OTHER BASKETBALL LEAGUES

(Appendix 2.1, to Sports Facility Reports, Volume 15)
Research completed as of August 1, 2014

AMERICAN BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (ABA)

Team: Arizona Scorpions

Principal Owner: Tris Tilley
Team Website

Arena: Glendale Community College

Team: Atlanta Aliens

Principal Owner: Adrian Provost
Team Website

Arena: Jefferson Basketball Stadium

Team: Atlanta Wildcats

Principal Owner: William D. Payton IV
Team Website

Arena: Henry County High School

Team: Austin Boom

Principal Owner: C&J Elite Sports LLC
Team Website

Arena: N/A
Team: Bay Area Matrix

Principal Owner: Jim Beresford
Team Website

Arena: Diablo Valley College

Team: Birmingham Blitz

Principal Owner: Birmingham Blitz LLC
Team Website: N/A

Arena: Bill Harris Arena

Team: Bowling Green Bandits

Principal Owner: Matt Morris
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Calgary Crush

Principal Owner: Salman Rashidian
Team Website

Arena: SAIT Polytechnic

Team: Central Texas Swarm

Principal Owner: Swarm Investment Group/ Shooting Stars Sports & Entertainment
Team Website: N/A

Arena: N/A

Team: Central Valley Titans

Principal Owner: Josh England
Team Website: N/A

Arena: Exeter Union High School
Team: Chicago Court Kingz

Principal Owner: Unique Starz Sports & Entertainment
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Chicago Steam

Principal Owner: Ron Hicks
Team Website

 Arena: South Suburban College

Team: Colorado Cougars

Principal Owner: Patrick Kelly
Team Website

Arena: Loveland High School

Team: Colorado Kings

Principal Owner: Durrell Middleton
Team Website

Arena: Overland High School

Team: Columbus Life Bearcats

Principal Owner: Terence Coley
Team Website: N/A

Arena: Carver High School

Update: In June 2013, Columbus Life Tigers and Georgia Bearcats merged to make the Columbus Life Bearcats.

Team: Conway Cyclones

Principal Owner: Brandon Kimbrough, Conway Cyclones LLC
Team Website

Arena: Grove Gymnasium on the campus of Hendrix College
Team: Dallas Impact

Principal Owner: David Washington
Team Website

Arena: Lakewest Family YMCA

Team: Detroit Hoops

Principal Owner: Gerald Watson II
Team Website: N/A

Arena: Ernest T. Fieldhouse

Team: Charleston City Lions

Principal Owner: Azure and Marquis Agnew
Team Website

Arena: Cathedral Academy Arena

Team: Fayetteville Flight

Principal Owner: Michael Dixon
Team Website

Arena: The Crown Arena
Facility Website

Team: Fort Smith Firebirds

Principal Owner: Jarmar Birdsong and Gerald Nelson

Arena: N/A

Team: Fresno Griffins

Principal Owner: Julie Fulcher
Team Website

Arena: California and Elm Street Gym
Team: Gainesville Heat

Principal Owner: Rosalind L. Green
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Gem City Hall O’Famers

Principal Owner: Clarence Razor
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Georgia Gwizzlies

Principal Owner: Embry Malone
Team Website

Arena: Dutchtown High School

Team: Georgia Roadrunners

Principal Owner: Quinton Miles
Team Website

Arena: Northside Recreation Center

Team: Georgia-Lina Hurricanes

Principal Owner: Bryan Beaver
Team Website

Arena: Paine College Heal Complex Center

Team: Grande Prairie Cowboys

Principal Owner: Giovanni Rogers
Team Website

Arena: N/A
Team: Greenville Galaxy

Principal Owner: Patrick L. Tate

Arena: N/A

Team: Gulf Coast Flash

Principal Owner: Charlie McCants

Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Hampton Roads Stallions

Principal Owner: David Rogers

Team Website

Twitter: @HR_STALLIONS

Arena: Virginia Beach Field House

Team: Hattiesburg Hornets

Principal Owner: Jeremi Washington

Team Website: N/A

Arena: N/A

Team: Houston Red Storm

Principal Owner: Larry Leonard

Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Illinois Balldogz

Principal Owner: Mick Howrey

Team Website

Arena: N/A
Team: Indiana State Warriors

Principal Owner: Lisa Garza
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Jackson Showboats

Principal Owner: Grant Worsley III and Steven Parham
Team Website: N/A
Twitter: @jxnshowboats

Arena: N/A

Team: Jacksonville Giants

Principal Owner: Ron Sholes
Team Website

Arena: Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena

Team: King City Monarchs

Principal Owner: The Playing Field, LLC an Indiana Company
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Kitsap Admirals

Principal Owner: Ashley and Erica Robinson
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Las Vegas Defenders

Principal Owner: Kent Buckner
Team Website: N/A
Twitter: @lvdefenders

Arena: N/A
Team: Los Angeles SLAM
Principal Owner: Don Sanchez
Team Website
Arena: N/A

Team: Memphis Lions
Principal Owner: DePaula Ross and Marcelina Glover
Team Website: N/A
Arena: N/A

Team: Missouri Rhythm
Principal Owner: Bryant Tucker Sr.
Team Website
Twitter: @missourirhythm
Arena: Grandview Christian School

Team: Mobile Bay Tornados
Principal Owner: Charlie McCants
Team Website
Arena: N/A

Team: Monroe Magicians
Principal Owner: Grant Worsley
Team Website: N/A
Twitter: @monroemagicians
Arena: N/A

Team: New Jersey Express
Principal Owner: Marsha Blount
Team Website
Arena: Weequahic High School
Team: New Orleans Cougars

Principal Owner: New Orleans Cougars LLC
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: North Carolina Coyotes

Principal Owner: Barbara Espinosa
Team Website: N/A

Arena: Neal Middle School

Team: North Dallas Vandals

Principal Owner: Casey Topletz
Team Website

Arena: Dr Pepper Arena

Team: Oakland County Firebirds

Principal Owner: Shelby D. Johnson
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Orange County Novastars

Principal Owner: Al Smith
Team Website

Arena: Fullerton Community College

Team: Richmond Elite

Principal Owner: Joyce A. Patterson
Team Website
Twitter: @RichmondElite

Arena: Trinity Family Life Center
Team: Sacramento Heatwave
Principal Owner: Reggie Davis
Team Website
Twitter: @SacHeatwave
Arena: West Campus High School

Team: Salem Storm
Principal Owner: Adrian Plunkett
Team Website: N/A
Arena: Salem Civic Center

Team: San Diego Surf
Principal Owner: Ross Kurland
Team Website
Twitter: @sdsurfbasketbal
Arena: N/A

Team: Seattle Mountaineers
Principal Owner: Don Sims
Team Website
Arena: Renton High School

Team: Seven City Knights
Principal Owner: Lawrence J. Taylor, Jr.
Team Website: N/A
Arena: Calvary Assembly of God

Team: Shizuoka Gymrats
Principal Owner: Takuya Okada
Team Website
Arena: Various Locations/ Travel Team
Team: Shreveport-Bossier Mavericks

Principal Owner: Jerry Nelson
Team Website

Arena: Hirsch Memorial Coliseum

Team: South Coast Fire

Principal Owner: Jason Fry
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: South Florida Gold

Principal Owner: Michale Watson
Team Website
Twitter: @ABAFTLGOLD

Arena: Boynton Beach High School

Team: South Houston Assault

Principal Owner: Cory Tellis
Team Website: N/A

Arena: Gerry and Greta’s Art Camp

Team: Southwest Warriors

Principal Owner: Ralph Presley
Team Website

Arena: Action Sports Academy

Team: Staten Island Vipers

Principal Owner: Ayanna Phillip and Kyle Brereton
Team Website
Twitter: @SI_Vipers

Arena: N/A
Team: Tacoma Rise

Principal Owner: Chris Reynolds
Team Website

Arena: Dalesky-Black Gymnasium-Foss High School

Team: Texarkana Panthers

Principal Owner: Torrell Johnson
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Texas Cagerz

Principal Owner: Adam Taylor
Team Website: N/A

Arena: N/A

Team: Texas Fuel

Principal Owner: Aurora Gross Deiri
Team Website

Arena: N/A

Team: Washington Rampage

Principal Owner: Martin Kinshasa
Team Website: N/A
Twitter: @RampageHoops

Arena: N/A

Team: West Texas Whirlwinds

Principal Owner: Cleveland Phelps
Team Website: N/A

Arena: N/A
Team: West Virginia Blazers

Principal Owner: Cindy Preast
Team Website: N/A

Arena: N/A
NATIONAL BASKETBALL DEVELOPMENTAL LEAGUE (NBA D-LEAGUE)

Team: Austin Toros

Affiliate: San Antonio Spurs
Principal Owner: San Antonio Spurs
Team Website
Twitter: @austintoros

Arena: Cedar Park Center
Date Built: 2009
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $55
Facility Website

Team: Bakersfield Jam

Affiliate: Phoenix Suns
Principal Owner: Bakersfield Professional Sports, LLC (Stan Ellis, David Higdon, Steve Chase)
Team Website
Twitter: @BakersfieldJam

Arena: Dignity Health Event Center
Date Built: 2009
Facility Cost ($/Mil): N/A
Facility Website

UPDATE: In May 2014, the Phoenix Suns and Bakersfield Jam announced a single-affiliation partnership starting during the 2014-2015 season between the NBA team and the Development League team. The hybrid partnership will allow the Suns to oversee and fund all aspects of the Jam’s basketball operations, while the local ownership of the Jam will manage the team’s business operations and community outreach.

Naming Rights: The Dignity Health Event Center, formerly named the Jam Events Center, signed a three-year deal in 2012. Financial information for the deal was not disclosed.

Team: Canton Charge

Affiliate: Cleveland Cavaliers
Principal Owner: Cleveland Cavaliers
Team Website
Twitter: @CantonCharge

Arena: Canton Memorial Civic Center
Team: Delaware 87ers

Affiliate: Philadelphia 76ers  
Principal Owner: Philadelphia 76ers

Team Website  
Twitter: @Sevens  

Arena: Bob Carpenter Center  
Date Built: 1992  
Facility Cost ($/Mil): N/A
Facility Website

Team: Erie BayHawks

Affiliate: Orlando Magic  
Principal Owner: Steve Demetriou

Team Website  
Twitter: @ErieBayHawks  

Arena: Erie Insurance Arena  
Date Built: 1983  
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $9.3 ($42M for renovations in 2012)
Facility Website

UPDATE: In May 2014, Erie Bayhawks announced a three-year hybrid single-affiliation partnership with the Orlando Magic. The hybrid partnership will allow the Magic to control the Bayhawks basketball operations while the existing local ownership maintains primary responsibility for the team’s off the court business operations and community initiatives.

NAMING RIGHTS: In May 2012, Erie Insurance secured the arena naming rights to the former Tullio Arena. Erie Insurance is paying $3 million annually for ten years for the naming rights, expiring in 2022.

Team: Fort Wayne Mad Ants

Affiliate: Indiana Pacers, Charlotte Hornets, and Milwaukee Bucks  
Principal Owner: Jeff Potter

Team Website  
Twitter: @TheMadAnts  

Arena: Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
Date Built: 1952
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $2.6 ($26M for renovations in 1989 and $35M in 2002)
Facility Website

Team: Idaho Stampede

Affiliate: Utah Jazz
Principal Owner: Bill Ilett
Team Website
Twitter: @IdahoStampede

Arena: Century Link Arena
Date Built: 1997
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $50
Facility Website

UPDATE: In May 2014, Century Link Arena announced that it would be installing a new, four sided center-hang scoreboard inside the arena. The scoreboard is projected to be ready before the 2014-2015 East Coast Hockey League (ECHL) hockey season.

In June 2014, the Idaho Stampede and Utah Jazz announced a hybrid affiliation. The hybrid partnership will allow the Jazz to control the Stampede basketball operations while the existing local ownership maintains primary responsibility for the team’s off the court business operations and community initiatives.

NAMING RIGHTS: Due to the merger of Qwest Communications and Century Link, Qwest Arena was renamed Century Link Arena Boise in August 2011. Century Link will pay for the expensive brand makeover and inherit the current naming rights deal with Idaho Sports Properties/Block 22. Century Link (formerly Qwest communications) is paying Idaho Sports Properties/Block 22 $4 million over fifteen years for the naming rights, expiring in 2020.

Team: Iowa Energy

Affiliate: Memphis Grizzlies
Principal Owner: Jed Kaplan
Team Website
Twitter: @iowaenergy

Arena: Wells Fargo Arena
Date Built: 2005
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $99
Facility Website

UPDATE: In May 2014, Iowa Energy announced a single-affiliation partnership with the Memphis Grizzlies. The hybrid partnership will allow the Grizzlies to control the Energy
basketball operations while the existing local ownership maintains primary responsibility for the team’s off the court business operations and community initiatives.

In June 2014, the Iowa Event Center announced that Wells Fargo Arena would host the NBA preseason game between the Denver Nuggets and Golden State Warriors on Thursday, October 16, 2014.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Wells Fargo is paying $11.4 million over twenty years for the naming rights.

**Team: Los Angeles D-Fenders**

**Affiliate**: Los Angeles Lakers  
**Principal Owner**: Los Angeles Lakers  
[Team Website]  
[Twitter: @DFenders]

**Arena**: Toyota Sports Center  
**Date Built**: 2000  
**Facility Cost ($/Mil)**: $24  
[Facility Website]

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Toyota signed a multiyear deal in July 2005 for an undisclosed amount.

**Team: Maine Red Claws**

**Affiliate**: Boston Celtics  
**Principal Owner**: William J. Ryan, Jr.  
[Team Website]  
[Twitter: @maineredclaws]

**Arena**: Portland Exposition Building  
**Date Built**: 1914  
**Facility Cost**: $80,944  
[Facility Website]

**UPDATE**: The Boston Celtics became the Maine Red Claws’s sole NBA affiliate for the 2012–2013 season. The Celtics shared the Red Claws with the Charlotte Bobcats and the Philadelphia 76ers in the 2011–2012 season.

The partnership between the Celtics and the Red Claws is a “hybrid affiliation,” a model similar to other minor leagues. Under this type of affiliation, NBA teams secure control over and cover the expenses related to the basketball operations of the NBA D-League team. The NBA team partners with existing ownership, which maintains responsibility for the team’s off-court business operations.
**Team: Reno Bighorns**

**Affiliate:** Sacramento Kings  
**Principal Owner:** Herb Santos, Stephen Adams and Jeffrey Adams of local ownership group, Bighorns Basketball, LLC  
[Team Website](#)  
[Twitter: @renobighorns](#)

**Arena:** Reno Events Center  
**Date Built:** 2005  
**Facility Cost ($/Mil):** N/A  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In May 2014, Reno Bighorns announced a single-affiliation partnership with the Sacramento Kings. The hybrid partnership will allow the Kings to control the Bighorns basketball operations while the existing local ownership maintains primary responsibility for the team’s off the court business operations and community initiatives.

**Team: Rio Grande Valley Vipers**

**Affiliate:** Houston Rockets  
**Principal Owner:** Alonzo Cantu, David Deanda, Kenny Hausenfluck, Hector Ramos, and Larry Safir of local ownership group, RGV Basketball, LLC  
[Team Website](#)  
[Twitter: @rgvvipers](#)

**Arena:** State Farm Arena  
**Date Built:** 2003  
**Facility Cost ($/Mil):** $23  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Vipers have had an affiliation relationship with the Houston Rockets for six years, and a single-affiliation partnership with the Rockets for four years.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** State Farm purchased the naming rights to the former Dodge Arena in 2010 for an undisclosed amount.

**Team: Santa Cruz Warriors (formerly Dakota Wizards)**

**Affiliate:** Golden State Warriors  
**Principal Owner:** Golden State Warriors  
[Team Website](#)  
[Twitter: @DLeagueWarriors](#)

**Arena:** Kaiser Permanente Arena
Date Built: 2012
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $3.5
Facility Website

UPDATE: The Santa Cruz Warriors were formally known as the Dakota Wizards. The team moved and began play as the Santa Cruz Warriors for the 2012–2013 season.

Team: Sioux Falls Skyforce

Affiliate: Miami Heat
Principal Owner: Greg Heineman
Team Website
Twitter: @SFSkyforce

Arena: Sanford Pentagon
Date Built: 2013
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $19
Facility Website

UPDATE: In June 2013, it was announced that the Skyforce and the Miami Heat had entered into a single-affiliation partnership beginning with the 2013–2014 season. Under this type of affiliation, NBA teams secure control over and cover the expenses related to the basketball operations of the NBA D-League team. The NBA team partners with existing ownership, which maintains responsibility for the team’s off-court business operations.

Team: Grand Rapids Drive (Formerly Springfield Armor)

Affiliate: Detroit Pistons
Principal Owner: SSJ Group (Steve Jbara, Primary Owner)
Team Website
Twitter: @grdleague

Arena: DeltaPlex Arena
Date Built: 1952
Facility Cost ($/Mil): N/A
Facility Website

UPDATE: In April 2014, it was announced that NBA D-League team Springfield Armor, which was formerly located in Springfield, Massachusetts, would be relocating to Grand Rapids, Michigan to become the Grand Rapids Drive. The newly formed Grand Rapids Drive team is in a single affiliate partnership with the Detroit Pistons. The Drive will start its inaugural season in November, playing at the 5,000-seat DeltaPlex Arena.

In effort to have a strong presence in Grand Rapids, the team will soon occupy a shop at MoDiv in downtown Grand Rapids. The shop will be the Drive’s retail storefront and ticket window.
Team: Texas Legends

Affiliate: Dallas Mavericks
Principal Owner: Texas D-League Management, LLC
Team Website
Twitter: @TexasLegends

Arena: Dr Pepper Arena
Date Built: 2003
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $27
Facility Website

NAMING RIGHTS: The Dr Pepper Snapple Group has held the naming rights for the Arena since it has opened for an undisclosed amount. The Arena was originally known as the Deja Blue Arena, after the bottled water the company owned.

Team: Tulsa 66ers

Affiliate: Oklahoma City Thunder
Principal Owner: Professional Basketball Club LLC
Team Website
Twitter: @Tulsa66ers

Arena: SpiritBank Event Center
Date Built: 2008
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $50 million
Facility Website

UPDATE: The Oklahoma City Thunder and the Tulsa 66ers have had a single affiliate partnership since 2008.

Team: Westchester Knicks

Affiliate: New York Knicks
Principal Owner: The Madison Square Garden Company
Team Website
Twitter: @wcknicks

Arena: Westchester County Center
Date Built: 1924
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $785,000 ($16-million upgrade was completed in 1988)
Facility Website

UPDATE: In May 2014, the New York Knicks announced that the team’s new affiliate NBA Development team would be named the Westchester Knicks. The Westchester Knicks will debut
in the 2014-2015 season and play their home games at the Westchester County Center in White Plains, New York.
LEAGUE UPDATE: The IBA and the PBL combined in 2013 due to fiscal constraints and in order to provide a stronger, more competitive league. The league consisted of seventeen teams. However, in May 2013, it was determined that PBL officials and the owner of the Rochester RazorSharks were involved in actions detrimental to the league. The IBA removed the RazorSharks from the league, and followed that decision by removing the PBL name and teams from the brand, effectively ending the merger.

Team: Schenectady Legends (Formerly Albany Legends)

Principal Owner: Steve Miller
Team Website:

Arena: Duanseburg Area Community Center
Facility Website:

UPDATE: In 2014, the Schenectady Legends made their debut when the team, formerly known as the Albany Legends, relocated to Duanesburg and changed their name to Schenectady Legends.

Team: Battle Creek Flight

Principal Owner: Scott Niecko
Team Website: N/A
Twitter: @BCFlight

Arena: Kellogg Arena
Date Built: 1980
Facility Website:

UPDATE: In June 2013, it was announced that the Battle Creek Knights were rejoining the IBA for the Winter 2013 season and the team was renamed Battle Creek Flight.

Team: Chicago Redline

Principal Owner: Richard Ashmon
Team Website

Arena: Calumet Park Recreation
Facility Website
Team: Gary Splash

Principal Owner: Jay Bradford
Team Website: N/A
Twitter: @GarySplashBB

Arena: Embassies of Christ Ministries
Facility Website: N/A

Team: Kankakee County Soldiers

Principal Owner: Barry Bradford
Team Website
Twitter: @Soldierville3

Arena: Legends Sports Complex
Facility Website

Team: Kenosha Ballers

Principal Owner: Tony Moore
Team Website

Arena: Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha
Facility Website: N/A

Team: Lansing Capitals

Principal Owner: Rey Jefferson
Team Website
Twitter: @LansingCapitals

Arena: Aim High Sports
Facility Website

Team: Los Angeles Lightning

Principal Owner: Mark Harwell
Team Website
Twitter: @LA_Lightning

Arena: Gilbert Sports and Fitness Center at Cal Lutheran University
Date Built: 2006
Facility Website
Team: Malibu Pirates

Principal Owner: N/A
Team Website: N/A

Arena: N/A
Facility Website: N/A

Team: New Jersey G-Force

Principal Owner: Tim Butts
Team Website: N/A
Twitter: @JerseyGForce

Arena: Bergen Community College
Facility Website: N/A

Team: Rockford Riverdawgs

Principal Owner: Melvin Smith
Team Website

Arena: Multiple Locations. Patriot’s Gateway Community Center primary location.
Facility Website: N/A

Team: Springfield Xpress

Principal Owner: Jonathan Taylor
Team Website

Arena: Lanphier High School
Facility Website: N/A

Team: St. Louis Trotters

Principal Owner: Milan Pepper
Team Website
Twitter: @StLouisTrotters

Arena: Mathews-Dickey Boys & Girls Club
Date Built: N/A
Team: Windy City Blazers

Principal Owner: Kimrossi Taylor
Team Website:

Arena: Prisco Community Center
Facility Website: N/A
LEAGUE UPDATE: The IBA and the PBL combined in 2013 due to fiscal constraints and in order to provide a stronger, more competitive league. The league consisted of 17 teams. However, in May 2013, it was determined that PBL officials and the owner of the Rochester RazorSharks were involved in actions detrimental to the league. The IBA removed the RazorSharks from the league, and followed that decision by removing the PBL name and teams from the brand, effectively ending the merger.

Team: Buffalo 716ers

Principal Owner: Tawan Slaughter
Team Website
Twitter: @Buffalo716ers
Arena: Tapestry Charter School
Facility Website: N/A

Team: Carolina Pee Dee Vipers

Principal Owner: Sharone Wright
Team Website
Twitter: @PeeDeeVipers
Arena: Florence Civic Center
Facility Website

Team: Chicago Tide

Principal Owner: Ashmon Richard
Team Website: N/A
Twitter: @ChicagoTide
Arena: Harper College
Facility Website: N/A

Team: Erie Hurricane

Principal Owner: Tawan Slaughter
Team Website
Twitter: @ErieHurricane
Arena: East High School
Facility Website: N/A

**Team: Indianapolis Diesels**

**Principal Owner:** Rex Volis  
[Team Website]  
**Twitter:** @indiana_diesel

**Arena:** Indy South Sports Academy  
[Facility Website]

**Team: Lake Michigan Admirals**

**Principal Owner:** Chris Glisson  
[Team Website]  
**Twitter:** @lmaadmirals

**Arena:** Lack Michigan Catholic High School  
**Facility Website:** N/A

**Team: Lima Express**

**Principal Owner:** Lewis Shine  
[Team Website]  
**Twitter:** @TheLimaExpress

**Arena:** Lima Central Catholic High School  
**Facility Website:** N/A

**Team: Lynchburg Titans**

**Principal Owner:** Derek Polley  
[Team Website]  
**Twitter:** @LynchburgTitans

**Arena:** Lynchburg City Armory  
**Facility Website:** N/A

**Team: Rochester RazorSharks**

**Principal Owner:** Dr. Severko Hrywnak  
[Team Website]  
**Twitter:** @RoCRazorSharks

**Arena:** Blue Cross Arena
Date Built: 1955
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $7.5 ($41 million for renovations in 1998)

Naming Rights: Blue Cross acquired naming rights in 1998. The deal was for 15 years and $3 million.
CENTRAL BASKETBALL DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE (CBDL)

League Update: The CBL is a new league that began in Spring 2013 with five teams. While all five teams started the 2013 season, the league now consists of only four, after the Dayton Airstrikes no longer seem to be a part of the league. In May 2013, an announcement stated that the Airstrikes were still part of the CBL, but the team is no longer listed as an official CBA team on the website.

Team: South Florida Spartans

Principal Owner: Benjamin Mireles
Team Website
Twitter: @probballcoach14

Arena: Downtown Recreation Complex
Facility Website

Team: Fort Pierce Finest

Principal Owner: Chris Alba
Team Website: N/A

Arena: N/A
Facility Website: N/A

Team: MicroGuard Dobermans

Principal Owner: N/A
Team Website: N/A

Arena: N/A
Facility Website: N/A

Team: Tampa Bay Saints

Principal Owner: Alex Stern
Team Website
Twitter: @TBsaints

Arena: Dream Center of Tampa
Facility Website: N/A
WOMEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (WNBA)

Team: Atlanta Dream

Principal Owner: Dream Too, LLC, composed of Mary Brock and Kelly Loeffler
Year Established: 2007
Team Website
Twitter: @AtlantaDream

Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil): N/A

Arena: Philips Arena
Date Built: 1999
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $213.5
Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: 91%
Facility Financing: The facility was financed through $130.75 million in government-backed bonds to be paid back at $12.5 million a year for thirty years. A 3% car rental tax was created to pay for $62.5 million of the public infrastructure costs, and Time Warner contributed $20 million for the remaining infrastructure costs.
Facility Website
Twitter: @PhilipsArena

UPDATE: In November 2013, the WNBA’s Atlanta Dream announced that they reached an agreement with Philips Arena to keep the club playing its home games at the venue through the 2015 season.

In January 2014, Pollstar magazine ranked Philips Arena fourth in the country on its annual top venues list. This marks the seventh time in eight years that the Philips Arena has received a top-five honor. The award is predominantly based on annual ticket sales across the spectrum of entertainment offerings at a given venue. Philips Arena sold in excess of 500,000 tickets in 2013.

Furthermore, in February 2014, Constellation Brands brought Corona Light on tap to Philips Arena. Afterwards, Philips Arena became the first venue in the metropolitan Atlanta region to carry the brand on draft. The launch also occurred before the product was launched nationally, which took place in early March.

NAMING RIGHTS: Royal Philips Electronics N.V. of the Netherlands is paying $185 million over twenty years—$9.25 million annually—for the naming rights that expire in 2019.
Team: Chicago Sky

Principal Owner: Michael Alter  
Year Established: 2005  
Team Website  
Twitter: @wnbachicagosky

Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil): $10

Arena: Allstate Arena  
Date Built: 1980  
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $19  
Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: N/A  
Facility Financing: N/A  
Facility Website

UPDATE: In June 2014, Allstate Arena announced the grand opening of the Jake Daniels Lounge, located across from the arena stage in the upper level. The new lounge is part of a three-year marketing contract Allstate Arena signed last year with Jack Daniels. The lounge is open from the time the arena opens until the end of an event and offers food and beverages to patrons of legal drinking age.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Allstate Insurance Company paid $20 million in 1999 for renovations and naming rights to the arena.

Team: Connecticut Sun

Principal Owner: Mohegan Indian Tribe  
Year Established: 1998 in Orlando, FL, moved to Connecticut in 2003  
Team Website  
Twitter: @ConnecticutSun

Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil): N/A

Arena: Mohegan Sun Arena  
Date Built: 2001  
Facility Cost ($/Mil): N/A  
Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: N/A  
Facility Financing: N/A  
Facility Website

NAMING RIGHTS: Mohegan Sun, a casino, will pay $2,375,000 for ten years in the naming rights agreement with Luzerne County Convention Center Authority. Mohegan Sun will pay $225,000 annually for the first five years and $250,000 for the remaining five years.
Team: Indiana Fever

Affiliate: Indiana Pacers
Principal Owner: Herbert Simon
Year Established: 2000
Team Website
Twitter: @IndianaFever

Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil): N/A

Arena: Bankers Life Fieldhouse (formerly Conseco Fieldhouse 1999–2011)
Date Built: 1999
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $183
Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: 43%
Facility Financing: Financing for the facility is a public/private partnership. Public contributions totaled $79 million, which included $50 million from a professional sports developmental tax district around the new facility, $4.7 million in infrastructure, $9.3 million from Capital Improvement Board cash reserves and $7 million from the Circle Centre Mall revenues. The Pacers contributed $57 million, while other private sources paid for the rest.
Facility Website

UPDATE:

In March 2014, the Indiana High School Athletic Association announced a one-year agreement stating that the 2015 Girls Basketball State Finals will be held at Banker Life Fieldhouse. The Indiana Fever and Indiana Pacers will be the presenting sponsors for the tournament.

In April 2014, it was announced that First Financial Bank will become the exclusive naming rights partner for the lower level of Banker Life Fieldhouse. Details of the naming rights deal were not disclosed.

In June 2014, it was announced that the Big Ten Men’s Basketball tournament would return to the Fieldhouse in 2020 and 2022, in addition to the already scheduled 2016 tournament. The press conference revealed that the Big Ten Women’s Tournament will also be played at the Fieldhouse on an annual basis from 2017 through 2022, in addition to the already scheduled 2016 tournament.

NAMING RIGHTS: Bankers Life, a subsidiary of CNO Financial, took over the original naming rights deal from Conseco Inc., which pays $40 million over twenty years—$2 million annually—for the naming rights that expire in 2019. CNO Financial also paid the additional cost to change the name.
Team: Los Angeles Sparks

Affiliate: Los Angeles Lakers
Principal Owner: Williams Group Holdings, LLC
Year Established: 1997
Team Website
Twitter: @LA_Sparks

Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil): $10 (2007)

Arena: STAPLES Center
Date Built: 1999
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $375
Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: 19%
Facility Financing: Bank of America underwrote a $305 million loan to finance construction. The city provided $38.5 million in bonds and $20 million in Los Angeles Convention Center reserves. This money will eventually be repaid through arena revenues. An additional $12 million in tax incremental financing was also provided by the city's Community Redevelopment Agency.
Facility Website

UPDATE: On February 18, 2013, Dr. Buss, the long-time owner of the Lakers and basketball visionary passed away due to liver failure. The Buss family, with a 65% ownership stake in the Lakers, will continue to own and run the franchise, and the family has no intention to sell. Dr. Buss’s son, Jim Buss, will continue to oversee the basketball operations of the team, while Dr. Buss’s daughter, Jeanie Buss, will continue business operations of the team, as she has done for the past fifteen years.

In October 2013, Staples Center representatives announced the completion of various capital improvement projects. During which, 1,400 televisions throughout the arena were upgraded to high definition, all cushioned arena seats were refurbished, and the wireless internet system was improved to provide faster and more reliable access. The arena also added numerous dining options in the form of restaurants and concessions.

Moreover, in October 2013, AEG, the company that owns the Staples Center, signed a 5-year, multi-million dollar deal with San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino to improve the arena’s hospitality services. The deal is a renewal and expansion of a previous relationship. The new deal includes increased San Manuel Signage throughout the arena and the introduction of San Manuel-sponsored Native American Heritage nights for the MLS’s LA Galaxy and the NHL’s LA Kings.

Another aspect of the agreement was the introduction of premier lounges and tables at the already existing San Manuel Club. The Premier tables, seven of which are offered at the arena, are semiprivate spaces with comfortable furniture in a first class environment. The Premier lounges, of which eighteen are offered, are private mini-suites replete with a buffet and beverages, premium parking, personal television, and a phone charging station.
In January 2014, the Staples Center was named number five on the list of the top 100 arenas worldwide in Pollstar Magazine’s 2013 year-end rankings. Pollstar Magazine is a well-respected concert and venues industry publication.

In April 2014, Levy Restaurants and celebrity Chef, Malcom Mitchell, partnered to create Legendary Eats Sandwich House. Legendary Eats Sandwich House menu items are named after many actresses, musicians, and former NBA star athletes. The menu and its offerings are available at the Outtakes location on the main concourse of the arena as well as Cooke’s Corner Carvery Bar on the suite level.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: STAPLES Inc. was paying $116 million over twenty years—$5.8 million annually—for a naming rights deal that was set to expire in 2019. However, in November 2009, the owner of the arena, AEG, agreed to provide STAPLES with perpetual naming rights, for an undisclosed amount. This is the first lifetime naming rights agreement for a stadium in a major metropolitan area.

**Team: Minnesota Lynx**

**Affiliate**: Minnesota Timberwolves  
**Principal Owner**: Glen Taylor  
**Year Established**: 1999  
**Team Website**  
**Twitter**: @minnesotalynx

**Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil)**: N/A

**Arena**: Target Center  
**Date Built**: 1990  
**Facility Cost ($/Mil)**: $104  
**Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed**: 100%  
**Facility Financing**: Financed through a tax-exempt bond issue.  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE**: In October 2013, the Timberwolves, Lynx, and the City of Minneapolis announced that a preliminary agreement had been reached for the $97 million renovation of the Target Center. Minneapolis City Council later unanimously passed the agreement. The team and the City will finance the renovation. The City will contribute $48.5 million, the NBA’s Timberwolves and WNBA’s Minnesota Lynx (the arena’s two anchor tenants) will contribute $43 million, and AEG (the arena operator) will contribute $5 million.

The renovations are expected to start in the spring of 2014. The Target Center will remain open throughout the construction, and the renovation will be executed in various phases over a period of eighteen to twenty-four months. The design process will begin in late 2013; however, early plans entail a relocation of the arena's main entrance to the corner of First Avenue and Sixth Street and replacing parts of the concrete exterior with glass for a more modern look. Other changes will
include, but are not limited to, upgrades to the scoreboard, restrooms, premium seating, and other fan amenities, as well as the creation of an indoor plaza.

The city also agreed to maintain a $50 million capital expenditure fund for future facility upgrades. As part of the deal, the Timberwolves and Lynx extended their leases through 2032. The agreement also extended AEG’s management for the same period.

In February 2014, the Timberwolves and Lynx finalized a plan to build a new, $20 million practice facility. The facility will be privately financed and will be located across the street from the Target Center. The teams currently practice in the basement of the Target Center and the new facility will provide the teams with a state-of-the-art practice area by the start of the 2014-2015 season. The construction of the facility is part of a larger $50 million plan to revitalize what is known as Block E after a 2001 entertainment complex failed on the property.

The Timberwolves and Lynx also announced a partnership with the Mayo Clinic that will bring a sports medicine clinic onto Block E, next to the practice facility. The property will also be renamed Mayo Clinic Square. It is estimated that the Mayo Clinic will invest $5-$7 million in the project.

Furthermore, as of May 2014, there has been some progress made on the Target Center Renovation project. Mortenson Construction was recommended by the design group as a construction manager, Architectural Alliance and Sinks Combs Dethlefs were recommend as the project architects, and the new initial rendering of the redesigned Target Center was released.

In June 2014, the Target Center announced a partnership with online parking industry leader, Parking Panda. Parking Panda is the nationwide leader in online parking reservations. The partnership between the Target Center and Parking Panda allows guest to pre-purchase electronic parking passes for nearby parking lots and garages in advance to guarantee parking for games and events.

Additionally, in June 2014, the Chief Marketing Officer of the Timberwolves and Lynx, Ted Johnson, confirmed that that Target Center will bid for the Women’s Final Four as well as WNBA and NBA All-Star Games once the $97 million renovation is complete in the fall of 2016.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Target Corp. was paying $30 million over twenty years—$1.5 million annually—for the naming rights that expired in 2011. In September 2011, Target Corp. secured a three-year naming rights deal, giving it naming rights until 2014. The deal was shorter than what the Timberwolves had hoped for. Originally, the Timberwolves had hoped to land a fourteen-year deal to match the years remaining on the team’s Target Center lease.
Team: New York Liberty

Affiliate: New York Knicks
Principal Owner: Madison Square Garden
Year Established: 1996
Team Website
Twitter: @nyliberty

Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil): N/A

Arena: Madison Square Garden
Date Built: 1968
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $123
Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: 100%
Facility Website

UPDATE: In December 2013, the New York City Council voted in favor of the extending the MSG lease for a period of only ten years. City officials cite an interest in renovating Pennsylvania Station as the reason for not granting a longer lease extension. Madison Square garden sits atop the transit hub and the desire to improve the station could be problematic for the venue.

In October 2013, after three years of construction, the Madison Square Garden renovations have officially been completed. The arena projected the cost to be $1 billion. The renovations include new seats, lighting, sound, LED video systems in HDTV, wider public concourses, and other enhancements. Phase I of the renovation included construction of fifty-eight new suites and their own concourse. The second phase of renovation involved mostly the suites in the mid and upper bowls, the latter of which had been rebuilt from scratch. Phase three of the renovation included the construction of two bridges, named Chase bridges, which span the length of the arena to provide a unique view, a rebuilt lobby and entryway to be named the Chase Square, and a new state-of-the-art scoreboard. The arena will also feature The 1879 Club, presented by J.P. Morgan, and 7th and 8th Avenue marquees that will feature permanent J.P. Morgan Chase branding.

NAMING RIGHTS: Madison Square Garden's history is probably the most significant reason the owners have stated that they would never sell the naming rights to the arena. The history began when Madison Square Garden I opened in 1879. The current Madison Square Garden, Madison Square Garden IV, opened in 1968.

Team: Phoenix Mercury

Affiliate: Phoenix Suns
Principal Owner: Robert Sarver
Year Established: 1997
Team Website
Twitter: @PhoenixMercury
Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil): N/A

Arena: US Airways Center
Date Built: 1992
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $90
Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: 39%
Facility Financing: The City of Phoenix contributed $35 million, with $28 million going to construct the arena and $7 million for the land. The Phoenix Suns contributed $55 million. The city has a thirty-year commitment from the Suns to repay a portion of the contribution at $500,000 per year, with an annual 3% increase. The city will also receive 40% of revenue from luxury boxes and advertising.
Facility Website

NAMING RIGHTS: U.S. Airways currently owns the naming rights to the facility, which the company obtained when it merged with America West Airlines in 2005. The original deal entered into by America West was a thirty-year, $26 million naming rights contract. The contract runs until 2022.

Team: San Antonio Silver Stars

Affiliate: San Antonio Spurs
Principal Owner: Peter Holt
Year Established: 1997 as the Utah Starzz, moved to San Antonio and changed the name to become the San Antonio Silver Stars in 2003
Team Website
Twitter: @SASilversStars

Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil): N/A

Arena: AT&T Center
Date Built: 2002
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $186
Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: 84%
Facility Financing: $146.5 million was generated through a county tax increase and an increase in hotel and rental car taxes. The Spurs contributed $28.5 million, which was raised through a $1.00 increase in ticket fees for NBA games and a $1.00 parking surcharge. The bulk of the facility's revenues go to the team.
Facility Website

NAMING RIGHTS: AT&T Inc. is paying $41 million over twenty years—$2.05 million annually—for the naming rights that expire in 2022.
Team: Seattle Storm

Principal Owner: Force 10 Hoops, LLC  
Year Established: 1999  
Team Website  
Twitter: @seattlestorm

Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil): N/A

Arena: KeyArena  
Date Built: 1962 (renovated in 1995)  
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $94  
Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: N/A  
Facility Financing: The arena cost the city $75 million and the Seattle Supersonics $19 million. Facility Website

UPDATE: In July 2014, Samsung launched the Galaxy Owner’s Hub experience in collaboration with AEG. Galaxy owner’s who wish to participate by downloading the app will receive exclusive rewards and incentives, such as VIP luxury suite and club access, seat upgrades, concession and merchandise discounts, and other complimentary services.

NAMING RIGHTS: In January, Seattle Center announced that KeyCorp will not renew its agreement for naming rights of the Key Arena, after fifteen years of sponsorship. As of July 2014, the venue remains known as KeyArena, and continue this way until a new sponsor is found.

Team: Tulsa Shock

Principal Owner: Tulsa Pro Hoops, LLC  
Year Established: 1998 as Detroit Shock, moved to Tulsa in 2009  
Team Website  
Twitter: @tulsashock

Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil): N/A

Arena: BOK Center  
Date Built: 2008  
Facility Cost ($/Mil): $196  
Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: N/A  
Facility Financing: $178 million in public funds, $18 million from private parties  
Facility Website

UPDATE: In June 2014, BOK center was honored at the 2014 SMG Marketing Summit for its 2013 trade publication advertising campaign. The ad was voted 2014 Best Trade Advertisement and was published in Pollstar and Venues Today.
In July 2014, the BOK Center received top honors by Oklahoma Magazine in its annual “Best of the Best rankings.” The BOK Center was named “Best Concert Venue.”

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Bank of Oklahoma will pay $11 million over twenty years for the naming rights.

**Team: Washington Mystics**

**Affiliate:** Washington Wizards  
**Principal Owner:** Ted Leonsis of Monumental Sports & Entertainment  
**Year Established:** 1998  
**Team Website**  
**Twitter:** @WashMystics

**Most Recent Purchase Price ($/Mil):** $10

**Arena:** Verizon Center  
**Date Built:** 1997  
**Facility Cost ($/Mil):** $260  
**Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed:** 23%  
**Facility Financing:** Private loans financed the building. The District of Columbia provided $60 million in infrastructure costs.

**Facility Website**

**Update:** In October 2013, Monumental Sports and Entertainment (MSE) announced the launch of the second phase of its Monumental Network digital platform expansion. The network now includes fifteen additional websites and blogs, in addition to announcing new third-party affiliates. In total, the network consists of twenty-plus in-house, sports related, and regional websites that offer original and existing content, videos, podcasts, and radio shows that comprehensively cover the sports scene on a sports specific, local, and national level.

In November 2013, it was announced that the 2016 Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) tournament will be held at the Verizon Center.

Furthermore, in November 2013, MSE revealed an upgrade in the venue’s Wi-Fi capabilities. Interestingly, it is AT&T that provides Wi-Fi service to the Verizon Center and not the company whose name is on the building. In AT&T’s press release to announce the improvements, the company used euphemisms and nicknames to refer to the Verizon Center rather than directly naming and giving credit to the venue named after its main competitor.

In May 2014, the Big Ten Conference announced that the Big Ten Men’s Basketball Tournament will make its first appearance on the East Coast when the 2017 event is held at the Verizon Center.
**NAMING RIGHTS:** The name of the arena changed from the MCI Center to the Verizon Center in March 2006. The change was the result of Verizon's merger with MCI. Verizon is paying $44 million over twenty years—$2.2 million annually—for the naming rights that expire in 2017.