<th>EUROPE/FIBA EUROBASKET (24 TEAMS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda, Angola, Congo DR, Costa Rica, Cape Verde, Kenya, Mali, South Sudan, Tunisia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Egypt, Guinea, Nigeria, Senegal</td>
<td>Argentina, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Uruguay, Virgin Islands, Canada, Colombia, Panama, Puerto Rico, USA, Venezuela</td>
<td>Indonesia, Bahrain, Lebanon</td>
<td>Czech Republic, Georgia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Germany, Italy, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Great Britain, Israel, Lithuania, Russia, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Remaining games due to be completed in June 2021.
YOUTH CONTINENTAL COMPETITIONS 2019-2021 (JUNE)

**Africa 2019**
- FIBA U16 AFRICAN CHAMPIONSHIP
  - June 3-9; Bilem (Brazıl)
    1. USA 2, Canada 3, Dominican Republic

- FIBA U16 WOMEN’S AFRICAN CHAMPIONSHIP
  - June 16-22; Asyén (Chile)
    1. USA 2, Canada 3, Chile

- CENTROBASKET U17 CHAMPIONSHIP
  - July 24-28; San Juan (Puerto Rico)
    1. Mexico 2, Puerto Rico 3, Bahamas

- CENTROBASKET U17 WOMEN’S CHAMPIONSHIP
  - July 7-11; San Juan (Puerto Rico)
    1. Mexico 2, Puerto Rico 3, Dominican Republic

- FIBA SOUTH AMERICAN U17 CHAMPIONSHIP
  - November 25 – December 1; Santiago (Chile)
    1. Brazil 2, Argentina 3, Uruguay

- FIBA SOUTH AMERICAN WOMEN’S U17 CHAMPIONSHIP
  - November 4-10; Barranquilla (Colombia)
    1. Colombia 2, Brazil 3, Argentina

- COCABA U14 CHAMPIONSHIP
  - November 6-10; Managua (Nicaragua)
    1. Panama 2, Costa Rica 3, El Salvador

**Europe 2019**
- FIBA U16 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
  - Division A
    - July 24 – August 4; Volos (Greece)
      1. Spain 2, Turkey 3, Slovenia
  - Division B
    - July 26 – August 4; Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
      1. Italy 2, Hungary 3, France
  - Division C
    - July 28 – August 4; Andorra la Vella (Andorra)
      1. Cyprus 2, Monaco 3, Albania

- FIBA U16 WOMEN’S EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
  - Division A
    - August 3-11; Klaipėda (Lithuania)
      1. Italy 2, Russia 3, France
  - Division B
    - August 3-11; Priština (Kosovo)
      1. Bulgaria 2, Finland 3, Ireland

- FIBA U17 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
  - Division A
    - August 9-17; Udine (Italy)
      1. Spain 2, France 3, Italy
  - Division B
    - August 9-17; Podgorica (Montenegro)
      1. Poland 2, Netherlands 3, Denmark
  - Division C
    - July 14-21; Tirana (Albania)
      1. Luxembourg 2, Andorra 3, Wales

- FIBA U17 WOMEN’S EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
  - Division A
    - August 23-30; Skopje (North Macedonia)
      1. Russia 2, Lithuania 3, Spain
  - Division B
    - August 20-24; Sofia (Bulgaria)
      1. Slovenia 2, Portugal 3, Croatia
  - Division C
    - July 16-21; Chisinau (Moldova)
      1. Cyprus 2, Georgia 3, Scotland
FIBA CLUB COMPETITIONS

Africa

BASKETBALL AFRICA LEAGUE QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS
October 16 – December 22, 2019
(These tournaments qualified the 8 teams to the upcoming BAL)

Division East
1. Patriots BBC (RWA)
2. Gendarmerie Nationale Basketball Club (MAD)
3. Ferroviario Maputo (MOZ)

Division West
1. Groupement Sportif des Pétroliers (ALG)
2. Forces Armées et Polices (CMR)
3. AS Polices (MLI)

Asia

FIBA ASIA CHAMPIONS CUP
September 24-29, 2019; Bangkok (Thailand)
1. Alvark Tokyo (JPN)
2. Al Riyad (KSA)
3. Naft Abadan (IRI)
MVP: ALEX KIRK
(ALVARK TOKYO)

FIBA EUROPE CUP
April 23-25, 2021; Final Four, Tel Aviv (Israel)
1. Ironi Ness Ziona (ISR)
2. Arged BMSLAM Stal (POL)
3. CSM CSU Oradea (ROU)
4. BC Parma (ITA)
MVP: THAD MCFADDEN
(HEREDA SAN PABLO BURGOS)

Europe

CLUB COMPETITIONS 2019-2020
The 2019-20 season’s FIBA Europe Cup, EuroLeague Women and EuroCup Women were cancelled and there were no champions. All clubs that were in the Quarter-Final stage at the time the competitions were suspended received ranking points for reaching the Quarter-Finals as per Regulations.

CLUB COMPETITIONS 2020-2021
The 2020-2021 season’s FIBA Europe Cup, EuroLeague Women and EuroCup Women each concluded in April with Final Four competitions. In order to protect the health of all participants, the FIBA Europe Board decided to organize the competition in hubs with a modified format.

Americas

FIBA SOUTH AMERICAN WOMEN’S LEAGUE FOR CLUBS
May 16 – June 2, 2019
1. Copa de la mujer (BRA)
2. Quimsa (ARG)
3. LUMS (ECU)
MVP: TATIANA MOSQUERA
(COPACABANA DE ANTIOQUIA)

FIBA SOUTH AMERICAN LEAGUE FOR CLUBS
November 1 – December 15, 2019
1. Botafogo (BRA)
2. Sport Club Corinthians Paulista (BRA)
3. Pinheiros (BRA)
MVP: CAUE BORGES
(BOTAFOGO)

Basketball Champions League

Basketball Champions League Americas

2020
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2020 FINAL 8
September 30 – October 4; Athens (Greece)
1. Heredia San Pablo Burgos (ESP)
2. AEK (GRE)
3. JDA Dijon (FRA)
MVP: VITOR BENITE
(HEREDA SAN PABLO BURGOS)

2021
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2021 FINAL 8
May 5-9; Nizhny Novgorod (Russia)
1. Heredia San Pablo Burgos (ESP)
2. Pinar Karsiyaka (TUR)
3. Casademont Zaragoza (ESP)
MVP: RAFEL HETSHEIMER
(FLAMENGO)

Basketball Champions League Europe

2020
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2020 FINAL 8
September 30 – October 4; Athens (Greece)
1. Heredia San Pablo Burgos (ESP)
2. AEK (GRE)
3. JDA Dijon (FRA)
MVP: WAYNE SELDEN
(IRONI NESS ZIONA)

2021
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2021 FINAL 8
May 5-9; Nizhny Novgorod (Russia)
1. Heredia San Pablo Burgos (ESP)
2. Pinar Karsiyaka (TUR)
3. Casademont Zaragoza (ESP)
MVP: BRANDON ROBINSON
(QUIMSA)

MVP: THAD MCFADDEN
(HEREDA SAN PABLO BURGOS)

MVP: RAFAEL HETSHEIMER
(FLAMENGO)
FIBA Intercontinental Cup

2020
FIBA INTERCONTINENTAL CUP 2020
February 7-9; Tenerife (Spain)
1. Iberostar Tenerife (ESP)
2. Segafredo Virtus Bologna (ITA)
3. San Lorenzo de Almagro (ARG)
4. Rio Grande Valley Vipers (USA)

2021
FIBA INTERCONTINENTAL CUP 2021
February 6; Buenos Aires (Argentina)
1. Hereda San Pablo Burgos (ESP)
2. Quimsa (ARG)

MVP
MARCELINHO HUERTAS
(IBEROSTAR TENERIFE)

MVP
VITOR BENITE
(HEREDA SAN PABLO BURGOS)

FIBA U17 SKILLS CHALLENGE 2020
PRACTICE PAYS OFF AS MONGOLIA SHINE

In August 2020 Mongolia were crowned inaugural winners of this event, created as an opportunity for competition in the face of travel restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Teams competed remotely, with the lower score winning, and Mongolia set the only double-digit score in defeating Bulgaria 99-124 in the Final. Bolor Erdene Gantsolmon, the TISSOT MVP, described his older brother, national-team player Gan Erdene, as his “big inspiration”. The reaction in Mongolia (which has a population of just 3 million) was very positive, Gantsolmon adding: “Nowadays, everyone says ‘Look! There are the world champions!’”

FIBA U17 WOMEN’S SKILLS CHALLENGE 2020
YOUTHFUL CHINA EDGE PAST POLES

China’s victory came via a thrilling 119-119 win over a Poland team that had defeated them in the group phase. They were inspired by their youngest member, TISSOT MVP Li Qingyang, who turned only 15 a week later. Li draws her own inspiration from a Kobe Bryant quote about the secret of his success, which he told a group of young basketballers during a trip to China. Li knows it off by heart: “Have you seen Los Angeles at 4am? I see it often because that’s when I start training.” While her early starts paid off, Spain claimed third place with a 130-162 win over Lithuania.

MVP
LI QINGYANG,
CHINA

MVP
BOLOR ERDENE GANTSOLMON,
MONGOLIA

SNAPSHOTS

FIBA MID-TERM ACTIVITY REPORT 2019-2021
FIBA ESPORTS OPEN I 2020
ITALY DO IT THE HARD WAY AS FIVE TRIUMPH IN INAUGURAL ESPORTS OPEN

The first FIBA Esports Open was a three-day event in June 2020 involving 17 national teams from across FIBA’s regions, each competing against opponents from their own conference: Oceania, South East Asia, the Middle East, Europe and South America. Australia, Argentina, the Philippines and Saudi Arabia won their respective conferences while, in the Europe Conference, Italy defeated eight European rivals to finish a point clear of runners-up Spain. Each team consisted of up to seven members, playing remotely using NBA 2K’s Pro-AM mode.

WINNERS

EUROPE CONFERENCE
1. Italy

OCEANIA CONFERENCE
1. Australia

SOUTH AMERICA CONFERENCE
1. Argentina

MIDDLE EAST CONFERENCE
1. Saudi Arabia

SOUTH EAST ASIA CONFERENCE
1. Philippines

100 Destinations to which the games were broadcast

5 MILLION Views on FIBA’s and National Federations’ social media channels

1.4 MILLION Unique viewers on the Spanish federation’s Twitter account

WINNERS

AFRICA CONFERENCE
1. Côte d’Ivoire

MIDDLE EAST CONFERENCE
1. Saudi Arabia

SOUTH EAST ASIA/OCEANIA CONFERENCE
1. Australia

EUROPE CONFERENCE
1. Turkey

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE
1. USA

SOUTH AMERICA CONFERENCE
1. Argentina

WINNERS

AFRICA CONFERENCE
1. Côte d’Ivoire

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (CURRENT-GEN)
1. Barbados

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (NEXT-GEN)
1. Dominican Republic

SOUTH AMERICA CONFERENCE
1. Uruguay

38 Number of countries taking part in the tournament

1. Wendi Fleming (USA) became the first female player to compete at the FIBA Esports Open

17 Number of countries in the Europe Conference, the biggest field, with North and Central America next with seven

WINNERS

AFRICA CONFERENCE
1. Côte d’Ivoire

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (CURRENT-GEN)
1. Egypt

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (NEXT-GEN)
1. Saudi Arabia

SOUTH EAST ASIA CONFERENCE
1. Philippines

EUROPE CONFERENCE (CURRENT-GEN)
1. Russia

EUROPE CONFERENCE (NEXT-GEN)
1. Turkey

FIBA ESPORTS OPEN III 2021
NEW CHAMPIONS CROWNED AS POPULARITY BOOMS

An expanded third edition saw the world’s best NBA 2K21 players represent 60 teams across six conferences. To reflect the changing esports landscape, both the North and Central America and Europe Conferences were split into two divisions, one for current-generation consoles (PS4) and one for next-generation consoles (PS5). Saudi Arabia were the only team able to defend their title, with the Philippines taking the South East Asia Conference after Australia victories in Esports Open I and II, Uruguay’s final victory over Brazil ending Argentina’s dominance in South America, and Egypt beating Africa’s defending champions Côte d’Ivoire in their final – although Turkey, unbeaten in Esports Open II, did claim the inaugural next-gen crown in Europe. Russia were also crowned European champions, overcoming Latvia to take the current-gen title, while Barbados (current-gen) and Dominican Republic (next-gen) claimed the spoils in North and Central America.

WINNERS

AFRICA CONFERENCE
1. Côte d’Ivoire

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (CURRENT-GEN)
1. Egypt

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (NEXT-GEN)
1. Saudi Arabia

SOUTH EAST ASIA CONFERENCE
1. Philippines

EUROPE CONFERENCE (CURRENT-GEN)
1. Russia

EUROPE CONFERENCE (NEXT-GEN)
1. Turkey

38 Number of countries taking part in the tournament

1. Wendi Fleming (USA) became the first female player to compete at the FIBA Esports Open

17 Number of countries in the Europe Conference, the biggest field, with North and Central America next with seven

WINNERS

AFRICA CONFERENCE
1. Côte d’Ivoire

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (CURRENT-GEN)
1. Egypt

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (NEXT-GEN)
1. Saudi Arabia

SOUTH EAST ASIA CONFERENCE
1. Philippines

EUROPE CONFERENCE (CURRENT-GEN)
1. Russia

EUROPE CONFERENCE (NEXT-GEN)
1. Turkey

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WINNERS

AFRICA CONFERENCE
1. Côte d’Ivoire

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (CURRENT-GEN)
1. Egypt

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (NEXT-GEN)
1. Barbados

SOUTH AMERICA CONFERENCE
1. Uruguay

WINNERS

AFRICA CONFERENCE
1. Côte d’Ivoire

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (CURRENT-GEN)
1. Egypt

NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (NEXT-GEN)
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NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA CONFERENCE (NEXT-GEN)
1. Saudi Arabia

SOUTH EAST ASIA CONFERENCE
1. Philippines

EUROPE CONFERENCE (CURRENT-GEN)
1. Russia

EUROPE CONFERENCE (NEXT-GEN)
1. Turkey
SHIFTING SCENARIO REQUIRES FLEXIBILITY AND SOLIDARITY

FIBA acted quickly to amend its calendar in the face of the uncertainty and health concerns caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

In this same period, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) was considering the future of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. The decision to postpone arrived on March 24. Just six days later, the new dates for Tokyo 2020 were announced – from July 23 to August 8, 2021.

Over the next nine days FIBA produced an amended calendar for the next three years ahead of the extraordinary meeting on April 9 of FIBA’s Executive Committee. This meeting, via video conference, was held to discuss the impact of the pandemic on the calendar. The Executive Committee, acting on the permission received from the Central Board at its March 27 meeting to make any necessary adjustments, took on recommendations from the Regional Offices and the Competitions Commission before making its decisions on all world and senior continental competitions. The Zone Boards followed with swift decisions for continental club competitions and youth events. The amendments are set out below, with the dates of all other FIBA Senior Tournaments at world and continental level, as well as their Qualifiers, left unchanged.

FIBA SENIOR TOURNAMENTS – MEN

- The FIBA Olympic Qualifying Tournaments to be played between June 22 and July 4, 2021.
- The FIBA EuroBasket 2021 and FIBA AmeriCup 2021 rescheduled to September 1-18, 2022.
- National teams participating in FIBA Basketball World Cup Qualifiers would play the two games originally scheduled for September 2022 at the end of August 2022, during the preparation phase of the FIBA EuroBasket and FIBA AmeriCup. All other remaining dates of Qualifiers for the Continental Cups 2021 and FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 remained unchanged.
- The FIBA AfroBasket 2021 (August 24 – September 5) and FIBA Asia Cup 2021 (August 17-29) rescheduled by one and two weeks respectively, during August 2021, to avoid a calendar clash with the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

In a milestone decision for the IOC, a special exception was granted in May 2020 to FIBA for the delayed hosting of the FIBA Olympic Qualifying Tournaments (June 29 – July 4, 2021), one week later than initially previewed, in order to afford more time to national leagues to complete their seasons.

The next significant step came on July 9 as FIBA, acting on the report of the latest meeting of the FIBA Medical Advisory Group (MAG), decided to lift the suspension of all competitions that had been in place from mid-March. This process involved the approval of the various continental/sub-continental youth and club competitions by the Zone Boards. The FIBA MAG offered support by identifying cases of best practice among national leagues that had restarted their competitions and collected and highlighted them as examples of good health protocols.
MAIN NATIONAL TEAM COMPETITIONS 2021–2023

2021

February
- FIBA EuroBasket 2022 Qualifiers
- FIBA Asia Cup 2021 Qualifiers
- FIBA CWC 2023 Europe
- FIBA AfroBasket 2021 Qualifiers
- FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 European Pre-Qualifiers

April
- FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 Americas Pre-Qualifiers

June-July
- FIBA Asia Cup 2021 Qualifiers
- FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 Americas Pre-Qualifiers

August
- FIBA Asia Cup 2021
- FIBA AfroBasket 2021
- FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 European Pre-Qualifiers

November
- FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 Pre-Qualifiers
- FIBA Continental Cups 2025 Pre-Qualifiers
- FIBA Asia Cup 2025
- FIBA AfroBasket 2025

2022

February
- FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 Qualifiers
- FIBA Continental Cups 2025 Pre-Qualifiers
- FIBA Women’s EuroBasket 2022 Qualifiers

March
- FIBA CentroBasket 2021 (FIBA Women’s AmeriCup 2021 Qualifiers)

June
- FIBA Women’s AmeriCup 2021
- FIBA Women’s EuroBasket 2021

June-July
- FIBA Women’s AfroBasket 2021

September
- FIBA Women’s Asia Cup 2021
- FIBA Women’s AfroBasket 2021

2023

February
- FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 Qualifiers
- FIBA Continental Cups 2025 Qualifiers
- FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup 2023
- FIBA Women’s Continental Cups 2023 Qualifiers

March
- FIBA CentroBasket 2021

June
- FIBA Women’s AmeriCup 2021
- FIBA Women’s EuroBasket 2021

June-July
- FIBA Women’s AfroBasket 2021

September
- FIBA Women’s Asia Cup 2021
- FIBA Women’s AfroBasket 2021

November
- FIBA EuroBasket 2025 Qualifiers
- FIBA Women’s AfroBasket 2025
- FIBA Women’s Continental Cups 2025 Qualifiers

June
- FIBA Women’s EuroBasket 2023
- FIBA Women’s AfroBasket 2023
- FIBA Women’s Olympic Pre-Qualifying Tournaments

July
- FIBA U19 Basketball World Cup 2023

September
- FIBA Women’s AmeriCup 2023
- FIBA Women’s Asia Cup 2023
- FIBA Women’s AfroBasket 2023

November
- FIBA Women’s Olympic Pre-Qualifying Tournaments
- FIBA Women’s EuroBasket 2025 Qualifiers

August
- FIBA U19 Basketball World Cup 2021
- FIBA U19 Women’s Basketball World Cup 2021
- FIBA U17 Basketball World Cup 2022
- FIBA U17 Women’s Basketball World Cup 2022
- FIBA U19 Women’s EuroBasket 2023
- FIBA U19 Women’s AfroBasket 2023
- FIBA U19 Women’s Continental Cups 2023 Qualifiers
- FIBA U19 Women’s Olympic Pre-Qualifying Tournaments
- FIBA U19 Women’s EuroBasket 2025 Qualifiers
- FIBA U19 Women’s AfroBasket 2025 Qualifiers
- FIBA U19 Women’s Continental Cups 2025 Qualifiers
- FIBA U19 Women’s Olympic Pre-Qualifying Tournaments
- FIBA U19 Women’s EuroBasket 2027 Qualifiers
- FIBA U19 Women’s AfroBasket 2027 Qualifiers
AUSTRALIA BEGINS PREPARATIONS FOR 2022

For the second time, Australia will host the FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup and the 2022 tournament promises to leave a strong legacy for women’s basketball.

A TOURNAMENT TO “ignite the passion for women’s basketball globally”. This is the vision for the FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup 2022, which will take place in Australia between September 22 and October 1, 2022.

FIBA awarded the hosting rights for the 19th edition of the event to Basketball Australia in March 2020. The iconic city of Sydney will stage the 38-game event over 10 days and across two venues, both located in the Sydney Olympic Park. It was FIBA’s Central Board that decided in March 2020 that the World Cup would be returning to Australia, a country which first hosted the competition in 1994.

FIBA Secretary General Andreas Zagklis described Australia as “a powerhouse in basketball” when announcing the decision. “This is a tremendous opportunity for the city of Sydney to both promote and take women’s basketball to the next level,” he said. “We witnessed many successes at the last World Cup, and I am sure that in 2022 we will see even more.”

FIBA and the Local Organizing Committee have a shared vision to create a bold, engaging and inclusive tournament that will celebrate the power and excitement of women’s basketball, with plans in place to host a Women in Basketball summit during the event, focusing on ‘Women in Leadership’.

The Local Organizing Committee has pledged that “Basketball Australia is ready to support FIBA in its vision and build a rich and robust future for our sport. Through hosting this event, we seek to capitalise on the current global movement of women in sport and accelerate basketball as a sport of choice for women and girls”.

It will also be a sustainable event with the two arenas – the Sydney Super Dome (16,906 spectator capacity) and Quaycentre (4,108 spectator capacity) – practice venues and event hotels all within walking distance, creating a perfect setting for the event, its participants and spectators alike.

The organizers’ strategic goals include an exceptional experience for players, media and spectators as well as the worldwide TV audience. Around the event, the Local Organizing Committee will create a program of activities for fans in the arenas and the wider community as a whole.

It aims to increase the profile of women’s basketball and players, and ensure a legacy of diversity and inclusion, which will be watchwords throughout the event.

A particular priority will be to expand female participation among players, officials and administrators, and the New South Wales Government – a partner of the bid – has undertaken to support the legacy activities which will include working with schools in the state.

Within the Local Organizing Committee, David Reid, FIBA Central Board member, is acting as Chairman while the CEO is Melissa King, who was appointed to her role in September 2020.

Previously the first female CEO of Surf Life Saving Australia, the country’s largest volunteer-led water safety and rescue organization, King – who is responsible for driving and delivering the commercial and strategic elements – said: “I am excited about the enormous opportunity hosting the FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup provides the sport and the chance to take women’s basketball to the next level in this country.”

“The 2022 FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup will set a new benchmark for the event both on and off the court, while creating a long-term legacy for women’s basketball in the region.”

Twelve teams will be in the field for the event with the winner of the Women’s Olympic Basketball Tournament in Tokyo and hosts Australia, world champions in 2006 and runners-up in 2018, qualifying automatically. The other 10 participating nations will be determined by four FIBA Qualifying Tournaments, scheduled to be held from February 6-14, 2022 and showcasing the best-performing teams from the FIBA Women’s Continental Cups 2021.
HOSTS LAYING GROUNDWORK FOR 2023

The preparations for the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 are progressing in the Philippines, Japan and Indonesia with the logo launch in November 2020 marking 1,000 days to go.

On December 4, 2020, the launch event took place for the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 logo, drawing 146 million digital impressions from fans on social media. It involved a teaser campaign and logo reveal – and the logo that was unveiled combines three key elements: a heart, the Naismith Trophy and the year 2023. Zagklis said: “This is a very exciting milestone. The distinctive FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 logo symbolizes our love for the game, which is shared by the organizing committees and FIBA, and it also represents the vision and passion of the event that brings together, for the first time, three host countries.”

Another forward step was the announcement in December 2020 of Smart Communications, the Philippines’ leading mobile services provider, as a FIBA Global Partner until December 2023. The partnership will include the FIBA Basketball World Cup in 2023 – together with the men’s and women’s Olympic Qualifying Tournaments, FIBA Contractual Cups for both men and women, FIBA Youth World Cups and the FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup 2022 – whereby Smart’s 5G capabilities will help deliver the most connected and engaging FIBA Basketball World Cup to date.

Qualifying will begin in November 2021 and continue until the end of February 2023, and will involve 80 countries competing to be among the 32 national teams taking part. The Philippines and Japan have each been guaranteed a place at the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 while Indonesia need to demonstrate their competitive capacities by earning a place among the top eight teams at the FIBA Asia Cup 2021.

HISTORY

Previously known as the FIBA World Championship from 1950 until 2010, the World Cup first took place in Argentina in 1950, with the host nation winning while the USA finished second and Chile third. Since that first tournament, in which 10 teams took part, the field has grown exponentially. The USA and Yugoslavia have both been crowned world champions five times.

THE FIBA BASKETBALL WORLD CUP

Planning has long been under way for the 2023 event. Through the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 Observer Program, the three Local Organizing Committees (LOCs) had the opportunity to send members to both the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019 Draw and the tournament itself where they held meetings with the Beijing LOC along with various stakeholders and FIBA departments.

The World Cup Board guiding the LOCs consists of three FIBA members – Richard Carrion (Chair) along with FIBA President Hamane Niang and Secretary General Andreas Zagklis – as well as one member each from the Philippines (Manuel V. Pangilinan), Indonesia (Erick Thohir) and Japan (Yuiko Mitsuyu). The Board’s responsibilities include determining the event’s marketing and promotional strategy, the financial structures and budgets of the three Joint Management Committees, and selecting the World Cup’s brand identity.
DEVELOP THE GAME

62-63
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2019-2027

64-69
1. EMPOWER NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

70-71
2. WOMEN IN BASKETBALL

72-73
3. ENLARGE FIBA FAMILY

74-75
4. CONTINUE TO BUILD 3X3

76-77
5. SUSTAINABLE FINANCIAL GROWTH

78-79
6. SHAPE INTERNATIONAL CLUB COMPETITIONS

80-83
7. EXCELLENCE OF FIBA COMPETITIONS

82-83
8. DEVELOP YOUTH BASKETBALL
A ROADMAP FOR THE FUTURE OF BASKETBALL

Our eight strategic objectives for the 2019-2027 cycle will guide FIBA as an organization, as well as our 213 Member Federations, for the coming years.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2019-2027

2019-2023 PRIORITIES

- To make basketball more popular, we develop and promote the game
- To create one basketball community, we bring people together and unite the community
- With a perspective on basketball, we intend to be one community
- In comparison with other sports, we want basketball to be the most popular sports community

SMART – Skilful, well-structured, precise and transparent
PROGRESSIVE – Dynamic, pro-active and driving change
OPEN – To everybody everywhere, prestigious and credible
RESPONSIBLE – Fair-play, ethical and socially responsible
TOGETHER – Strong individuals cooperating as a strong team

DEVELOP THE GAME

DEVELOP THE GAME

OUR MISSION

Our values:

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TOGETHER – Strong individuals cooperating as a strong team

OUR VISION

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OUR VALUES

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DEVELOP THE GAME

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FIBA MID-TERM ACTIVITY REPORT 2019-2021

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EMPOWER NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

FIBA HAS SET OUT the following six goals to increase the strength and capacity of its National Federations. A series of new and ongoing initiatives will enable National Federations to reach their full potential, such as creating their own strategic plan for the future through the FIBA Plus Strategy and Planning Program, and developing grassroots basketball through the World Association of Basketball Coaches courses and the FIBA Foundation’s Mini Basketball activities.

GOAL 1: BUILD PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

National Federations have access to an end-to-end overview of the planning process to drive basketball development in specific countries. The FIBA PLUS Strategy and Planning Program is helping National Federations create a clear plan for the years ahead. The program encourages participants to develop their capacity to organize, professionalize and commercialize their basketball activities.

In practical terms, this means offering support and mentoring opportunities to National Federations as they develop their capacity to organize, professionalize and commercialize their basketball activities. A variety of important aspects are looked at, such as governance, income generation, event hosting, grassroots basketball, coaches’ development, youth basketball, national teams and 3x3 basketball. This 13-week initiative is designed to help National Federations develop their strategy with measurable targets along the way, and it provides knowledge and guidance on each step of the planning process.

To support the participating countries – as well as those National Federations that have not yet accessed the program – FIBA has created a FIBA PLUS Strategy and Planning Handbook, which is available in digital format in English, French and Spanish. The handbook offers a complete guide to planning, providing a complete review of the process for National Federations, whatever their progress to date.

In 2021, FIBA aims to achieve an even wider implementation of the program, involving 15 more National Federations across the globe. The previous year had ended with Cape Verde and Guam joining the list of participants.

Additionally, National Federations in Europe will be able to further build their professional leadership skills and capabilities thanks to several programs taking place, including TIME-OUT 2.0, SWISH and WiLEAD. TIME-OUT 2.0, launched in June 2020, featured about 50 players taking part in an educational and training program focusing on the business of sport, leadership and management. The aim of the program is to arm athletes with skills they will utilize in their future careers away from the court.

In February 2021, the National Federations’ educational program for employees started with two courses.

- SWISH (which has 30 participants from 28 nations) is focused on integrity in sport, match-fixing, anti-doping and FIBA regulations, with participants learning from key speakers including sports law specialist and FIBA Integrity Officer Richard McLaren, head of the IOC’s Ethics and Compliance Office.

- WiLEAD (31 participants from 30 nations) includes training in leadership and management and the business of sport, with participants hearing from keynote speakers from the sport, media and business sectors.

Also, FIBA has launched its own online executive marketing program to assist National Federations with their commercial planning and needs. The FIBA Executive Marketing Programme (FEMP) is designed for senior managers, providing practical tools to help managers create and implement marketing plans to enhance events and activities. FEMP is divided into three modules – marketing plan, sponsorship, and gameday revenues – and is available online. To date, an impressive number of 97 National Federations have registered a participant in the FIBA online course. In the course of 2021 the totality of FIBA’s existing and planned education programs will be combined under the FIBA Academy umbrella, to offer a complete and easy-to-navigate learning toolbox for the National Federations.

In 2021, FIBA aims to achieve an even wider implementation of the program, involving 15 more National Federations across the globe. The previous year had ended with Cape Verde and Guam joining the list of participants. EJ Calvo, President of the Guam Basketball Confederation (GBC), said at the time: “We are excited to work closely with FIBA as we direct our way forward within our organization and develop a detailed plan to help us reach our full potential.”
The World Association of Basketball Coaches (WABC) is helping to coach the coaches. Those looking to build fundamental coaching skills appropriate for grassroots level can access the WABC ‘Start Coaching’ manual, a comprehensive guide offered in English and French. It is designed for ex-players, parents, teachers and anyone with an interest in coaching basketball. The WABC also conducts regular courses to train instructors to deliver coaching courses worldwide and has worked with FIBA to deliver a successful series of online coaching clinics in 2020.

The FIBA Foundation promotes grassroots basketball for boys and girls aged between five and 12 through their Mini Basketball program. Mini Basketball conventions bring together delegates for practical and theoretical sessions, sharing new ways of teaching basketball fundamentals. There are also jamborees organized, which give children the chance to play basketball in a fun environment. The aim is to educate them on good health and wellbeing, providing Mini Basketball organizers with the tools to help keep children active with enjoyable and playful activities. In China, Mini Basketball – a partnership between FIBA and Walmonos Sports, in conjunction with the WABC – aims to improve the skills of coaches working with children aged between three and eight. The following Mini Basketball activities took place:

2019
- In 2019 conventions took place in Switzerland, Mali, Namibia, El Salvador, Bahrain and Australia, involving: 120 delegates from 105 countries 290 local coaches 1,700 kids

2020
- In 2020, the Foundation used online activities and developed new tools to promote Mini Basketball.
  - A #BasketballAtHome campaign was created as a way to keep the game alive amid COVID-19 restrictions.
  - The Foundation teamed up with a Mini Basketball expert to develop 30 videos of basketball-related games to do at home, which attracted over 150,000 views across all channels.
  - Delegates from Samoa, Papua New Guinea, Honduras and Pakistan organized jamborees, putting into place what was learned at the conventions.

2021
- The Foundation is carrying out a series of virtual Mini Basketball seminars. In addition to continued education and exchange of best practice, the Foundation will support and guide the individuals responsible for Mini Basketball in their respective country to strengthen the social impact, and amplify and unify the movement. Four virtual seminars have been launched in several languages to involve the largest number of National Federations possible.

**GOAL 2: BOOST GRASSROOTS BASKETBALL**

The WABC works to develop coaching standards across the world – and, within, the level of basketball played globally. Its activities include delivering coaching courses and clinics and creating coaching resources, and, via its WABC Advisory Committee, it stays informed on the latest trends within the sport to the FIBA Technical Commission: The WABC’s Global Education Program, which began in 2016, features Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 courses. These courses are designed for coaches already involved in coaching, covering both on- and off-court activities.

**GOAL 3: LEVEL UP THE GAME**

In order to create a level playing field, FIBA has set up courses, webinars and clinics across its regions. The WABC has so far facilitated more than 50 clinics, which reached more than 800,000 people globally. It also produced a virtual webinar series aimed at female coaches, with online development clinics also made available to coaches, referees, statisticians and photographers.

The following coaching courses also took place across the regions:

**AMERICAS**

The aim of coaching courses, including the International Coaching Apprenticeship in Basketball (ICAB) and the USA Coaching Academy Project conducted in 2019, is to provide leadership and development skills and valuable insight and education to coaches and administrators. The Virtual Coaches Clinic Series, run in 2020 and 2021, allows coaches to learn from the best, thus improving their knowledge base. The aim of the series is to increase the quality of national, club, and school teams by elevating the coaching talent. In 2020, 1,053 male coaches and 297 female coaches from 35 National Federations participated.

**ASIA**

In the FIBA Asia coaching webinar course, an introduction to the Level 1 WABC clinic, FIBA-certified coaching instructors cover basic basketball fundamentals. Participating coaches are encouraged to ask questions and suggest discussion topics. The course includes a series of videos and short exams and many discussions about coaching styles. In 2020, the course was conducted for coaches in Bahrain, Palestine, Jordan, Mongolia and Iran.

**EUROPE**

The 2nd stage of the FIBA Europe Coaching Certificate (FEC) course 2019-2021 (7th edition) was postponed and will be held in summer 2021 at the FIBA U18 European Challenger. The new course (FEC 2021-2023, the 8th edition) will start with the first stage at the FIBA U18 European Challenger, also in summer 2021. A record number of 44 National Federations will send candidates, with participation limited to 60 coaches to ensure quality. For the first time, nearly 40 per cent of the participants will be female.

Additionally, FIBA Europe’s coaching website is a great tool for coaches of all levels, with more than 70,000 registered participants. FIBA Europe’s coaching app, which features extracts from the coaching website, has been downloaded more than 100,000 times.

**CHINA**

FIBA China maintained its key partnership with the Beijing Enterprises Group Company Limited (BEG) to ensure coaching courses were handled smoothly. From June to December 2020, the FIBA Big Academy successfully held eight Level 1 courses in six Chinese cities, with 238 local coaches participating. In 2021, FIBA China has confirmed 16 Mini Basketball courses and 16 Level 1 courses will be offered across the country. In addition to its work across the regions, through its partnerships and initiatives FIBA is able to provide innovative services and technological advances for all National Federations.

Suppliers including FastModel Sports (software category for coaching and player scouting) and Dr Dish (training category) became endorsed partners of FIBA’s Equipment & Venue Centre, while National Federations in the Americas and Africa were introduced to FIBA Connected Stadium, a joint initiative between FIBA and Synergy Sports (formerly known as Atrium Sports) providing access to technology enhancing live streaming of games and improving fans’ experience.

Using new and emerging technologies, FIBA and Genius Sports, a global leader in sports data, technology and integrity services, continue working on their longstanding partnership to develop and deploy ground-breaking technology transforming the data and digital infrastructure of more than 200 basketball leagues and federations worldwide. A highlight of the partnership is FIBA LiveStats, which enhances the capture and distribution of statistics to enrich the at-game fan experience.
In April 2021, FIBA launched its Players’ Mentorship Program in April 2021. The main objective of the Players’ Mentorship Program, which aims to foster the development of talent, is to provide them with a clear pathway towards the world stage. The health and safety of the basketball community became paramount in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and so in 2020, to assist National Federations, FIBA responded by forming the FIBA COVID-19 Medical Advisory Group with the purpose of reviewing the latest scientific knowledge regarding the virus and to advise on the return of international basketball competitions.

In May 2020, the FIBA COVID-19 Medical Advisory Group collaborated with the FIBA Medical Commission on the publication of the Return to Basketball – Restart Guidelines for National Federations (V1 – V3), along with the basketball-specific Risk Assessment Tool, available in English, French and Spanish. The process was led by the FIBA Medical Commission Chairman, Dr Peter Harcourt of Australia, who also consulted the FIBA Medical and Players’ Commissions.

Additionally, the FIBA COVID-19 protocol (V1 – V4) was developed by the FIBA Medical Commission and published in four different editions between September 2020 and April 2021, setting out a medical and operational framework for hosts, teams and participants to ensure the safety of all at FIBA Official National Team and Club Competitions.

The FIBA Medical Commission, in collaboration with the FIBA Players’ Commission, will continue to develop and update educational content for players through different platforms (such as the Players’ Hub and Players’ Workshops) as well as medical resources for medical personnel. The FAST BREAK publication, released quarterly since the start of 2018, continues to assist the sport’s medical personnel by bringing together basketball-related healthcare issues and newsworthy research topics.

Members of the basketball community can better plan for proposed events via the FIBA COVID-19 Restart Guidelines for the return to basketball, a basketball-specific risk assessment, and FIBA-approved COVID-19 protocols. They also continue to be updated on the latest COVID-19 related medical and scientific knowledge tabulated at medical advisory group and medical commission meetings.

GOAL 5: PROFESSIONALIZE NATIONAL TEAM STRUCTURE

National Federations have access to various reports, protocols and publications to help them to professionalize their activities.

Over the last two years particular emphasis was given to game analytical data as well as health and safety guidelines.

FIBA provided National Federations with a wealth of information regarding the latest research, data and video resources, including the FIBA Descriptive Analytics Report 2020, to improve their understanding of analytics and medical issues including compliance. The report looks at team and individual player analysis at recent FIBA events at international level. Through collaboration with the NBA, comparative analysis with WNBA and NBA analytics has also been included.

(For more details, see page 97.)

GOAL 6: DEVELOP NEXT GENERATION OF TALENTS

Planning continues for the roll out of programs aimed at empowering National Federations to develop young players and the next generation of talents.

FIBA can now boast that it holds annually more than 30 youth national team tournaments in basketball and 26 in 3x3 basketball at world, continental and sub-continental level, allowing the next generation of talents to compete against their international peers and provide them with a clear pathway towards the world stage.

Additionally, a number of off-court activities were developed to further the aim of talent development and support.

In April 2021, FIBA launched its Players’ Mentorship Program, which aims to support players on and off the court. The main objective of the program is to train at least one mentor per National Federation (one male and one female mentor per federation). The nominated mentor will help support all elite youth players in that country.

FIBA believes the program will help ensure all players can compete at their highest levels, enhance their health and wellbeing, and provide meaningful educational opportunities.

The Players’ Commission also has updated the content from the Players’ Hub and included several topics crucial to off-court development. While it wasn’t possible to hold any Players’ Workshops at FIBA events in the summer of 2020 due to the pandemic, on a positive note, the Players’ Commission chairman, Dirk Nowitzki, and vice-chairwoman, Jenni Screen, took part in an hour-long call with the FIBA U17 Skills Challenge champions, providing encouragement and basketball tips.

In 2020, the sixth edition of the BWB Global Camp was held. This took place in Chicago, USA, during the NBA All Star Weekend. A total of 64 boys and girls from 33 countries and regions participated in games, life-skills sessions and basketball-drills activities. Unfortunately, the 2020 summer camps were canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic, though FIBA remains hopeful of organizing new BWB camps in the summer of 2021.

ABOUT BWB

Basketball Without Borders (BWB), launched in 2001, is the global basketball development and community outreach program of FIBA and the NBA. It provides coaching instruction and life-skills seminars for players as well as clinics for coaches and referees. Overall, it has staged 58 camps in 33 states, covering 28 countries and six continents.

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AS PART OF ITS AIM to increase the role of females at all levels of the sport, FIBA began working on this important part of its strategy in 2019, with surveys, analysis and assessment of the current status. The Women in Basketball Survey, which was recently completed by 172 National Federations, provides updates on key activities for Regional Offices and fact sheets detailing specifics for each National Federation, as well as a global snapshot focusing on how the survey results will feed into the goals of the Women in Basketball strategy. These six goals act as development focus areas and are underpinned by various initiatives and programs, such as the ‘Her World, Her Rules’ campaign to increase the numbers of female players, and the Adelante and WiLEAD programs to identify female leaders.

GOAL 1: INCREASE FEMALE PLAYERS’ PARTICIPATION

One particular program aimed at increasing the number of female players is the ‘Her World, Her Rules’ campaign, created by FIBA Europe in 2018 to get more girls aged six to 15 playing basketball. Using social media as a driver, it promotes women’s and girls’ basketball through various activities delivered in partnership with National Federations. The program uses established female stars as role models. Already, 29 National Federations in Europe have received funding to run the 2020-2021 program and another 43 National Federations worldwide have been included in the global roll out of ‘Her World, Her Rules’. FIBA also aims to address the gender gap in drop-out rate between boys and girls, with further plans for education seminars and mentorship programs addressing specific challenges for women in sport.

GOAL 2: DEVELOP AND LEVERAGE FEMALE COACHES AND OFFICIALS

National Federations are being encouraged to recruit and develop more female coaches at all levels, with the WABC running clinics with elite female coaches. Twelve leading female coaches from around the world provided their expertise in a WABC six-week virtual course aimed at building the technical and leadership skills of female coaches. The WABC series was livestreamed via the WABC Facebook channel. A pilot program for mentoring elite-level female coaches. Twelve leading female coaches from around the world provided their expertise in a WABC six-week virtual course aimed at building the technical and leadership skills of female coaches. The WABC series was livestreamed via the WABC Facebook channel. A pilot program for mentoring elite-level female coaches was launched in March 2020, with the Central Board introducing a rule that requires national teams to have at least one female coach on the bench in all youth world and continental tournaments.

Additionally, the third cycle of the FIBA Game Official Licensing (GOL) registration commenced in October 2020, with a clear focus on increasing the numbers of officials for National Federations, especially in terms of female candidates. With this aim in mind, the Central Board approved that an additional green license for female referees could be granted per National Federation as part of this cycle of GOL. This highlights FIBA’s success, via its Regional Offices, in encouraging National Federations to develop game officials, particularly its promotion of female referees.

GOAL 3: MAXIMIZE THE IMPACT OF WOMEN’S COMPETITION IN BOTH DISCIPLINES

FIBA is committed to raising the profile of the FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup, and regional qualifying competitions, and having the EuroLeague Women as FIBA’s flagship competition for clubs. There are also plans to establish club competitions in other regions, continue building the profile of the 3x3 Women’s Series – which was introduced in 2019 and started offering prize money in 2021 – and explore plans to further promote women’s competition, including rules of the game adjustments. In order to raise the profile of the EuroLeague Women (ELW) competition and the new FIBA 3x3 Women’s Series, promotional materials including a new ELW logo and a 3x3 handbook and manual were launched. The new ELW logo blends the shape of the competition’s trophy with a basketball.

GOAL 4: INCREASE THE NUMBER OF FANS CONSUMING WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Fans can expect to see major changes in the way women’s competitions and female players are portrayed and promoted, as FIBA develops the gender portrayal guidelines for basketball and a female-focused commercial strategy. They also will see increased exposure of women’s basketball on FIBA digital channels and television coverage. The ELW Final Four in April 2021 provided a template for the future, with the tournament streamed for the first time on FIBA’s new Twitch channel, where an impressive 782,000 unique viewers tuned in.

Another project designed to encourage female players within the game was the FIBA Foundation Women in Basketball photo contest. Some 800 images from 300 photographers in 56 countries were assessed in the 2020 edition of the contest. The photos showcased females involved at all levels of the sport. A photo titled ‘Hope and Dreams’, taken by Indonesia snapper Andi Nursam, was named the best image of 2020.

GOAL 5: INCREASE GENDER DIVERSITY IN NATIONAL FEDERATIONS AND FIBA ELECTED BODIES

FIBA will continue to promote the benefits of being a diverse and inclusive organization, ensure the use of gender-neutral language, review requirements for board, governance body or committee membership to remove bias against females, and identify, recruit and train female leaders via programs such as Adelante and WiLEAD. The equivalent of the Adelante program in Europe, WiLEAD, supports the next generation of female leaders by focusing on management and administration, while also increasing gender diversity and creating new pathways and support networks. The 2021 edition of the program, supported by the European Union, featured 31 participants from 30 countries.

GOAL 6: INCREASE GENDER DIVERSITY IN FIBA, INCLUDING REGIONAL OFFICE STAFFING

FIBA is developing a state-of-the-art gender balance strategy to apply ‘Inside FIBA’, with emphasis on recruiting women, increasing the percentage of women in FIBA staff leadership roles and creating more opportunities for women to access senior management positions.

Selected female staff members have already participated in leadership programs offered by the IOC and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF), while an exchange program among the various FIBA offices started in early 2021 despite the travel difficulties resulting from the pandemic.
ENLARGE FIBA FAMILY

FIBA HAS A BROAD PLAN to expand its partners, embrace the ‘new’ and refine how it operates internally in order to keep the sport growing. These objectives will be achieved through four distinct but connected goals, with each focusing on key projects, including innovation-dedicated initiatives such as the launch of FIBA’s exports program and growing the number of licensed participants. A dedicated FIBA team representing all regions is working on the implementation of the new strategic pillar.

GOAL 1: INCREASE THE NUMBER OF LICENSED PARTICIPANTS IN BOTH DISCIPLINES

FIBA will focus on three distinct groups of participants. The first priority is for FIBA to concentrate on existing programs and implement various actions and projects to increase the number of licensed participants. Participants include coaches’ instructors, player agents, statisticians, table officials, technical delegates and 3x3 players.

In 2020, while the world battled the COVID-19 pandemic, FIBA published a series of webinars for National Federations, players, coaches, game officials and others supporting their development and learning activities. To date, more than 250 webinars have been successfully prepared and delivered by staff from FIBA’s Headquarters and Regional Offices, in English, Spanish and French, with participants from more than 150 National Federations.

The second priority will see FIBA create new licensing programs to capture non-licensed existing and new participants, including team physicians, supervisory doctors, 3x3 coaches and 3x3 table officials. The creation of the FIBA Player Mentor Program is an example of this strategy in action. The third priority will see FIBA optimize and enhance existing licensing programs for coaches and referees’ instructors.

GOAL 2: INCLUDE MORE STAKEHOLDERS AND ALIGN STRATEGIC PLANS WITH OTHER ACTORS IN BASKETBALL

FIBA plans to expand the family by working closely with stakeholders including ministries of education and school associations to build campaigns that promote the game.

With respect to youth players, FIBA and its Foundation will focus on new teaching programs to build on the success of Mini Basketball, with an aim of having at least 200 individuals around the world who have received specific FIBA training on delivering Mini Basketball events by the end of 2021.

FIBA will also continue to work with other organizations with basketball events in their programs. On that front, the longstanding FIBA partnership and strategic alignment with the International University Federation (FISU) has been extended to 2025 and will cover the next Universiades. In the same spirit, FIBA has worked to deepen the collaboration with the International School Federation (ISF) in areas such as 3x3 and women’s basketball, with a FIBA representative invited to speak at the ISF 2021 General Assembly in order to encourage cooperation between the 200,000 ISF-registered schools and FIBA National Federations.

As part of this goal, FIBA plans to explore new opportunities to develop basketball events for retired players and thus expand its participant base.

GOAL 3: OPTIMIZE PROCEDURES AND EFFICIENCY OF FIBA

The underlying aim of this goal is to create unity, efficiency and alignment, all underpinned by the idea of ‘Speaking with One Voice’. Optimization and streamlining are the central foundations of this goal, and will help FIBA continue to grow and support basketball successfully. Achieving this will involve: improving and communicating FIBA’s vision and mission statements; implementing other strategies including corporate communication and branding; developing an appropriate company culture; facilitating greater collaboration between offices and departments; standardizing business-supporting processes; and developing event master plan templates to be adapted according to specific circumstances and needs, which can then be shared with the wider FIBA Family.

GOAL 4: ENDORSE AND ENCOURAGE INNOVATION IN BASKETBALL WITHIN AN OVERALL FRAMEWORK

FIBA aims to continue embracing innovation and new technologies to enhance all aspects of the game on and off the court. One example of innovation is the work of the FIBA Equipment & Venue Centre (E&VC) which also focuses on new technologies including ‘connected stadiums’ and draws new partners in specific categories through participation in incubator programs such as HYPE.

Since 2019 the E&VC has introduced an advanced approval process, which now involves independent testing according to strict rules developed by FIBA. The E&VC has selected and accredited test institutes around the world in order to create proximity for its partners.

Through the 2019-21 period there has been strong growth in the number of products approved after an independent test by an accredited test institute for use at FIBA’s competitions, with the E&VC working hard to stimulate creativity. The E&VC manages more than 100 partners which, in total, offer well over 500 different tested and approved products to the FIBA Family. In October 2020, an endorsement program was launched, aimed at helping innovative products find their way on to the market more quickly in selected categories – all tested and approved according to the highest standards.

Other areas of progress saw:

• Five test centers added to facilitate the needs of our partners
• Collaboration with an online court finder to help locate courts across the world, with the aim to offer all stakeholders a clear guide on venues where basketball can be played.
• Collaboration with IAKS from 2021 and introducing an Expert Circle of architects to support Member Federations planning to build or refurbish local basketball facilities.

The E&VC has introduced a handbook for 3x3 approved equipment, a category it wishes to develop in the following ways in 2021:

• Promoting an outdoor range of products to coincide with 3x3 being played at the Olympic Games for the first time.
• A drive to form a strong group of suppliers who provide products for the outdoor game, encouraging existing partners to develop in this new category.

FIBA also focused on innovation-dedicated projects, namely the launch of its exports program. FIBA held its inaugural FIBA Esports Open event in 2020 as part of its strategic objective to enlarge the FIBA Family, in cooperation with the NBA and 2K. The first event featured 17 teams, and the program continues to grow, with 38 teams participating in the second edition and 60 teams from all over the world featuring in the third edition in April-May 2021. (Results of each event are detailed on pages 48-49).
CONTINUE TO BUILD 3X3

FIBA ACHIEVED ITS FIRST GOAL with 3x3 basketball and is fully committed to identifying ways to help the sport grow further.

In 2007, FIBA’s vision to test the 3x3 form of the game at the 2007 Asian Indoor Games was a visionary move. The International Olympic Committee voted to make 3x3 an Olympic discipline only a decade later, with 3x3 set to debut at the rescheduled Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games later this year.

The 3x3 discipline has flourished, thanks also to the important role played by our National Federations. A growing number of National Federations now have staff members dedicated to the 3x3 program, who perform a range of tasks to ensure ongoing development including observing and supervising 3x3 activity in their region, organizing official events, investing in youth programs, selecting, training and promoting national teams, incentivizing national team players to play in professional competitions, and introducing 3x3 in schools and academies. A series of 25 online webinars with National Federations was organized during 2020, on topics ranging from event management to social media, coaching and officiating in 3x3, with more than 100 National Federations participating.

In 2019, the FIBA 3x3 World Tour, the pinnacle event in the men’s 3x3 landscape, featured 12 main events and 28 Challengers, up from six events in 2012. The World Tour consists of teams of four players each representing a city, with a pyramidal system facilitating progress to the World Tour. In 2019, total season earnings reached a record high USD 2.6 million, up from USD 114,000 in 2012.

National teams compete in a host of 3x3-specific events, including the World Cup and Continental Cup tournaments, and at youth events. Importantly, all national team 3x3 events are based on parity, with an equal number of men’s and women’s teams playing.

Meanwhile, the FIBA 3x3 Women’s Series, the main event on the women’s professional circuit, was introduced in 2019 with 15 stops taking place. In May 2021, there was another landmark for 3x3, when the FIBA 3x3 Women’s Series Mies Stop became the first official FIBA competition to take place at the FIBA Headquarters. Based on a Central Board decision, as of 2021 the Women’s Series will also introduce a prize money system for the players.

The ongoing growth of 3x3 on all continents was recently underscored when FIBA announced the first AmeriCup for the best national teams in the Americas. The inaugural competition, which is part of a multi-year deal, will be held in November 2021 in Miami, USA.

The discipline continues to expand at under-age level, too, highlighted by the hugely successful FIBA 3x3 U23 Nations League. In 2019, the U23 Nations League attracted teams from 18 National Federations playing in three conferences. The 2021 event will include also U21 teams after requests from a number of National Federations to register a second team and stimulate their development programs.

FIBA is pleased with the progress of 3x3 around the world and plans to continue facilitating its growth and development by refining the existing successful models, working with current commercial partners, identifying potential new partners and continuing to invest in cutting edge technologies to enhance the game experience of players and fans.

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The ongoing growth of 3x3 on all continents was recently underscored when FIBA announced the first AmeriCup for the best national teams in the Americas. The inaugural competition, which is part of a multi-year deal, will be held in November 2021 in Miami, USA.

The discipline continues to expand at under-age level, too, highlighted by the hugely successful FIBA 3x3 U23 Nations League. In 2019, the U23 Nations League attracted teams from 18 National Federations playing in three conferences. The 2021 event will include also U21 teams after requests from a number of National Federations to register a second team and stimulate their development programs.

FIBA is pleased with the progress of 3x3 around the world and plans to continue facilitating its growth and development by refining the existing successful models, working with current commercial partners, identifying potential new partners and continuing to invest in cutting edge technologies to enhance the game experience of players and fans.

GRASSROOTS GROWTH

In addition to the elite 3x3 competitions organized by FIBA, some 7,330 3x3 grassroots tournaments and 244,426 games were staged via the FIBA 3x3 Event Maker in 2019, a free app developed by FIBA to help organizers and players around the world manage events.
SUSTAINABLE FINANCIAL GROWTH

STAYING FLEXIBLE AND AGILE has helped FIBA remain financially sound and on track to implement its investment and growth strategy.

FIBA’S GOAL OF MAKING BASKETBALL the world’s most popular sports community remains a priority, with across-the-board growth in existing and new competitions.

The pandemic has had a significant impact on global sport, requiring FIBA and the wider basketball community to adjust accordingly, including having to reschedule international competitions. FIBA remained proactive and was able to demonstrate its ability to adapt.

In the face of the challenges caused by COVID-19, FIBA implemented various cost measures and other financial disciplines to ensure it could execute its growth and investment strategy, while remaining agile as the impacts of the global pandemic continued.

FIBA approved a new finance strategy featuring standardized reporting processes for all entities, with a standardized procurement policy coming into force as of May 2021.

When it comes to hosting key events and competition, FIBA understands the importance of the National Federations, empowering them via educational programs, providing access to experts and relevant data, and enhancing communication and information exchange between key parties. To that extent, investment into basketball development remains largely untouched across the board and despite the pandemic.

FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

Financial activities in the year 2019 reflect a successful FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019, with a significant increase in revenue and ever-increasing investments into the development and promotion of the sport, in line with FIBA’s mission.

Those investments include:

(i) interventions for taking the World Cup and the FIBA Continental Cups Qualifiers to a new level of excellence;
(ii) increased support for the National Federations;
(iii) investment in club competitions; and
(iv) investment in women’s basketball.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic led FIBA to adjust its plans and objectives as most of the international competitions had to be rescheduled. As a result, there are significant differences between 2020 and 2019, in particular with regard to income statement positions.

Consequently, the financial year 2020 resulted in a net loss of CHF -13.5 million compared to a net profit of CHF 0.1 million in 2019.

REVENUES/EXPENSES 2019-2020

Revenues over the period 2019-2020 amounted to CHF 217.4 million. Commercial activities including marketing and media rights represent a share of 76 per cent of the total revenues. The remaining revenues result mainly from hosting fees and the transfer of the IOC contribution related to the Olympic Games. The total expenses for the period amounted to CHF 230.9 million, 45 per cent of which was spent in relation to events and competitions.

EXPENSES EVOLUTION 2019-2020

FIBA has experienced significant growth over the last few years as a result of the development strategy being systematically implemented. This has been due mainly to the new competition system and, starting in 2017, the new FIBA Media and FIBA Marketing partnerships in addition to a new distribution scheme in favor of the National Federations.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the reduction of activities, 2020 expenses are lower compared to 2019, which was also the year of the FIBA Basketball World Cup in China.
SHAPE INTERNATIONAL CLUB COMPETITIONS

FIBA IS COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING basketball’s continental club competitions, creating a framework of regional events leading teams to the FIBA Intercontinental Cup.

FIBA HAS BEEN WORKING TOWARDS the development of a long-term league format and qualification pathway for all international club competitions, beginning with the Basketball Champions League (BCL).

With the goal of a clear and standardized club competition framework worldwide, FIBA aims to ensure its competitions are inclusive, with sporting merit-based access to all clubs in all regions. As Patrick Comninou, the CEO of the BCL, puts it: “The idea is that a club that is successful in their local league is rewarded with participating in a first-level continental competition.”

In this sense, the BCL – co-owned by FIBA and 11 national leagues – has served as a flagship since its creation in 2016. Its various benefits include protecting and supporting domestic leagues, promoting sporting results and openness, developing and nurturing new European talents, and providing a sound business model for stakeholders.

In 2020, FIBA entered into a strategic partnership agreement with GCBH LP, a US entity backed by a group of experienced sports and media investors, with the aim to take the BCL to the next level and reshape the landscape of club competitions in Europe. Partnering with 11 European National Basketball Leagues and the Union of European Leagues of Basketball, GCBH and FIBA provide equity funding and targeted know-how to the BCL to further improve, develop and commercialize the competition for the benefit of fans, players and clubs.

For the 2020-21 season, 64 clubs applied for the 44 available spots and 30 countries were represented in the Regular Season, including 14 national champions. In May 2021, Hereda San Pablo Burgos of Spain created history in the Final Eight tournament, defeating Turkey’s Pinar Karsiyaka to become the first team to win back-to-back BCL titles.

The Americas swiftly followed with the launch in October 2019 of the Basketball Champions League Americas (BCL Americas) – a joint partnership between FIBA and the National Federations and leagues. Again, sporting merit is a key principle with qualification to a continental league featuring 12 teams achieved through domestic performance. These teams are split into four groups of three, with a home-and-away format and the top team from each group advancing to the Play-Offs. Quimsa of Argentina triumphed 92-86 against Brazil’s Flamengo in the first Final, staged in November 2020 on neutral ground in the Uruguayan capital Montevideo owing to the COVID-19 situation.

The BCL Americas tipped off its second season in January 2021 with seven countries represented. Due to the pandemic, each group was staged in a ‘bubble’ format – Buenos Aires (Argentina), Managua (Nicaragua) and Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). Managua also hosted the Final 8 in April, where Flamengo went one step better than the previous year in beating home team Real Estelí.

Buenos Aires also hosted the FIBA Intercontinental Cup 2021 Final which, again because of the pandemic, was a single-game decider played on February 6 in which Hereda San Pablo Burgos beat Quimsa 82-73. For the previous two years FIBA had staged a Final Four event involving the reigning champions of the NBA G-League, BCL and DIRECTV Liga de las Américas. AEK Athens won in 2019 and Spain’s Iberostar Tenerife triumphed in 2020.

The FIBA Intercontinental Cup has a rich history dating back to 1965 and FIBA is working hard to develop it into a genuine club world championship. With the recent creation of the FIBA ClubCo structure, FIBA aims to support each region in developing the same competition format. A resource plan is in place to implement and manage club competitions, while FIBA will provide stakeholders with guidance along with training and organizational assistance. To achieve financial stability, meanwhile, FIBA will be on hand to evaluate the sustainability of all club competitions, helping each one to define break-even projections and plan budgets.

In a new era for club basketball in Africa, in 2019 FIBA and the NBA announced their plans to launch the Basketball Africa League (BAL), the NBA’s first partnership for a league outside North America. The inaugural season featured 28 clubs in the Qualifiers and successfully tipped off with 12 clubs in the final phase in May 2021.

The inaugural East Asia Super League, meanwhile, will be launched in October 2021 as part of a 10-year agreement with FIBA and Regional Office Asia to run an annual league for the top professional clubs in East Asia and the Philippines.

DEVELOP THE GAME
EXCELLENCE OF FIBA COMPETITIONS

ONGOING CHANGES CONTINUE to be implemented to ensure FIBA delivers events of the highest standard. The goals cover all aspects from the bidding process – with a new unified host agreement now in place across all senior events at world and continental level as well as youth world events – and hosting of competitions to improving the experience for both players and fans, right down to the redesign of trophies, with the FIBA U19 Basketball World Cups and FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup unveiling new trophies.

A MULTI-YEAR HOSTING MODEL for both the U17 and U19 FIBA World Cups was approved by the Executive Committee after a thorough analysis showing that the previous model had exhausted its potential, and that there had been a declining rate of bids. Hosting consecutive Youth World Cups creates the potential for better event organization and management, as well as maximizing synergies.

Being the stage for the future basketball stars, the FIBA U19 and U17 Basketball World Cups enjoy high levels of visibility across all of FIBA’s digital platforms, thereby providing valuable promotion for host countries. Multi-year hosting gives FIBA the opportunity to build long and fruitful relationships with National Federations and host cities, while allowing National Federations to demonstrate their hosting capabilities.

In January 2020, the Hungarian Basketball Federation – which has a strong history of hosting major FIBA events – was confirmed as host of the FIBA U19 Women’s Basketball World Cup 2021, the FIBA U17 Women’s Basketball World Cup 2022 and the FIBA U19 Basketball World Cup 2023. All will be held in Debrecen. The Spanish Basketball Federation, host of numerous FIBA events including both the men’s and women’s FIBA Basketball World Cups, was also confirmed in November 2020 as multi-year hosts with the FIBA U17 Basketball World Cup 2022 and the FIBA U19 Women’s Basketball World Cup 2023 being awarded to the federation.

For the Hungarian and Spanish Basketball Federations, and all National Federations, FIBA continues to standardize the bidding process and requirements for hosting FIBA competitions, improve documentation exchange and streamline responses to, and interaction with, bidders. A standard host nation agreement template is available for use and has been implemented together with other bidding process documents for 2021. FIBA continues to support Regional Offices in the development and running of bidding processes for events including the Continental Cup.

Meanwhile, from September 2019, FIBA’s temporary total disablement insurance program (salary protection) has been active during all official FIBA events worldwide, protecting the salaries of all professional female and male players from any accidents or injuries during national team activity. The FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019 insurance cycle (2017-2019) saw several stakeholders compensated with claims totaling EUR 2 million. In the lead-up to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, FIBA has secured coverage for all men’s and women’s national teams participating in official events worldwide, with protection of salaries, scholarships and loss of incomes for professional players, NCAA players, free agents, 3x3 players and International Wheelchair Basketball Federation players. An updated, more user-friendly approach allows National Federations to insure all professional players directly on the FIBA MAP website, access insurance documentation and lodge claims online.

MULTI-YEAR HOSTS

The Hungarian Basketball Federation will host the FIBA U19 Women’s Basketball World Cup 2021, FIBA U17 Women’s Basketball World Cup 2022, and FIBA U19 Basketball World Cup 2023. The Spanish Basketball Federation will host the FIBA U17 Basketball World Cup 2022 and the FIBA U19 Women’s Basketball World Cup 2023.
to enhance development opportunities for young players and coaches lies a series of innovative programs that continue to flourish around the world. In order to roll out these programs successfully, FIBA aims to increase the number of youth coaches dedicated to delivering them, and also to equip its National Federations to introduce development programs.

FIBA’S OFFICES AROUND THE WORLD have launched and continue to deliver a wide range of programs and initiatives dedicated to developing youth basketball.

The FIBA Americas Youth Development Camps, officially launched in 2016, held the fourth edition of the Youth Development Program Elite Camp in 2019, with 24 players from the region taking part. The camp focused on skill development, lectures on nutrition, game psychology, team practices and game practice. In total, 750 players and coaches have been involved in the Youth Development Camps with four camps held in Argentina, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Aruba.

After the success of the Americas Youth Development Program 2019, FIBA Americas has introduced a Youth Development Mentorship Program for 2021. The Youth Development Mentorship Program sees six National Federations, including the United States, Canada and Argentina, taking on mentoring roles to support youth development courses and camps across the Americas. A general curriculum featuring development training for young players and coaches is being constructed as part of the program.

Meanwhile in Europe, the next phase of the successful Youth Development Fund (2020-2022) has begun, supporting youth projects and youth national teams in Europe. At 49 National Federations that applied for project funding were successful, with projects underway. FIBA Europe has contributed about EUR 2 million to the latest round of projects. In addition, an impressive number of 16 youth competitions, categorized into three divisions with promotion and relegation rules, are organized every summer and the National Federations count on the support of the Regional Office Europe in contributing to certain hosting and participating costs.

The annual FIBA Europe U14 Get Together took place in Prague, Czech Republic, in 2019. A total of 119 specialists from 34 nations, who work specifically in youth basketball, gathered in the Czech capital for a series of theoretical and practical workshops, intended both for local youth coaches and international participants.

In Asia, the Ball’In Schools program, which started in 2019 in response to National Federations identifying challenges hindering development of the game in parts of the Asia region, focuses on empowering local ambassadors to introduce or increase basketball activities in schools. Ambassadors are trained to reach young players and those in rural areas, introducing basketball to students and local communities.

In the Americas, the Ball’In Schools program saw six National Federations participate in the fourth edition of the Youth Development Program Elite Camp in 2019, with 24 players from the region taking part. The camp focused on skill development, lectures on nutrition, game psychology, team practices and game practice. In total, 750 players and coaches have been involved in the Youth Development Camps with four camps held in Argentina, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Aruba.

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ELEVATING THE BRAND TO AN OPTIMUM LEVEL

FIBA Marketing continued to play a critical role, working closely with Global Partners and strengthening the brand via event promotion and strategic innovation.

FIBA MARKETING is responsible for a range of activities including sponsorship, sales, partnerships, account and brand management, licensing, market research, and event promotion linked to key global and continental National Team Competitions, headed by the FIBA Basketball World Cups for men and women. Set up after the 17-year agreement struck in 2017 between FIBA and Infront/Wanda Group, FIBA Marketing works closely with FIBA’s Global Partners and a host of other stakeholders to achieve its goals.

The commercial partnerships with Ganten, TCL, Tissot and Wanda were renewed in this period, while Smart was welcomed as a new partner. Smart will play a pivotal role in the lead-up to, and during, the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023. By using their latest Smart 5G technology and harnessing their extensive network of companies, FIBA and Smart will deliver the most connected and engaging FIBA Basketball World Cup to date.

The workshop highlighted the organization’s recent successes, with FIBA presenting its media and digital results from 2020, and also outlining marketing operations and promotional opportunities for 2021 to 2023. With much of the discussion focusing on innovation, FIBA updated the participants on the inaugural staging in 2020 of the FIBA Esports Open and the FIBA Foundation’s Basketball for Good program.

At 16 events between September 2019 and March 2021, the Marketing team organized rights delivery and marketing operations management, and also managed and delivered Partners’ Value in Kind, including Molten balls, Nike uniforms for volunteers and staff, Ganten water and TCL television screens.

In addition, a new ticketing strategy for flagship FIBA Competitions was developed with TicketSocket, while the Marketing team also oversaw the creation of an online rights delivery/marketing operations platform providing a one-stop shop for all event deliverables to Partners at all FIBA Competitions.

The Marketing team also worked in concert with Global Suppliers Connor Sports (portable courts), Schelde (backboards) and Unilumin (LED screens and displays) and its Preferred Global Ticketing Partner, TicketSocket, on a range of programs and strategies.

ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT, RIGHTS DELIVERY AND MARKETING OPERATIONS

Despite the many challenges posed by COVID-19, and the resulting restrictions on travel, FIBA Marketing remained firmly connected with its Global Partners and Official Suppliers, organizing an online workshop for more than 50 representatives – across 17 different time zones, from the west coast of the USA all the way to Tokyo, Japan.

The workshop also touched on key benchmarks and topics including the consumer research and data from fans and other special interest groups. The insights also touched on key benchmarks and topics including the growing role of women in basketball.

The team provided its Partners with detailed reports on broadcast, digital and sponsorship valuation from nine events between September 2019 and March 2021, together with full year summaries for 2019 and 2020, and conducted consumer research at selected events. It also worked with Nielsen Sports to develop a new return on investment evaluation tool to customize packages and optimize pricing for sponsorships, and was involved in enhancing FIBA’s customer relationship management strategy.

EVENT PROMOTION

FIBA Marketing plays an important role in the planning of two major upcoming events: the FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup 2022 in Sydney, Australia, and the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 in Indonesia, Japan and the Philippines.

FIBA Marketing developed a campaign to launch the brand strategy for the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 to be played in Indonesia, Japan and the Philippines. The launch of the World Cup logo was the most successful logo launch in FIBA history.

In total, the team developed and rolled out logos and brand identities at 16 events between September 2019 and March 2021.

The FIBA Women’s World Cup Trophy, meanwhile, was revamped and launched, and the FIBA Corporate brand and sonic identity were reworked and launched on May 3, 2021.

MARKET RESEARCH AND INSIGHTS

FIBA Marketing produced and delivered critical insights to its stakeholders, including detailed consumer research and data from fans and other special interest groups. The insights also touched on key benchmarks and topics including the growing role of women in basketball.

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FIBA MID-TERM ACTIVITY REPORT 2019-2021

RECORD PRODUCTION ON THE BIGGEST STAGE

FIBA Media continued its key roles working closely with broadcasters and providing a broad range of unique content for the growing fan base.

1990 French men’s team and the 1980 Olympic gold medal winners. FIBA Media was present for all events, including the 2019 Men’s Basketball World Cup.

Minimal staff were on site at the various hubs with overall operations primarily directed on a remote basis from two hubs with overall operations primarily directed on a remote basis from two hubs.

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS

The emphasis on genuine partnerships continued, with FIBA Media inking in the creation of a host of promotional and marketing assets used by broadcasters on their own channels to promote key games and events. The innovative approach of providing tangible support for Broadcast Partners in their own promotional efforts has helped drive interest in FIBA events and deliver strong broadcast audiences across a number of key markets.

EACHING THE FANS’ EXPERIENCE

FIBA Media, together with FIBA Communications, ensured fans could easily access information regarding live broadcasts of games and events. Outcomes included integrating broadcaster data into FIBA basketball and exploring ways to better use FIBA’s social media accounts to promote broadcast information and links.

COVID-19 has created significant challenges for broadcasters, particularly those reliant on advertising revenue, impacting their capacity to invest in rights to live sport. Nevertheless, FIBA Media’s partnerships with broadcasters continued to deliver excellent outcomes in the last phase of the 2017-2021 cycle across the world. They have ensured broad, multi-platform distribution of FIBA events, and this compelling content has added to growing interest across all markets in national team basketball.

Complementing FIBA’s strategic pillar of Women in Basketball, FIBA Media is actively recruiting and promoting the inclusion of female voices within live broadcasts. English-language commentary is supplied for all games and, while female commentators have been present for FIBA tournaments in recent years, their presence will be scaled up significantly in the future. A short-term objective is for women to fill 50 per cent of the commentator positions for the FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup 2022.

TAPPING INTO TALENT

FIBA Media is one of the very few sports media organizations to have a team dedicated to encouraging and managing interactions with and content creation by players and celebrity influencers. The team has worked with high-profile players such as French duo Rudy Gobert and Evan Fournier, Canadian tennis superstar Eugenie Bouchard and highly popular basketball influencers such as Rachel DeMita and Jordan Kilganon. Collaborative content creation efforts have helped FIBA to connect with new and diverse audiences, particularly digital-first younger demographics with a focus on encouraging social media engagement.

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Complementing FIBA’s strategic pillar of Women in Basketball, FIBA Media is actively recruiting and promoting the inclusion of female voices within live broadcasts. English-language commentary is supplied for all games and, while female commentators have been present for FIBA tournaments in recent years, their presence will be scaled up significantly in the future. A short-term objective is for women to fill 50 per cent of the commentator positions for the FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup 2022.

TAPPING INTO TALENT

FIBA Media is one of the very few sports media organizations to have a team dedicated to encouraging and managing interactions with and content creation by players and celebrity influencers. The team has worked with high-profile players such as French duo Rudy Gobert and Evan Fournier, Canadian tennis superstar Eugenie Bouchard and highly popular basketball influencers such as Rachel DeMita and Jordan Kilganon. Collaborative content creation efforts have helped FIBA to connect with new and diverse audiences, particularly digital-first younger demographics with a focus on encouraging social media engagement.

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS

The emphasis on genuine partnerships continued, with FIBA Media inking in the creation of a host of promotional and marketing assets used by broadcasters on their own channels to promote key games and events. The innovative approach of providing tangible support for Broadcast Partners in their own promotional efforts has helped drive interest in FIBA events and deliver strong broadcast audiences across a number of key markets.

EACHING THE FANS’ EXPERIENCE

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FANS AT THE CENTER OF STRATEGIC APPROACH

The FIBA Communications team maintained its focus on consistent messaging and engaging fans.

ONE OF FIBA COMMUNICATIONS’ key briefs is to contribute to FIBA’s vision of making basketball the most popular sports community across the globe. The department includes a communications team in each of the five FIBA regions and also China, and is responsible for managing the execution of digital communications, media operations, communication operations and public relations.

The Communications team ensures these activities and the messages that underpin them are aligned with FIBA’s strategy. It strives to make sure fans get the most out of their experience following FIBA.

The department manages media operations at more than 50 events across the world each year, issuing media accreditation. More than 2,400 media members from 81 countries were accredited for the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019 in China, with the Communications team planning, setting up and overseeing facilities and resources, facilitating access to players, coaches and officials, and ensuring working conditions and tools were in order. At the heart of FIBA Communications’ operations is a growing system of digital channels connecting millions of fans across the world to basketball. The digital channels cover all events and leagues in 16 languages, which provides fans with an ever-expanding range of content, including news, analysis, live videos, interviews, photographs and statistics. In recent years, the team has launched multiple mobile apps for major events (suitable for both iOS and Android devices) in six languages.

Since 2017, FIBA has live-streamed more than 2,500 games for free on YouTube yearly. In 2021, in cooperation with FMMS and the 3x3 department, FIBA agreed a ground-breaking deal to launch its own Twitch channel.

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BASKETBALL AS A FORCE FOR GOOD

FIBA’s Foundation is helping young people gain the skills and opportunities to create a brighter future for themselves and their communities.

THE FIBA FOUNDATION was founded in 2008 as the International Basketball Foundation. It is the social and legacy arm of FIBA, addressing basketball’s role in society and preserving and promoting its values and cultural heritage. The Foundation’s main pillars are Basketball For Good and Basketball Cultural Heritage.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

FIBA’s Cultural Heritage is the Foundation’s second pillar. It is one of the driving forces behind the promotion and dissemination of basketball’s values. The Cultural Heritage unit preserves, researches and promotes the cultural heritage of basketball and educates future generations about it. We aim to be the global reference for basketball history and knowledge sharing.

Patrick Baumann House of Basketball
Basketball has a rich history of benefitting lives and building communities, documented in a vast collection of artefacts, books and artworks. The Patrick Baumann House of Basketball is home to this collection as well as FIBA Hall of Fame, and FIBA’s Member Federations contribute to this with valuable items and research.

- In November 2019, a special ceremony was held to unveil the statue of Patrick Baumann and commemorate the late Secretary General.
- The exhibition space has been completely updated.
- A 3D virtual museum visit and aerial view of the FIBA Headquarters have been developed.
- A collaboration with the Federations has increased the inventory of books for the Pedro Ferrandiz Library.
- To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the first FIBA Basketball World Cup in Buenos Aires in 1950, a replica of the original World Cup trophy was made, based on an archive photo from Argentinian magazine El Mundo Deportivo.

Photo contest
Every year FIBA’s Foundation organizes a photo contest on a theme highlighting its values and commitment to Basketball for Good. The 100 best photos are published each year in a photo book.

2019 ‘How does Basketball Change lives’
- 1,400 photos received from 85 countries.
- First place awarded to Andrzej Kubik from Poland (below, top).

2020 ‘Women in Basketball’
- Almost 900 photos received from 56 countries.
- First place was awarded to Andi Nursam from Indonesia (below, bottom).

2021 ‘Urban Culture and Basketball’
- Launched in February 2021.

Basketball For Good platform
In June 2020, the Foundation launched a Basketball For Good digital platform, integrated into the FIBA basketball website. It showcases the diverse projects run globally and includes a ‘Propose a Project’ form, enabling people to submit projects that require assistance and align with the Foundation’s vision and mission around Basketball For Good. Via its partnership with Molten, the Foundation has already been able to support four projects in Ghana, Gabon, Guatemala and Tanzania, sending Molten balls to help them develop Basketball For Good activities.

FIBA Open
The FIBA Open is one of the world’s biggest 3x3 grassroots events, aimed at promoting the 3x3 movement by bringing an inclusive basketball competition to Switzerland. The event is open to all, with Special Olympics athletes, refugees, and wheelchair basketball athletes invited to take part. The 2020 edition – adapted to meet COVID-19 guidelines – featured teams with players aged 14 and younger.
CHANGING THE GAME FOR THE BETTER

FIBA oversaw the latest adjustments to the rules of basketball in 2020 and also witnessed its efforts to promote female game officials bear fruit.

FIBA’S RULES ADVISORY GROUP (RAG) consists of basketball and refereeing experts who scrutinize any proposed rule changes before submitting them to the FIBA Technical Commission for the final review. Key stakeholders – the World Association of Basketball Coaches (WABC), FIBA’s Players’ Commission, NBA and NCAA representatives – are also involved.

The following changes were approved for the Official Basketball Rules 2020, which came into force on October 1 last year:

- Art. 5: Players´ Injury
- Art. 15: Player in act of shooting
- Art. 37: Unsportsmanlike foul
- Art. 15: Player in act of shooting
- Art. 37: Unsportsmanlike foul
- Art. 33: Cylinder/Basketball
- Art. 35: Double foul
- Art. 5: Players´ Injury
- Art. 37: Unsportsmanlike foul

GAME OFFICIAL LICENSING (GOL)
The third edition of GOL registration started on October 15, 2020, with over 1,300 candidates for FIBA Referee and Commissioner licenses for the 2021-2023 cycle. There was a clear increase in numbers for National Federations and especially female candidates. This highlights FIBA’s success, via its Regional Offices, in encouraging National Federations to develop game officials, particularly in the promotion of female referees.

WABC HELPING TO COACH THE COACHES

The World Association of Basketball Coaches (WABC) worked with FIBA to deliver a successful series of online coaching clinics in 2020.

IN THE WAKE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, the WABC took its coaching development activities online in 2020. With FIBA’s support, it composed a series of Feature Coaching Clinics, delivered by top-level coaches with careful consideration given to basketball fundamentals.

From early May 2020 until the end of October, there were two clinics streamed live on the WABC Facebook page every week. This included, over a six-week period, a dedicated series of ‘Women in Basketball’ coaches’ clinics led by several eminent female coaches. Overall, FIBA and the WABC held 63 clinics, reaching more than 800,000 people and earning over 220,000 views in total.

Also in 2020, the WABC, in collaboration with the FIBA Referee Department, reviewed and redesigned the WABC Basketball Knowledge component for the Level 1 and Level 2 FIBA Referee Instructors Program (IRIP). Meanwhile, in a new initiative in collaboration with the FIBA Referee Department, the WABC offered a webinar to coaches, which explained all changes to the Official Basketball Rules 2020, attracting over 10,000 views.

ANALYZING THE TRENDS

The FIBA Descriptive Analytics Report 2020 was released in February 2021 – the latest product of the successful collaboration between FIBA, the WABC and the NBA.

The report provided team and individual player performance analysis of the most recent FIBA national-team events. It gave an overview of key performance indicators from the FIBA U17 and U19 Men’s and Women’s Basketball World Cups, FIBA Senior Men’s and Women’s Basketball World Cups, and Men’s and Women’s Olympic Basketball Tournaments, and offered insights for both senior and junior coaches. For a broader level of analysis, it included data from the NBA and WNBA as a comparison benchmark.

With a longitudinal comparison of shooting across FIBA events since 2008, the study noted a rise in three-point attempts across the youth and senior game – for example, the men’s Olympic tournament witnessed a small increase from 22.6 per game in 2008 to 23.4 in 2016, with the comparative figures for the NBA Playoffs reading 14.7 in 2008 and 21.5 in 2016.

The analysis also included team and position statistics over time and highlighted an evolution in the distribution of points by position – such as the percentage of points scored by both guards and perimeter players at the FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup, which rose from 33.1 percent in 2010 to 50.5 percent in 2018. At the FIBA Basketball World Cup, meanwhile, there was a noted increase in points by players in the perimeter positions – up to 28.4 percent from 17.2 percent of all points scored in 2010.

RECORD NUMBER OF TRANSFERS

In November 2020, the International Centre for Sports Studies (CIES) and FIBA published the ninth edition of the International Basketball Migration Report. Concentrating on the 2019-20 season, the report focuses on basketball’s migratory trends and tendencies, highlighting its global nature, with a record number of 8,900 international transfers, involving 7,371 players, registered for the year – an increase of 2.4 percent from 2018-19. All FIBA Regions recorded an increase in the number of international transfers in 2019-20, with the exception of Americas.

The report uses FIBA’s database of all men’s and women’s international transfers, recording all movements completed by players aged 18 and over between two National Federations. The monitoring of these transfers and trends is enhanced by FIBA’s Management and Administrative Platform (MAP), the central information system that is used to prepare and support all aspects of FIBA’s basketball competitions. In 2019, in a new project implemented worldwide through MAP, a new process was introduced where an electronic Letter of Clearance must be issued by a player’s National Federation of origin to the player’s federation of destination.
WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL keeps on growing

With new members and fresh partnerships, the International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF) sustained the game’s growth in 2019-21.

WITH ITS BASE at the Patrick Baumann House of Basketball in Mies, Switzerland, IWBF has received FIBA’s support in its evolution – and this evolution continues apace. At the same 2018 World Congress that decided that IWBF should become a registered association in Switzerland, it was agreed to give athletes a greater voice in governance. In 2020, an Athlete Steering Committee was created to help establish a Players’ Commission. Overall, IWBF now has 95 National Wheelchair Basketball Organisations, with 10 members welcomed since 2019.

In September 2020, FIBA and IWBF renewed their Memorandum of Understanding until the end of 2023. The bodies have worked together since 1992 and this fresh agreement ensures a renewed Memorandum of Understanding until the end of 2023. The same year will also see the first worldwide 3x3 wheelchair basketball competition in an integrated program with the 3x3 competition as part of the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

COMPETITIONS

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, IWBF completed the qualification process for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games ahead of their postponement. Successful qualification tournaments took place in all four zones (Africa, Americas, Asia/ Oceania and Europe).

Looking further ahead, the hosts were selected for the next two World Championships for Men and Women, with the 2022 event awarded to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and the 2026 event to Ottawa, Canada. The U23 World Championship for Men, scheduled originally for Chiba, Japan in 2021, was moved to 2022 to avoid a clash with the rescheduled Paralympic Games.

ENSURING CONTINUITY AT A TIME OF CRISIS

An instant and decisive response to the COVID-19 pandemic has led to positive changes to the way FIBA works.

THE DEAF INTERNATIONAL BASKETBALL FEDERATION (DIBF) is the world governing body for international deaf basketball, operating in cooperation with the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) and its confederations. DIBF seeks to bring together all international deaf basketball stakeholders and shares the same principles as FIBA and the International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF).

For the DIBF, 2020 began with the January launch of a new logo – a basketball surrounded by swirls to represent the four regional zones. The work of deaf designer Paolo Aisa, the logo had been selected at the DIBF World Congress in 2019.

COMPETITIONS

It was in November 2019 when the last major competition prior to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic took place, namely the DIBF EuroCup for Clubs. Held in Moscow, Russia, a keenly contested men’s competition was won by Italian team Fabriano, while Tyla Kaunas of Herzegovina; DIBF EuroCup for Clubs in Pescara, Italy; IODVB International Veteran Cup in Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina; DIBF EuroCup for Clubs in Dubai, Turkey; and the 2019 Deaflympics; youth camps; and development clinics and workshops.

Looking ahead, at the time of writing, the hope for 2021 is that activities could resume with a variety of events scheduled, including the Asia-Pacific Championships in Kish Island, Iran; Africa Championships in Nairobi, Kenya; European Championships in Pescara, Italy; IODVB International Veteran Cup in Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina; DIBF EuroCup for Clubs in Dubai, Turkey; and the 2020 Deaflympics; youth camps; and development clinics and workshops.

HEADCOUNT

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<td>China</td>
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RESPONDING TO CRITICAL ISSUES AND AN EVOLVING LANDSCAPE

The FIBA Legal Department provided vast expertise to help navigate multiple matters including the challenges presented by COVID-19.

In 2020, FIBA maintained its “A” ranking for governance, issued by the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF). FIBA’s National Federation development, social responsibility and education programs, as well as its integrity initiatives, were specifically recognized, with ASOIF highlighting multiple best practice examples in the National Federation development program and indicating it would use the program as a case study for other International Federations.

Following the new code issued by WADA for 2021, the Legal Department undertook a thorough review of part of FIBA’s Internal Regulations, with all changes approved and now in force, effective of January 1, 2021.

Other changes to regulations included amendments regarding licensed agents to reflect market realities, with some previous restrictions lifted as a result. However, provisions on conflict of interest were reinforced. Meanwhile, rules relating to the transfer of young players were amended to increase the protection of national teams and players’ clubs of origin.

FIBA, with help from its Legal team, instituted a binding policy on data processing obligations applicable to National Federations processing personal data on behalf of FIBA, in line with new European regulations. Also, substantial changes were made to FIBA’s integrity regulations to ensure the organization continues to conduct best practices within the sport industry. In 2020, FIBA appointed Richard McLaren as its Integrity Officer to support the organization’s duty in ensuring the integrity of the game (particularly in relation to illegal betting and match manipulation) and safeguarding the basketball community.

When it comes to competitions, the Legal Department was heavily involved in the ongoing development of FIBA’s exports programs, creating new handbooks, outlining eligibility criteria for participants and assisting in the conclusion of license agreements.

In order to ensure the smooth return to competition post-COVID-19, the Legal Department lent its full support to the creation, revision and enforcement of COVID-19 protocols for national team competitions. The team was also fully engaged in managing COVID-19-related issues during the FIBA Continental Cup Qualifier windows.

A high number of COVID-19 related contractual matters arose during 2020, requiring the drafting of new clauses for multiple contracts. Legal team support was also needed for the management of contractual relationships, issues and disputes relating to FIBA entities.

The Legal Department continued to support FIBA in its governance of National Federations, with fewer federations facing institutional issues compared to the two previous years. The team conducted reviews of many statutes and other materials in order to help National Federation members improve and update their governance systems and ensure compliance with the FIBA regulatory framework.

FIBA is working with leading law firm Cleary Gottlieb Steern & Hamilton as it continues to seek solutions that would benefit all basketball stakeholders in its complaint against EuroLeague Commercial Assets. The complaint, based on anti-competitive practices, is before the European Commission. In late 2020, the Union of European Leagues of Basketball, which represents 11 major European leagues, joined FIBA in the complaint “to protect the sporting principles of the game”.

BASKETBALL ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL

FIBA continues to be actively engaged in the enforcement of the Basketball Arbitral Tribunal (BAT) awards, with more than 80 per cent success in ensuring parties comply with BAT decisions.

As an organization recognized by FIBA under the FIBA General Statutes, the independent Basketball Arbitral Tribunal (BAT) has grown over the past few years, becoming one of the most important sports arbitration tribunals in the Olympic Movement – and the first to conduct its enforcement of COVID-19 protocols electronically. During the COVID-19 crisis, the BAT was a pioneer, issuing guidelines to address the different financial and contractual controversies basketball stakeholders were facing due to the cancellation or postponement of domestic professional leagues.

In 2020, a record-breaking 888 cases were managed, with a 93% success rate in ensuring parties comply with BAT decisions. In 2021, despite the challenges presented by the pandemic, the team managed 361 cases, 93% of which were resolved successfully.

**Requests for arbitration filed**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Requests for arbitration filed</th>
<th>Cases pending</th>
<th>Requests for arbitration leading to award / termination order</th>
<th>Settled*</th>
<th>Withdrawn**</th>
<th>Appeals before CAS</th>
<th>Appeals before SFT</th>
<th>Low value cases***</th>
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<td>106 (termination order)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>82</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Including cases in which a settlement agreement of the parties was incorporated in a Consent Award

** For reasons other than settlement / for unknown reasons

*** Cases with a value below EUR 30,000 where an award without reasons is issued
AFRICA

REGIONAL OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS 2019-2021

• Successful execution of FIBA Women’s AfroBasket 2019 in Senegal, with a record African crowd of 15,000. Cameroon will host the 2021 edition of the continental competition.
• Delivered the FIBA AfroBasket 2021 Qualifiers in November 2020 and February 2021, under strict COVID-19 protocol procedures.
• The inaugural season of the Basketball Africa League, a collaboration between FIBA and the NBA, started in May 2021 and featured 28 clubs in the qualifiers and 12 clubs in the final phase.
• Key initiatives introduced to enhance competitions and mitigate challenges including hosting capacities of countries and impact of COVID-19.
• Increased promotion of women’s basketball by strengthening the capacities of female coaches and referees through face-to-face and online training within National Federations.
• Specialized training and development programs delivered to improve skills and knowledge of referees officiating at continental, regional and international levels.
• Development of the 3x3 program by increasing the number of referees, instructors and private promoters.
• The FIBA PLUS Strategy and Planning Program was launched in the following National Federations: Federation of Uganda Basketball Associations, Rwandan Amateur Basketball Federation, Mozambique Basketball Federation, Cape Verdean Basketball Federation, Basketball Union of Zimbabwe, Botswana Basketball Association and Egyptian Basketball Federation.
• Delivered numerous webinars for National Federations, players, coaches, game officials and other actors of the game to support them in their development and learning activities.
• Mini Basketball Convention conducted in Namibia and Mali in collaboration with the FIBA Foundation.

AMERICAS

REGIONAL OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS 2019-2021

• Successful execution of FIBA AmeriCup 2022 Qualifiers in November 2020 and February 2021, under strict COVID-19 protocol procedures.
• Delivered the FIBA Women’s AmeriCup 2019 in Puerto Rico.
• Basketball Champions League Americas launched in 2019, with two successful seasons of the competition completed.
• FIBA Regional Office Americas unveiled its new headquarters in Miami, Florida, on February 28, 2020. Known as “The Gateway to the Americas”, Miami is now the home of FIBA in the region.
• Launched the Adelante program designed to identify, educate and motivate the next generation of female leaders in the Americas.
• Executed the 2019 International Coaching Apprenticeship in Basketball.
• Three National Federation coaches were offered the FIBA Europe Coaching Program in 2020.
• The fourth Youth Development Program Elite Camp was conducted in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
• The National Federations’ Youth Development Mentorship Program was created for 2021.
• The FIBA PLUS Strategy and Planning Program was launched in the following National Federations: Bahamas Basketball Federation, National Basketball Federation of Trinidad and Tobago, Aruba Basketball Bond and Uruguay Basketball Federation.
• Delivered numerous webinars for National Federations, players, coaches, game officials and other actors of the game to support them in their development and learning activities.
• Mini Basketball Convention conducted in El Salvador in collaboration with the FIBA Foundation.
ASIA

REGIONAL OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS 2019-2021

- Successful execution of FIBA Women’s Asia Cup 2019 in Bengaluru, India.
- First two phases of FIBA Asia Cup 2021 Qualifiers held in November 2020 and February 2021, under strict COVID-19 protocol procedures, with the final phase to take place from June 12-14, 2021 (Amman, Jordan) and June 16-20 (Clark City, Philippines).
- The Ball’In Schools grassroots development program, launched in 2019, continued to grow with more than 1,000 children participating in seminars held in three countries.
- 15 National Federations and 28 teams participated in the 3x3 Asia Quest 2019, a city-based program featuring a host of FIBA-endorsed events.
- Coaching webinars conducted as part of the World Association of Basketball Coaches course.
- Launched an outreach program supporting the fight against childhood cancer, the Golden Jersey, with the aim to unite communities involved.
- Online platform launched for webinars run by departments including National Federations and Sport, Competitions and Communications.
- The Regional Office took part in the worldwide Sport for Climate initiative with the aim of reducing FIBA’s carbon footprint.
- The Sri Lanka Basketball Federation participated in the FIBA PLUS Strategy and Planning Program.
- Delivered numerous webinars for National Federations, players, coaches, media and game officials and other actors of the game to support them in their development and learning activities.
- Mini Basketball Convention conducted in Bahrain, in collaboration with the FIBA Foundation.

EUROPE

REGIONAL OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS 2019-2021

- Successful execution of the FIBA Women’s EuroBasket 2019 event, with positive promotion campaign ( Throne Zone) and economic impact study (first time for the women’s competition).
- Delivered the FIBA EuroBasket 2022 Qualifiers as well as the FIBA EuroBasket Women 2021 Qualifiers in November 2020 and February 2021 under strict COVID-19 protocols.
- Basketball Champions League completed two seasons under strict COVID-19 protocols.
- The EuroLeague Women, EuroCup Women and the FIBA Europe Cup all completed the season 2020-21 under strict COVID-19 protocols.
- Implemented investment into repositioning EuroLeague Women, with focus on creating values, a new brand identity and making the competition more attractive to sponsors.
- FIBA Europe Exchange Platform for National Federations created to simplify the contact between National Federations during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic period.
- Successful application for a new Erasmus+ Project, ‘Exchange and Mobility’, co-financed by the European Commission.
- Implemented the ongoing TIME OUT 2.0 Erasmus+ Project, co-financed by the European Commission.
- Ongoing positive participation in the newly launched SWISH (sport integrity) and WiLEAD (women in leadership) programs.
- ‘Her World, Her Rules’ identified as a program to be expanded globally as part of FIBA’s Women in Basketball strategy.
- The FIBA U14 Get Together event, held in 2019 in Prague, Czech Republic, attracted 119 participants from 34 nations.
- The Kosovo Basketball Federation participated in the FIBA PLUS Strategy and Planning Program.
- Published/executed a series of webinars for National Federations, players, coaches, game officials and other actors of the game to support them in their development and learning activities.
- Mini Basketball Convention conducted in Switzerland, in collaboration with the FIBA Foundation.

PRESIDENT
Sheikh Saud Ali Al Thani (Qatar)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Hagop Khajarian (Lebanon)

PRESIDENT
Turgay Demirel (Turkey)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Kamil Novak (Czech Republic)
At the conclusion of the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019, FIBA China’s key focus shifted to building World Cup legacy programs in China.

In November 2019, FIBA China relocated its office with Beijing Party Secretary Mr. Cai Qi and other city leaders visiting in July 2020.

FIBA China implemented a new organizational structure and now has eight full-time employees.

FIBA BG Academy successfully held eight Level 1 Courses in six Chinese cities, with 238 local coaches taking part. In 2021, FIBA China confirmed 16 Mini Basketball courses and 16 Level 1 courses will be held across the country.

Eight Level 1 coaching courses were held in 2020, with 32 Mini Basketball and Level 1 courses confirmed for 2021.

In order to better coordinate with the National Federation in China, a regular meeting mechanism was set up between the Chinese Basketball Association and the FIBA China office.

FIBA China is supporting the FIBA Equipment & Venue Centre in establishing closer links with Chinese company partners and candidates.

FIBA China received a Special Contribution Award 2019.

The second International Basketball Foundation Youth Leadership Seminar was held in Singapore in 2019, with 17 leaders (five male and 12 female) from 17 countries taking part. Participants focused on tackling social issues, organized 3x3 competitions that integrated Basketball For Good elements, and arranged other mixed-gender and mixed-country events to promote cross-cultural understanding.

An Introduction to Youth Coaching course, delivered in the form of a webinar, drew an audience of about 800 people from Malaysia and Indonesia.

A Tournament Coach Course, delivered in the form of a webinar series to 13 coaches of girls’ and women’s teams in the Philippines, featured six interactive sessions with mentors.

Brunei, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam participated in the Cambodia Friendship Games, with various development programs conducted including clinics for players, coaches and referees and 3x3 mixed-team competitions.

A Coaching Summit was held in Manila, Philippines, with about 500 coaches in attendance at the FIBA-supported event and one male and one female coach invited from other South-East Asian countries.

In January 2021, Walmonos Sports was announced as a new strategic partner of Mini Basketball in China in a three-year agreement until September 2023.

Mini Basketball Convention – Oceania 2019 (Echuca, Australia).

FIBA OCEANIA REGIONAL OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS 2019-2021

- Successful execution of the first FIBA competitions in New Caledonia, the FIBA Oceania U17 Championship and FIBA Oceania U17 Women’s Championship.
- Delivered the FIBA Asia Cup 2021 Qualifier game between Australia and New Zealand during the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Record number of 29,238 participants during 2019-2020 in Basketball For Good activities.
- Implemented bidding process seeking and confirming multi-year hosts for key events years in advance.
- Implemented a Tournament Coaches’ Course for Females, which produced national team coaches for National Federations.
- Positive partnership with Pacific Games Council organizing the Pacific Games’ basketball event.
- Ongoing success of National Basketball Development programs including Youth Hoops, youth leadership seminar in Singapore, Hoops for Health, Twilight Basketball, Mum’s a Hero and I’m A Girl.
- Various coaching workshops and webinars conducted as part of the World Association of Basketball Coaches course, including mentor coaching programs, high-performance workshops, and programs for referees, table officials and statisticians.
- The Guam Basketball Confederation participated in the FIBA PLUS Strategy and Planning Program.
- Delivered numerous webinars for National Federations, players, coaches, game officials and other actors of the game to support them in their development and learning activities.
- Mini Basketball Convention conducted in Australia, in collaboration with the FIBA Foundation.

OCEANIA

PRESIDENT
Burton Shipley (New Zealand)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
David Crocker (Australia)

FIBA SINGAPORE

- The second International Basketball Foundation Youth Leadership Seminar was held in Singapore in 2019, with 17 leaders (five male and 12 female) from 17 countries taking part. Participants focused on tackling social issues, organized 3x3 competitions that integrated Basketball For Good elements, and arranged other mixed-gender and mixed-country events to promote cross-cultural understanding.
- An Introduction to Youth Coaching course, delivered in the form of a webinar, drew an audience of about 850 people from Malaysia and Indonesia.
- A Tournament Coach Course, delivered in the form of a webinar series to 13 coaches of girls’ and women’s teams in the Philippines, featured six interactive sessions with mentors.
- Brunei, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam participated in the Cambodia Friendship Games, with various development programs conducted including clinics for players, coaches and referees and 3x3 mixed-team competitions.
- A Coaching Summit was held in Manila, Philippines, with about 500 coaches in attendance at the FIBA-supported event and one male and one female coach invited from other South-East Asian countries.
- A Train the Trainers course was held in Indonesia as part of the country’s planning program, with 50 coaches in attendance.
- Indonesia and Singapore held referee development courses.
NIANG CONFIRMED AS NEW FIBA PRESIDENT AT BEIJING CONGRESS

The XXI FIBA Congress in Beijing in August 2019 saw Hamane Niang elected as the new President of FIBA and his predecessor, Horacio Muratore, named as FIBA Honorary President.

THE XXI FIBA CONGRESS took place at the Sheraton Grand Beijing Dongcheng Hotel in Beijing, China, on August 29-30, 2019, bringing together delegates from 196 National Federations on the eve of the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019.

It was a Congress filled with significance, with the agenda headed by the voting for a new President, Treasurer and Central Board members for the 2019-2023 term of office.

On the first day, Hamane Niang was elected unanimously as the 13th President of FIBA. He had previously held the post of First Vice President of FIBA and also President of FIBA Africa between 2014-2019, having formerly been President of the Mali Basketball Federation and also a Mali Minister of Sport.

On his election, Niang said: “I sincerely thank all the National Federations for the trust they have placed in me today. It is with humility that I accept this responsibility placed upon me. I promise to dedicate myself fully to FIBA during my tenure and to serve the interests of our beloved sport across all corners of the world. We are the governing body of basketball and we must continue to play the leading role in developing basketball together, we can become the most popular sports community in the world.”

Hamane Niang
FIBA President

(Romania), Jean-Pierre Susat (France), Aarit Zitting (Finland), Asterios Zois (Greece), Karo Lelai (Papua New Guinea) and David Reid (Australia).

On the same day, outgoing FIBA President Horacio Muratore was named FIBA Honorary President after a unanimous decision. Over his many years of service to basketball’s governing body, Muratore had been the FIBA Americas Vice President (2006-2009), FIBA Americas President (2009-2014), FIBA Vice President (2010-2014) and then FIBA President (2014-2019).

Speaking in praise of Muratore’s vast contribution, FIBA Secretary General Andreas Zagklis said: “When I’m asked to describe our President I say, this is a man who has climbed every single step of the FIBA ladder. He has been at every level – club, regional association, National Federation with a gold Olympic medal, sub-zone President, Zone President, then in the last five years President of FIBA, and with the recommendation of the Central Board as of today Honorary President of FIBA. Everything he has done for FIBA has been for the good of basketball and I thank him for his presidency and his mentorship.”

During its first meeting on September 14, 2019, the Central Board decided to co-opt two new members, Yao Ming (China) and Manuel V. Pangilinan (Philippines). Subsequently, in its session of March 25-26, 2020, the Central Board co-opted two new members, Richard Carrion (Puerto Rico) and Andrei Kirilenko (Russia), and later that year, on November 6, co-opted an additional new member to join them – Jorge Garbajosa (Spain).

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Hamane Niang
FIBA President

(France), Michele Ramaroson (Madagascar), Michele O’Keefe (Canada), Marcelo Luis Bedoya Murto (Paraguay), Usie Richards (Virgin Islands), Yoko Mitsuwa (Japan), Erick Thoehr (Indonesia), Carmen Tocala

RECOGNIZING THE MOST SUCCESSFUL FEDERATIONS

The FIBA Awards Ceremony also took place, recognizing the most successful National Federations across nine different categories, including the President’s Award 2019, presented to the leader of a National Federation from each continent for their positive impact on basketball over the preceding five years. The winners of the President’s Award were: Hanoua Boubacar Maga (Mali), Rafael Fernando Uribé Vasquez (Dominican Republic), Govindaraj Kempareddy (India), Manuel Fernandes (Portugal) and Gregory Williamson (New Zealand).

In the other categories the winners are listed below.

FIBA GIRLS’ NIKE WORLD RANKING 2019
#1 - USA
#2 - Spain
#3 - France

FIBA BOYS’ NIKE WORLD RANKING 2019
#1 - USA
#2 - Spain
#3 - France

FIBA WOMEN’S NIKE WORLD RANKING 2019
#1 - USA
#2 - Spain
#3 - Lithuania

FIBA MEN’S NIKE WORLD RANKING 2019
#1 - USA
#2 - Spain
#3 - France

FIBA GIRLS’ NIKE WORLD RANKING 2019
#1 - USA
#2 - China
#3 - Slovenia

FIBA GAMES’ NIKE WORLD RANKING 2019
#1 - USA
#2 - Spain
#3 - France

FIBA AMERICAS PRESIDENT (2019-2024) and then FIBA President (2014-2019).

On the same day, outgoing FIBA Vice President Horacio Muratore was named FIBA Honorary President after a unanimous decision. Over his many years of service to basketball’s governing body, Muratore had been the FIBA Americas Vice President (2006-2009), FIBA Americas President (2009-2014), FIBA Vice President (2010-2014) and then FIBA President (2014-2019).

Speaking in praise of Muratore’s vast contribution, FIBA Secretary General Andreas Zagklis said: “When I’m asked to describe our President I say, this is a man who has climbed every single step of the FIBA ladder. He has been at every level – club, regional association, National Federation with a gold Olympic medal, sub-zone President, Zone President, then in the last five years President of FIBA, and with the recommendation of the Central Board as of today Honorary President of FIBA. Everything he has done for FIBA has been for the good of basketball and I thank him for his presidency and his mentorship.”

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The Central Board’s role is to supervise the practice of basketball worldwide, to set up the long-term strategic plan and to report to the Congress. The Central Board appoints the Secretary General, the Executive Committee as well as the permanent FIBA Commissions that examine and advise on specific aspects of the sport.

**CENTRAL BOARD (2019-2023)**

- **PRESIDENT**
  Hamane Niang

- **SECRETARY GENERAL**
  Andreas Zagklis

- **TREASURER**
  Ingo Weiss

- **MEMBERS**
  Sheikh Saud Al-Thani (First Vice-President), Turgay Demirel (Vice-President), Burton Shipley (Vice-President), Celestine Clotaire Adjouhou, Marcelo Bedoya, Carol Callan, Richard Carrion, Jorge Garbajosa, Andrey Kirilenko, Kari Lehar, Anibal Manave, Yoko Mitsuya, Michele O’Keefe, Manuel V. Pangilinan, Jean-Michel Ramaroson, David Reid, Usie Richards, Jean-Pierre Siutat, Erick Thohir, Carmen Tocala, Yao Ming, Antti Zitting, Asterios Zois

- **NBA REPRESENTATIVE**
  Mark Tatum

- **PLAYERS’ REPRESENTATIVE**
  Dirk Nowitzki

The Executive Committee exercises certain powers of the Central Board between the latter’s meetings. Among others, it develops tactics for extending the reach of basketball, monitors outcomes and performances and approves the yearly budgets and receives financial updates.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (2019-2023)**

- **PRESIDENT**
  Hamane Niang

- **SECRETARY GENERAL**
  Andreas Zagklis

- **TREASURER**
  Ingo Weiss

- **MEMBERS**
  Sheikh Saud Al-Thani (First Vice-President), Turgay Demirel (Vice-President), Burton Shipley (Vice-President), Carol Callan, Richard Carrion, Anibal Manave, Mark Tatum, Carmen Tocala
MANAGEMENT TEAM

The FIBA Management team includes all Directors of FIBA’s different departments and Regional Offices, as well as the Foundation and FIBA Media and Marketing Services (FMMS) Directors, under the direction of the FIBA Secretary General.

Andreas Zagklis
Secretary General

COMMISSIONS
(2019-2023)

LEGAL
The Legal Commission is the body competent for all legal matters concerning the practice of basketball worldwide, matters related to the implications of possible modifications to regulations as well as the interpretation of current ones.

CHAIRMAN
Edgar Francisco

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
Yum Ramos

MEMBERS
Samuel Ahmedu, Nader Alawadhi, Richard Buchanan, Man Wai Mable Ching, Jean-Pierre Delchef, Sofiane Jeribi, Justas Kalinauskas, Ameike Moine-Girin, Christopher Thaddeus Patarson, Eleonora Rangelova, David Reid, Ruben Uruena
PLAYERS

The Players’ Commission is the body competent to study issues relating to players, men and women, of all age groups. It recommends to the Central Board any measures deemed necessary to improve the conditions of all players and protect their ability to grow as players and as role models for others.

CHAIRMAN
Dirk Nowitzki

DEPUTY CHAIRWOMAN
Jenni Screen

MEMBERS
Mathieu Faye, Maria Paula Goncalves da Silva, Ilona Korstin, Hamchetou Maiga Ba, Dejan Majstorovic, Raffaella Masciadri, Yegor Mescheriakov, Marko Milic, Hanno Mottola, Yuko Oga, Marie-Eve Paget, Kirk Penney, Amaya Valdemoro, Nikolaas Zisis

FINANCE

The Finance Commission reviews and recommends the FIBA draft budget, prepares financial statements and studies the auditors’ report in view of recommending its acceptance to the Central Board. It also establishes financial investment policy recommendations.

CHAIRMAN
Ingo Weiss

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
Erick Thohir

MEMBERS
Grzegorz Bachorski, Carlos Roberto De Costa Fontenele, Stefan Garaleas, Marion Grethen Wanderscheid, Sabrina Marie Mitchell, Ahmadu-Kida Musa, Usie Richards, Abhijit Sarker, Karl Thaller, Adel Eskandar Tooma, Gregory Edward Williamson
MEDICAL

The Medical Commission recommends measures in view of improving the quality of healthcare for players generally as well as at FIBA competitions. It ensures awareness of the latest and best practices of sports medicine within the basketball community, while also advising on matters relating to the IOC Medical Code and the World Anti-Doping Code.

CHAIRMAN
Peter Harcourt
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
Souheil Sayegh
MEMBERS
Peter George Burt, Jose Raul Canlas, John DiFiori, Diego Grippo, Andrew Pipe, Dragan Radovanovic, Chulapadma Senaratne, Ramin Ahmadi Tabatabaei, Rosario Soledad Urena Duran, Ilker Yucesir

COMPETITIONS

The Competitions Commission is the body competent for all matters concerning FIBA’s competitions, including reviews of past competitions and recommendations for future competitions.

CHAIRMAN
Jorge Garbajosa

NATIONAL TEAMS

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
Yann Barbitch

MEMBERS
Ali Benzarti, Zlatko Bolic, Wolfgang Brenschedt, Edward John Coten, Kenta Kawashima, James Michael Tooley, Rafael Fernando Uribe, Lan Xu

CLUBS COMPETITION

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
Asterios Zois

MEMBERS
Mohamed Abdel-motaleb Soliman, Muongmea Pratoom, Sertbulent Sengun, Ricardo Vairo Zugoni, Fabian Borro, Kouroes Monadjemi, Tomas Van Der Spiegel

YOUTH BASKETBALL

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
Mindaugas Spokus

MEMBERS
Marcelo Correa de Sousa, Henrik Dettmann, Matej Erjavec, Kampareddy Govindaraj, Dino Rada, Edgars Sneps, Manuel Antonio Celestino Soffrimento

WOMEN IN BASKETBALL

DEPUTY CHAIRWOMAN
Lena Wallin-Kantzy

MEMBERS
Iran Richard Arcos Sobarzo, Carol Callan, Manuel Francisco Fernandes, Natalia Galkina, Justine Irung, Michele O’Keeffe, Sandra Palombari, Yul Pang
**3x3**

The 3x3 Commission is responsible for the growth of the 3x3 discipline, the organization and allocation of 3x3 competitions, and the regulation and officiating of the game. It also oversees the development and interpretation of the FIBA 3x3 Basketball Rules, including drafting amendments for adoption by the Central Board.

**CHAIRMAN**
Andrey Kirilenko

**DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**
Ambrose Tashobya

**MEMBERS**
Peter Laszlo Bodnar, Lothar Robert Michael Boesing, Jason Anthony Demings, Jiang Guan, Patrick Haynes, Martin Ho Sue Sang, Michal Konecny, Hoang Bao Nguyen, Jerome Prigent, Giancarlo Sergi, Myagmarjav Luvssandash, Radu Petre, Mikiko Yasuda, Raelin Marie D’Ale, Jasmina Juras, Michael Linklater

**TECHNICAL**

The Technical Commission is the body competent for all matters concerning the interpretation and application of the Official Basketball Rules, as well as recommending amendments to the rules. Its responsibilities extend to the management of referees, supervisors, instructors and commissioners.

**CHAIRMAN**
Patrick Hunt

**DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**
Gunta Basko

**MEMBERS**
Fode Amara Conde, Fadi El Khatib, Uros Ivanovic, Dusan Ivkovic, Koh Koon Teck, Evgeny Ostrovskiy, Miguel Angel Perez Niz, Facundo Sebastian Petracci, Goran Radojic, Dawn Staley, Hongtao Zeng
INSPIRING FUTURE GENERATIONS OF BASKETBALL PLAYERS