



## OTHER BASKETBALL LEAGUES

{Appendix 2.1, to [Sports Facility Reports, Volume 12](#)}

*Research completed as of July 24, 2011*

### AMERICAN BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (ABA)

**LEAGUE UPDATE:** The following teams are no longer part of the ABA: Charlotte Crossovers, College Park Spyderys, Compton Cobras, Cypress Pegasus, Everett Longshoremen, Florida Makos, Florida Thundercats, Georgia Knights, Heartland Prowl, Kentucky Bison, Pittsburgh Phantom, Seattle Zhen Gan, Showtime Basketball, South Jersey Knights, South Valley Fever, Southeast Texas Mavericks, Tri-City Suns, Vancouver Explorers, and Washington Raptors.

#### **Team: ABA-Canada Revolution**

**Principal Owner:** LTD Sports Inc.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Home games will be hosted throughout Ontario

**UPDATE:** ABA-Canada will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season. Originally proposed as a division of five teams playing in the Ontario cities of Toronto, Ottawa, Oshawa, Hamilton, and Thunder Bay, the concept was later consolidated into a single team to be based in Toronto.

#### **Team: Aberdeen Attack**

**Principal Owner:** Marcus Robinson, Hub City Sports LLC

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Aberdeen Attack will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Alaska Basketball**

**Principal Owner:** CGRS Entertainment Group, Shana Harris, Carol Taylor

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Alaska Basketball team will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Athens/Gainesville Ga.**

**Principal Owner:** Guyton Basketball Inc.

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Athens/Gainesville, Ga. team will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Atlanta Aliens**

**Principal Owner:** Adrian Provost

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Forrest Fleming Arena

**UPDATE:** The Atlanta Aliens will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Atlanta Experience**

**Principal Owner:** Sharan Coleman

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Atlanta Experience will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season. The Experience will compete in the Southeast Conference.

## **Team: Arizona Scorpions**

**Principal Owner:** Ron Tilley and Cedric Ceballos

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Arizona Scorpions will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Bay Area Matrix**

**Principal Owner:** Jim Beresford

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Concord-Clayton YMCA

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Birmingham, Ala.**

**Principal Owner:** Tay Walker and Ron Steele

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Birmingham, Ala. team will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Bluff City Reign**

**Principal Owner:** Reginald Golden

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Bluff City Reign will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: California Sea-Kings**

**Principal Owner:** Wash Stallworth, Jr.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Seaside Sports Complex

**UPDATE:** The Sea-Kings are set to begin the 2011-12 season in their own arena at the Seaside Sports Complex. Sports Dialog, Inc., a California-based corporation, is in the process of building a sports complex for the team. The project will include a gymnasium and living quarters for the players SDI still needs \$5 million in capital to complete the complex.

The complex, located on the former Fort Ord Army base, seeks to provide three major streams of income for the company stemming from the play of the Sea-Kings, an Anchor-Tenant Program with at least 45 weeks of gym usage and at least 3,000 gym memberships.

SDI has procured an Exclusive Negotiation Agreement with The City of Seaside - Redevelopment Agency to build the sports complex. The project is set to be completed by the time the Sea-Kings open play in November 2011.

## **Team: Carolina Cheetahs**

**Principal Owner:** Carolina Cats Sports & Entertainment Group

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Carolina Cheetahs will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season. The Greensboro-based Cheetahs are one of three teams owned by Carolina Cats Sports & Entertainment, the other two being the Raleigh-based Carolina Jaguars and the Rocky Mount-based Carolina Cougars.

## **Team: Carolina Cougars**

**Principal Owner:** Carolina Cats Sports & Entertainment Group

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Everett Gym on the campus of North Carolina Wesleyan College

**UPDATE:** The Carolina Cougars will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season. The Rocky Mount-based Cougars are one of three teams owned by Carolina Cats Sports & Entertainment, the other two being the Raleigh-based Carolina Jaguars and the Greensboro-based Carolina Cheetahs.

## **Team: Carolina Jaguars**

**Principal Owner:** Carolina Cats Sports & Entertainment Group

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Emily K Family Life Center

**UPDATE:** The Carolina Jaguars will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season. The Raleigh-based Jaguars are one of three teams owned by Carolina Cats Sports & Entertainment, the other two being the Greensboro-based Carolina Cheetahs and the Rocky Mount-based Carolina Cougars.

## **Team: Chi-Town Bulldogs**

**Principal Owner:** Rodney Williams

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** J. Sterling Morton High School West

**UPDATE:** The Chi-Town Bulldogs will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Chicago Steam**

**Principal Owner:** Ron Hicks and Lester Coney

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** South Suburban College

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Colorado Cougars**

**Principal Owner:** Patrick Kelly

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Colorado Cougars will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Colorado Kings**

**Principal Owner:** Durrell L. Middleton

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Bear Creek High School

**UPDATE:** The Kings debuted in the ABA in 2010 as the first team to join the Rocky Mountain Division, but will play as an at-large team competing against teams from the South, Southwest, and South Central Division until more teams join the Rocky Mountain Division.

## **Team: Colorado Springs Crusaders**

**Principal Owner:** Ty McTyer

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Colorado Springs Crusaders will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Columbus Riverballers**

**Principal Owner:** Curtis Marshall, Jr.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Columbus High School

**UPDATE:** The team was known as Columbus Life Tigers during its first season. The team changed its name to the Columbus Riverballers and will play its home games at Columbus High School for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Connecticut TopBallerz**

**Principal Owner:** Trevor Hairston and Aaron Hairston

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Connecticut TopBallerz will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Conway Cyclones**

**Principal Owner:** Brandon Kimbrough, Conway Cyclones LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Grove Gymnasium on the campus of Hendrix College

**UPDATE:** The Conway Cyclones will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Dallas Impact**

**Principal Owner:** Don Carter and Brady Cooper

**Arena:** Lakewest Family YMCA

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Delta Storm**

**Principal Owner:** Johnny Lomack

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Delta Storm will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Detroit Hoops**

**Principal Owner:** Gerald Watson II

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Detroit Edison Public School Academy

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: East Bay Pit Bulls**

**Principal Owner:** Deb Tenenbaum, Full Circles Ventures LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** La Positas College

**UPDATE:** The premiere season for the East Bay Pit Bulls began on November 19, 2010. The team is based in Pleasanton, California and Anytime Fitness in Pleasanton, Livermore, and San Ramon serves as the organizations' title sponsor. True to their name, the Pit Bulls are also devoted to the rescue of real life pit bull dogs in addition to their community basketball outreach.

## **Team: East Carolina Trojans**

**Principal Owner:** Stephanie Wilson and Tyrone Wilson

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The East Carolina Trojans will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season. Although based in Greenville, N.C., the Trojans also plan to play some games in Washington and Kinston.

## **Team: East Kentucky Energy**

**Principal Owner:** Tom Hamilton and Jerry Boggs

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Prestonsburg High School

**UPDATE:** The East Kentucky Energy will move from Pikeville, Ky. to Prestonsburg, Ky. beginning with the 2011-12 season. The Energy will play their home games at Prestonsburg High School this season and hope Prestonsburg is able to complete a wellness center, which will house an arena to serve as their permanent home, in time for the 2012-13 season. Prestonsburg is more centrally located and will give more Energy fans access to the games.

## **Team: Eatonville Aces**

**Principal Owner:** Todd Triplett

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The ABA announced in June 2011 it approved the move of the Las Vegas Aces to Eatonville, Fla. Aces owner, Todd Triplett, has business and family interests in the Orlando



area and had been commuting between Florida and Las Vegas. Eatonville is the oldest incorporated black community in Orange County, Florida. It was one of the first black towns to be formed after the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 and was incorporated on August 15, 1887.

## **Team: Fayetteville Flight**

**Principal Owner:** Mike Dixon

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** March F. Riddle Center, Methodist University

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Flint Fire**

**Principal Owner:** Sean Woodruff

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Flint Fire will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Gem City Hall O’Famers**

**Principal Owner:** Clarence Tyrell Razor

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Gem City Hall O’Famers joined the ABA in 2010 as part of the North Central Conference. The team was originally scheduled to enter the league in 2011, but owner Clarence Tyrell Razor was able to accelerate the program to be ready for play a year early.

## **Team: Georgia Gwizzlies**

**Principal Owner:** Embry Malone

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** South Cobb Recreation Center and McEachern High School

**UPDATE:** The Gwizzlies played in the ABA from 2007-09 before leaving for the Continental Basketball League. On June 1, 2010, the Gwizzlies were removed from the Continental Basketball League CBL for failure to meet league standards by not traveling to games against the

Birmingham Sabers and Wilmington Sea Dawgs. Soon afterwards, they were reinstated into the ABA.

## **Team: Greencastle Golden Knights**

**Principal Owner:** Eric C. Vaughan, Greencastle Golden Knights Inc.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** South Putnam High School

**UPDATE:** The Greencastle Golden Knights will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Gulf Coast Flash**

**Principal Owner:** Jeremi Washington

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Harrison Central High School

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Hampton Charters**

**Principal Owner:** Lance Matthews

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Hampton Charters will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Heartland Heat**

**Principal Owner:** Frank Hilton

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Houston Red Storm**

**Principal Owner:** Larry Donnell Leonard II

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** League America

**UPDATE:** League America is Houston's newest and largest sports-specific training facility.

## **Team: Indiana Diesels**

**Principal Owner:** Rex Voils

**Arena:** Edinburgh High School

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Indianapolis Drive**

**Principal Owner:** Tim Hicks, Indianapolis Drive Sports and Entertainment LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Imagine Indiana Life Sciences Academy West

**UPDATE:** The Drive played their inaugural season in 2010-11.

## **Team: Jacksonville Giants**

**Principal Owner:** Ron Sholes

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena

**UPDATE:** In July 2010 it was announced the Jacksonville Bluewaves would be joining the ABA the next season under head coach and owner Kevin Waters. Later, however, it was announced that the Jacksonville ABA team would be a new franchise owned by local attorney Ron Sholes. Waters would serve as coach and general manager, as the Bluewaves were defunct. The new team was eventually named the Jacksonville Giants.

In their very first season, the Giants went undefeated (23-0) in regular season play and were named the 2010-11 ABA Southeast Division Champions.

## **Team: Jersey Express**

**Principal Owner:** Marsha Blount and Jacqueline Halyard

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Fleisher Athletic Center on the campus of the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT).

**UPDATE:** The Jersey Express have relocated from East Orange to the Newark area for the 2011-12 season. The team will play its home games at the Fleisher Athletic Center on the campus of NJIT.

## **Team: Lake Michigan Admirals**

**Principal Owner:** Chris Glisson

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Lake Michigan Catholic High School and Benton Harbor High School

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Lansing Law**

**Principal Owner:** Steve Ernst

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Lansing Law will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Lima Explosion**

**Principal Owner:** John Bell

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Elida High School

**UPDATE:** The Lima Explosion will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Little Rock Lightning**

**Principal Owner:** Bernard Brown and Kristi Hughes

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Hall High School

**UPDATE:** The Little Rock Lightning will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season. The Lightning are not associated with the former ABA team that was located in the Arkansas area in 2004, the Rim Rockers.

## **Team: Los Angeles SLAM**

**Principal Owner:** Don Sanchez

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Los Angeles SLAM are presently seeking a home venue in Southern California for the 2011-12 season. SLAM owner Don Sanchez hopes the team will be able to play in Lancaster, Ca. or the Antelope Valley.

## **Team: Louisiana United**

**Principal Owner:** Leisa Fuselier

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Lynchburg Legends**

**Principal Owner:** Derek Polley

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Lynchburg Legends will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Michiana Monarchs**

**Principal Owner:** Christopher Coley

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Charles Black Recreation Center

**UPDATE:** The Michiana Monarchs will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Mid Valley Titans**

**Principal Owner:** Josh England and Dennis Johnson

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Exeter Union High School

**UPDATE:** The Titans were founded in 2010 by Josh England and Dennis Johnson. The team is based in Exeter, California and plays in the No Cal Conference.

## **Team: Midwest Flames Peoria**

**Principal Owner:** Barry Anderson

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Midwest Flames Peoria will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Milwaukee Blast**

**Principal Owner:** Elzie Flenard

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Wisconsin Lutheran College

**UPDATE:** The Milwaukee Blast will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Mobile Bay Hurricanes**

**Principal Owner:** Roland Turner, Mike Wilson

**Arena:** Davidson High School

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Modesto Hawks**

**Principal Owner:** Rick Coelho

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** The Salvation Army (Modesto)

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Nashville Soul**

**Principal Owner:** John Rowe and Angi Rowe

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** A-Game Sportsplex

**UPDATE:** The Nashville Soul will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season. The Soul formed a partnership with A-Game Sportsplex, a multiple-use facility in the Cool Springs area of Franklin, Tenn. Team offices and operations; practices, exhibition games and regular season games; and camps and clinics will be housed at A-Game, who will also serve as title sponsor for the Soul Kids Club.

## **Team: NEA Swag**

**Principal Owner:** Jeremy Oakes

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The NEA Swag will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: New York City Thunder**

**Principal Owner:** Michael Logan

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** James Monroe Campus High School

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: New York Red Riders**

**Principal Owner:** Chemung County YMCA

**Arena:** Chemung County YMCA

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Norfolk Sharks**

**Principal Owner:** Adrian Plunkett

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Norfolk Sharks will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: North Dallas Vandals**

**Principal Owner:** Casey Topletz

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Alfred J. Loos Fieldhouse

**UPDATE:** In their inaugural season (2010-11), the Vandals made history by suiting up female basketball player Kavita Gross, making her the first female player in the ABA.

## **Team: North Texas Fresh**

**Principal Owner:** Jay Bowdy

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** W.G. Thomas Coliseum

**UPDATE:** In February 2011, the Fresh partnered with the Metro Gym in Arlington, Texas while their home arena, W.G. Thomas Coliseum, underwent renovations. Metro Gym was the third



location the Fresh played during the 2010-11 season. The Fresh, who played most of the season on the road, also played at the Hugh Smith Center and W.G. Thomas Coliseum. The Fresh had to forfeit dates due to the renovations before partnering with Metro Gym for the remainder of the season.

## **Team: Northwestern Indiana Magical Stars**

**Principal Owner:** Kenneth Miller and Derrick Smith

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Nova Wonders**

**Principal Owner:** Jackie Smith, Cassandra Warren, and Joy Pickett

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Nova Wonders will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Oklahoma Stallions**

**Principal Owner:** Kelli and Ernest King

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Douglass High School

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Orlando Kings**

**Principal Owner:** Marcus Manuel

**Arena:** Downtown Recreation Center

**UPDATE:** The Orlando Kings began playing in the ABA with an abbreviated schedule for the 2010-11 season. The team plans to play a full schedule in the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Panama City Dream**

**Principal Owner:** A.J. Stallworth

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Panama City Dream will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Port City Pirates**

**Principal Owner:** Ronny Hagan

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Port City Pirates will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Richmond Elite**

**Principal Owner:** Joyce A. Patterson

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Richmond Elite Virginia will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Richmond Rockets**

**Principal Owner:** Eric Marquis

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Richmond Memorial Auditorium

**UPDATE:** The Richmond Rockets will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Riverside Rainmakers**

**Principal Owner:** Monique Flaherty

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** La Sierra University

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Rochester, N.Y. Basketball**

**Principal Owner:** Nick Fitts, Sr.

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Rochester, N.Y. Basketball team will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Sacramento Heatwave**

**Principal Owner:** Reggie Davis

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** West Campus High School

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: San Diego Sol**

**Principal Owner:** Tony Allen and Amy Cleveland

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** SportCenter at Alliant International University

**UPDATE:** The San Diego Sol were formed in December 2010.

## **Team: San Diego Surf**

**Principal Owner:** Ross Kurland

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** HourGlass Arena at Miramar College

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: San Francisco Rumble**

**Principal Owner:** Damone Hale

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Rumble Pavillion at the Wellness Center of City College of San Francisco

**UPDATE:** The San Francisco Rumble plays its home games in the Wellness Center on the campus of City College of San Francisco. For Rumble home games, the Wellness Center will transform into Rumble Pavillion.

## **Team: Savannah Storm**

**Principal Owner:** Anthony Bryan

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Savannah High School

**UPDATE:** The Savannah Storm is an expansion franchise of the ABA which began play in the 2010 season. The Storm play home games on the campus of Savannah High School.

## **Team: Seattle Mountaineers**

**Principal Owner:** Don Sims

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Green River Community College

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Seven City Knights**

**Principal Owner:** Lawrence J. Taylor

**Arena:** Churchland High School

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: SoCal Swish**

**Principal Owner:** Eusebio V. Lopez Jr.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: South Carolina Warriors**

**Principal Owner:** Platinum Entertainment Group LLC/Dymond Recordz (PEG)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The South Carolina Warriors will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season. The team is the first ABE team in South Carolina and will compete in the Mid-Atlantic Conference. The team is owned by Indianapolis-based Platinum Entertainment Group LLC/Dymond Recordz (PEG), a company founded in 2007, which provides management services to established and aspiring music artists, entertainers and athletes.

Sean Hollywood will serve as President/CEO of the team, while Richard A. Rhim will serve as Vice President of Operations and Finance.

## **Team: St. Louis Pioneers**

**Principal Owner:** Pioneer Sports Management & Entertainment

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** St. Louis Community College Meramec Campus

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Staten Island Vipers**

**Principal Owner:** Ayanna Phillip and Kyle Brereton

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Staten Island Vipers will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Syracuse Shockwave**

**Principal Owner:** Chuck Iavarone

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Syracuse Shockwave will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Tampa, Fla.**

**Principal Owner:** Stephen L. Davis

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Tampa, Fla. team will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: Texas Fuel**

**Principal Owner:** Aurora Deiri, Marisol Valdez and Juan Valdez

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Alamo Convocation Center

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: Washington Rampage**

**Principal Owner:** Sgt. Kinshasa Martin

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Washington Rampage will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season.

## **Team: West Texas Whirlwinds**

**Principal Owner:** Cleveland Phelps

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Odessa College

**UPDATE:** No update.

## **Team: West Virginia Blazers**

**Principal Owner:** Bluefield Housing Authority

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Beckley-Raleigh County Convention Center and the Bluefield State College Gymnasium

**UPDATE:** The Raleigh Housing Authority created the team as part of a program to help young people in the area improve their lives.

## **Team: Wyoming Roughnecks**

**Principal Owner:** Tyson Williams

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**UPDATE:** The Wyoming Roughnecks will be added to the ABA as an expansion team for the 2011-12 season. The Roughnecks are the first professional basketball team in Wyoming.

# NATIONAL BASKETBALL DEVELOPMENTAL LEAGUE (NBDL)

## **Team: Austin Toros**

**Affiliate:** San Antonio Spurs

**Principal Owner:** David Kahn; Southwest Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Cedar Park Center

**Date Built:** 2009

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** \$55

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Austin Toros moved to the Cedar Park Center in November 2010. The multiuse facility has a capacity of 4,672 seats for basketball with ample parking adjacent to the arena, and is also home to the American Hockey League's (AHL) Texas Stars. The Toros played the arena's first professional basketball games there last February during the 2009-10 season. Ticket prices at Cedar Park Center will be comparable to those at the Austin Convention Center, the Toros' former home, starting at just \$5.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Bakersfield Jam**

**Affiliate:** Los Angeles Clippers, Phoenix Suns and Toronto Raptors

**Principal Owner:** Bakersfield Professional Sports, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Jam Events Center

**Date Built:** 2009

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**UPDATE:** The Bakersfield Jam will affiliate with the Los Angeles Clippers, Phoenix Suns, and Toronto Raptors for the 2011-12 season. The Jam enter the third year of their affiliation relationship with the Los Angeles Clippers. The 2011-12 season marks the first year of Bakersfield's affiliation with the Phoenix Suns and Toronto Raptors.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A



## **Team: Canton**

**Affiliate:** Cleveland Cavaliers

**Principal Owner:** Cleveland Cavaliers

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Canton Memorial Civic Center

**Date Built:** 1951

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In July 2011, the Cleveland Cavaliers announced they will own and operate their new NBADL franchise in Canton, Ohio. The Cavaliers acquired the former New Mexico Thunderbirds franchise, which has ceased operations, and become the 5th NBA team to currently own and operate their own NBA D-League affiliate, joining Golden State, the Los Angeles Lakers, Oklahoma City and San Antonio. As owner/operators, the Cavaliers have exclusive control over all basketball and business elements for the franchise. Canton becomes the 16th team in the league and will begin play in the upcoming 2011-12 season at the Canton Memorial Civic Center.

The Cavaliers are inviting fans to submit their team name suggestions starting immediately at [www.CantonNBA.com](http://www.CantonNBA.com).

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Dakota Wizards**

**Affiliate:** Golden State Warriors

**Principal Owner:** Golden State Warriors

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Bismarck Civic Center

**Date Built:** N/A

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In June 2011, the Golden State Warriors purchased the Dakota Wizards franchise from Bismarck Professional Basketball LLC. The Warriors join San Antonio, Oklahoma City, Cleveland and the Los Angeles Lakers as the only NBA teams to own and operate their own NBA D-League affiliate.

The Wizards will remain in Bismarck during the 2011-12 D-League season – the franchise’s 17<sup>th</sup> season in North Dakota – and the club will explore options of a potential move to Northern California next season.

The purchase of the Wizards resulted in the end of the Warriors' affiliation with the Reno Bighorns, who served as the team's affiliate each of the last two years. Dakota marks the Warriors' third D-League affiliation (also Bakersfield Jam from 2006-07 to 2008-09) since the inception of the league prior to the 2006-07 season. No other NBA team will share this affiliation with Golden State. Last season, the Wizards were the D-League affiliate for the Memphis Grizzlies and Washington Wizards.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Erie BayHawks**

**Affiliate:** New York Knicks

**Principal Owner:** Steve Demetriou

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Louis J. Tullio Arena

**Date Built:** 1983

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** \$9.3

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Erie BayHawks and the New York Knicks entered into a single affiliation partnership beginning with the 2011-12 season. The Knicks will be the BayHawks' sole NBA affiliate and will have control over the team's basketball operations.

The partnership 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 an NBA D-League team. The NBA team partners with existing ownership, which maintains responsibility for the team's off-the-court business operations.

The Knicks are the third NBA team to enter into a hybrid affiliation with an NBA D-League team, joining the Houston Rockets, with the Rio Grande Valley Vipers, and the New Jersey Nets, with the Springfield Armor. The other NBA teams with lone NBA D-League affiliates are the Oklahoma City Thunder, San Antonio Spurs, Cleveland Cavaliers and Los Angeles Lakers, who fully own and operate their own teams, and the Dallas Mavericks with the Texas Legends.

The BayHawks were previously affiliated with the Cleveland Cavaliers and Toronto Raptors.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Fort Wayne Mad Ants**

**Affiliate:** Detroit Pistons, Indiana Pacers, Milwaukee Bucks

**Principal Owner:** John D. Zeglis

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1952

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** \$2.6, it was renovated for \$26 in 1989 and again for \$35 in 2002

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** No update.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Idaho Stampede**

**Affiliate:** Denver Nuggets, Portland Trailblazers and Utah Jazz

**Principal Owner:** Bill Ilett

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Qwest Arena

**Date Built:** 1997

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** \$50

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Idaho Stampede are the NBA Development League affiliate of the NBA's Utah Jazz for the 2011-12 season. The Stampede will keep its affiliations already held with the Denver Nuggets (2009-present) and Portland Trail Blazers (2007-present). The Stampede were previously an affiliate of the Jazz during the 2006-07 season. The Stampede have also been affiliates of the former Seattle SuperSonics (2006-2008) and Toronto Raptors (2008-09).

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Qwest Communications signed a naming rights deal with Idaho Sports Properties/Block 22 in October 2005 for \$4 million over 15 years.

## **Team: Iowa Energy**

**Affiliate:** Chicago Bulls, Washington Wizards and New Orleans Hornets

**Principal Owner:** Iowa Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Wells Fargo Arena

**Date Built:** 2005

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** \$99

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Iowa Energy remain the NBA D-League affiliate of the Chicago Bulls for the 5th consecutive season. Iowa will no longer serve as affiliate for the Phoenix Suns, working instead with both the Washington Wizards and the New Orleans Hornets.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Wells Fargo Financial Services is the title sponsor for the arena.

## **Team: Los Angeles D-Fenders**

**Affiliate:** Los Angeles Lakers

**Principal Owner:** Los Angeles Lakers

[Team Website](#)

**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:** The D-Fenders plan to return for the 2011-12 NBDL season after being out of operation for the 2010-11 season.

In November 2010, tragedy struck the STAPLES Center when a two-year old boy fell 28 feet from a skybox. The boy, who later died from his injuries, fell from the third deck of luxury seats minutes after a Lakers game. LAPD officials said the boy's parents were reviewing pictures on a digital camera when he wandered away and somehow fell over the glass safety barrier. His death was ruled accidental and the Department of Building and Safety said the building is in compliance with city code. In May 2011, the child's family filed a lawsuit against Anshutz Entertainment Group and L.A. Arena Co., which operates the center. The suit claims the companies have not warned fans about the "dangerous" design of the luxury boxes and alleges wrongful death and negligence. The suit seeks unspecified damages and an injunction that would require taller barriers to be installed in front of the boxes. The suit claims "in order to obtain the highest price possible for use of the luxury boxes, the STAPLES Center designed and maintains the luxury boxes in a dangerous condition." The safety barriers currently range in height from 26-42 inches, depending on the location.

The STAPLES Center's LIVE 4D, an eight-sided, center-hung Panasonic scoreboard and video system debuted in September 2010. The system, built exclusively for the STAPLES Center, is believed to be the largest indoor center-hung High Definition scoreboard video screen installation in the world. The unit features four additional screens on the underside of the LED Board to allow special viewing for fans with courtside seats. The boards are also video-capable,

allowing them to be integrated so programming appears seamlessly across all eight screens, displaying panoramic action.

In December 2010, the STAPLES Center became the first U.S. sports and entertainment arena to be awarded ISO 14001 Certification for the third-party review of its Environmental Management System.

Delta Air Lines announced a multiyear agreement in February 2011 to become an official founding partner and official airline of the STAPLES Center, an official partner of The GRAMMY Museum at L.A. Live and the official airline of the NHL L.A. Kings. The agreement includes extensive signage rights and through affiliation with the Kings will gain sponsorship rights inside and outside the arena throughout the season. Financial details of the five-year agreement were not disclosed.

The STAPLES Center implemented its In Stadium Solutions text system in May 2011. The text system allows guests to communicate instantly, discreetly and directly with security if assistance is needed dealing with an unruly fan, a cleanup in their section or any other concerns they wish to report. The texting information is currently displayed throughout the STAPLES Center on digital signage and the venue will work on installing permanent signage over the summer.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** STAPLES, an office supply company, was paying \$100 million over 20 years for a naming rights deal that was set to expire in 2019. In November of 2009, the company came to an agreement with the owner of the arena, AEG, which provided it with perpetual naming rights. This is the first lifetime naming rights agreement for a stadium in a major metropolitan area.

## **Team: Maine Red Claws**

**Affiliate:** Boston Celtics, Charlotte Bobcats and Philadelphia 76ers

**Principal Owner:** Maine Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Portland Exposition Building

**Date Built:** 1914

**Facility Cost:** \$80,944

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Maine Red Claws add the Philadelphia 76ers to their list of NBA affiliates for the 2011-12 season. The Red Claws continue their partnership with the Boston Celtics and Charlotte Bobcats.

The Red Claws received five NBA Development League business awards for the 2010-11 season. The Red Claws received recognition in all five categories in which they were eligible. The Red Claws were one of just two NBA D-League teams to win five or more awards.

In April 2011, developers, led by owners of the Maine Red Claws basketball team, proposed to transform Thompson's Point from a hodgepodge of light industry into a \$100 million commercial, sports and entertainment complex, which would include a mix of offices, a hotel, a performance hall and an "event center" that would double as a convention center and sports arena. The development would be financed privately and the developers would not seek any public financing, although they may ask for tax increment financing from the city.

Permits could be obtained by the end of 2011, with demolition happening over the winter. Construction could begin in the spring, with the hotel and office buildings taking about a year to complete and the event center, music hall and attached 700-car parking garage done in about 18 months.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Reno Bighorns**

**Affiliate:** Sacramento Kings, Atlanta Hawks and Memphis Grizzlies

**Principal Owner:** SK Baseball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Reno Events Center

**Date Built:** 2005

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Reno Bighorns will be affiliated with the Sacramento Kings, Atlanta Hawks and Memphis Grizzlies for the 2011-12 NBA Development League season.

The Bighorns retain the Kings as a parent club for the fourth-straight season. The upcoming season will be the first that Reno will be affiliated with the Atlanta Hawks and Memphis Grizzlies. Atlanta was affiliated with the Utah Flash, who are on hiatus, while Memphis was affiliated with the Dakota Wizards, who were recently purchased by the Golden State Warriors.

The Warriors' purchase of Dakota ends the Bighorns' one-year affiliation with Golden State.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Rio Grande Valley Vipers**

**Affiliate:** Houston Rockets

**Principal Owner:** RGV Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** State Farm Arena

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** \$23

### [Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Rio Grande Valley Vipers partnered with Clear Channel Radio to have all games and episodes of the weekly talk show, Inside the Vipers Nest, broadcasted on Classic Hits 1700 KVNS, during the 2011-12 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** State Farm purchased the naming rights to the former Dodge Arena in 2010. Details of the agreement were not disclosed.

## **Team: Sioux Falls Skyforce**

**Affiliate:** Miami Heat, Minnesota Timberwolves and Orlando Magic

**Principal Owner:** D. Greg Heineman

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Sioux Falls Arena

**Date Built:** 1961

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Sioux Falls Skyforce continue their partnership with the Miami Heat and Minnesota Timberwolves for the 2011-12 season. The Skyforce will also enter their first year as an affiliate for the Orlando Magic.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Springfield Armor**

**Affiliate:** New Jersey Nets

**Principal Owner:** HWS Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** MassMutual Center

**Date Built:** 1972

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Springfield Armor and the New Jersey Nets entered into a single affiliation partnership beginning with the 2011-12 season, giving the Nets full control over the basketball operations of and making them the sole affiliate for the Armor.

During the 2010-11 season, the New York Knicks and Philadelphia 76ers, along with the Nets, served as affiliates for the Armor.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In 2005, MassMutual Financial Group signed a naming rights deal for the Springfield Civic Center.

## **Team: Texas Legends**

**Affiliate:** Dallas Mavericks

**Principal Owner:** Texas D-League Management, LLC

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Dr Pepper Arena

**Date Built:** 2003

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** \$27

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Texas Legends received three business awards from the NBA Development League for their achievements in the 2010-11 season. The Texas Legends led the NBA D-League in season ticket sales, with 1,830 season tickets sold, as well as in sponsorship revenue in their first season as an organization. The league also awarded the Legends for their dedication to Frisco and the surrounding North Texas communities, whose staff, players, and coaches made more than 140 appearances in the area.

The Legends were only one of three NBA D-League teams to win awards in all three of these business categories.

The Legends announced in June 2011 they will be launching the television show DTV.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Tulsa 66ers**

**Affiliate:** Oklahoma City Thunder

**Principal Owner:** Oklahoma City Thunder

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Tulsa Convention Center

**Date Built:** 1964

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** \$3.5

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** No update.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A



## **PREMIER BASKETBALL LEAGUE (PBL)**

**LEAGUE UPDATE:** Three teams - Halifax Rainmen, Quebec Kebs and Saint John Mill Rats – left the PBL in 2011 to form the National Basketball League of Canada. The following teams are also no longer part of the PBL: Lawton-Fort Sill Calvary, Maryland GreenHawks and Vermont Frost Heaves.

### **Team: Chicago Muscle**

**Principal Owner:** Urmil Patel, Raj Patel, Christopher Foltz & Company

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** TBA

**Date Built:** N/A

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

**UPDATE:** The Chicago Muscle will join the PBL as a franchise team for the 2012 season. The Muscle's leadership team has been in talks with multiple venues in the Chicago area to host home games.

### **Team: Dayton Airstrikers**

**Principal Owner:** Anthony Byrd

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** James S. Trent Arena

**Date Built:** 2005

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** The arena was part of a larger \$102 million construction process that encompassed the entire Kettering School District.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Dayton Air Strikers will be returning to the PBL for the 2012 Season. The Air Strikers started play as an expansion franchise of the PBL in the 2011 season before leaving for the International Basketball League.

### **Team: Rochester RazorSharks**

**Principal Owner:** Dr. Sev Hrywnak

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Blue Cross Arena

**Date Built:** 1951-1955

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** \$7.5 (construction), \$41 (renovation)

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The RazorSharks won the 2011 PBL Championship.

## **Team: Scranton/Wilkes-Barre**

**Principal Owner:** Joe Runco

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Lackawanna College Union Center

**Date Built:** N/A

**Facility Cost (\$/Mil):** N/A

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Team Scranton/Wilkes-Barre, Pa. will join the PBL as a franchise team for the 2012 season. The new team will play its home games at the recently remodeled 2,500 seat Lackawanna College Union Center.

## WOMEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (WNBA)

### **Team: Atlanta Dream**

**Principal Owner:** Kathy Betty

**Year Established:** 2007

[Team Website](#)

**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 \$149.5 million in government-backed bonds to be paid back at \$12.5 million a year for 30 years. A 3% car rental tax was created to pay for \$62 million of the public infrastructure costs and Time Warner contributed \$20 million for the remaining infrastructure costs.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Atlanta Dream announced the addition of Mary Brock and Kelly Loeffler to the team's ownership group, Dream Too LLC in January 2011. Kathy Betty will remain as Managing Partner. Brock and Loeffler join Betty as the only all-female ownership group of an Atlanta professional sports team.

In May 2011, the Atlanta Dream renewed its television partnership with FOX Sports South and SportSouth for the 2011 WNBA season. All Dream home games, with the exception of a June 9 nationally televised game, will be televised on FOX Sports South and SportSouth.

In May 2011, Radiant Systems, Inc. announced the launch of Quest Diversus™, a new concession point-of-sale (POS) terminal for stadiums and arenas, which debuted at Philips Arena. Diversus is the first hybrid POS in the industry and features a configurable touch screen and membrane keypad, as well as a two-hour backup battery to help avoid service interruptions. Diversus joins the Quest Venue Manager product suite, which currently supports food, beverage and merchandise sales.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Philips Electronics is paying \$180 million over 20 years for the naming rights that expire in 2019.

## **Team: Chicago Sky**

**Principal Owner:** Michael Alter

**Year Established:** 2005

[Team Website](#)

**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:** The Chicago Sky moved team practices to the Sachs Recreation Center in May 2011. Sachs Recreation Center, the former Deerfield Multiplex, is a newly renovated near 100,000-square-foot complex. It is also the home of the “Bulls Gym,” the former practice court of the Jordan-era Chicago Bulls. The gym, designed for a professional basketball experience, is equipped with a “soft” wall that can be lowered to provide privacy for Sky practices when needed.

Following its \$11 million renovation, the Sachs Recreation Center features two additional hardwood floor basketball courts, a four-lane track with elevated turns, free weight and strength resistance equipment, cardio training equipment, a four-lane 20-yard lap pool, whirlpool, steam room, sauna and large well-appointed locker rooms.

**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, Fla.; moved to Conn. in 2003

[Team Website](#)

**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](#)

**UPDATE:** No update.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** N/A

## **Team: Indiana Fever**

**Affiliate:** Indiana Pacers

**Principal Owner:** Melvin and Herbert Simon

**Year Established:** 2000

[Team Website](#)

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

**Arena:** Conseco Fieldhouse

**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:** The city of Indianapolis will contribute \$10 million over the next three years to help finance the operations of Conseco Fieldhouse. The city will also pay at least \$3.5 million for building improvements. In return, the NBA'S Indiana Pacers must remain in the city through the 2012-13 NBA season or repay the entire \$30 million. The Pacers would also be on the hook for a portion of the \$30 million if they left before 2019.

Conseco Fieldhouse will retain its name even though the insurance company changed its name to CNO Financial Group in March 2010. The company noted the cost for new fieldhouse signs and the importance of continuity in making its decision.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** CNO Financial Group, formerly known as Conseco, an insurance and financial services company, is paying \$40 million over 20 years for the naming rights that expire in 2019.

## **Team: Los Angeles Sparks**

**Affiliate:** Los Angeles Lakers

**Principal Owner:** Carla Christofferson and Kathy Goodman

**Year Established:** 1997

[Team Website](#)

**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:** The Los Angeles Sparks and Farmers Insurance renewed and expanded their marketing partnership initially formed in 2009. Beginning with the 2011 season, Farmers will serve as the presenting partner of the Sparks. The partnership encompasses numerous marketing and branding elements, including a continuation of the branded jerseys first worn by Sparks players in 2009. In addition to game uniforms, Farmers will appear on team shooting shirts, in-arena signage and on the STAPLES Center court. Sparks advertising, tickets and pocket schedules will now feature the Farmers' logo, as will the team's official website. The relationship extends to cross-promotion via the social media platforms of both Farmers and the Sparks.

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Board to allow special viewing for fans with courtside seats. The boards are also video-capable, allowing them to be integrated so programming appears seamlessly across all eight screens, displaying panoramic action.

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**NAMING RIGHTS:** STAPLES, an office supply company, owns perpetual naming rights to the STAPLES Center.

## **Team: Minnesota Lynx**

**Affiliate:** Minnesota Timberwolves

**Principal Owner:** Glen Taylor

**Year Established:** 1999

[Team Website](#)

**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 March 2011, Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak, the NBA's Minnesota Timberwolves owner Glen Taylor and Minneapolis City Council President Barbara Johnson announced a proposal seeking \$155 million to renovate the Target Center. The city owns the building, which is operated by AEG. Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton announced a \$1 billion bonding plan that includes \$8 million to match city money used for basic upkeep of the Target

Center. The city already has \$50 million in tax increment financing funds over the next 10 years aimed at keeping the facility functional.

In May 2011, the mayor and city council president unveiled a proposal to partially fund the renovations by raising the city's sales tax and expanding other taxes. Under the plan, the city would provide \$100 million towards the renovations while the Wolves would finance \$50 million of the upgrades. The plan would also restructure existing Target Center debt, shifting the burden of repayment off property tax rolls, providing \$50 million in property relief over 10 years.

Target Corp.'s naming rights agreement for the arena expires at the end of August. The team is seeking a 14-year deal to match the years remaining on its lease at the venue. Life Time Fitness is among the companies vying for the deal.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Target was paying \$18.8 million over 15 years for the naming rights that expired in 2005. The company has been paying approximately \$2 million per year since that time.

## **Team: New York Liberty**

**Affiliate:** New York Knicks

**Principal Owner:** Cablevision

**Year Established:** 1996

[Team Website](#)

**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 Financing:** \$200 million in renovations completed in 1991.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The New York Liberty will play at the Prudential Center the next three seasons while Madison Square renovations are underway. The arena projected cost of the renovation to exceed \$800 million. The renovations will include new seats, lighting, sound, and LED video systems in HDTV, wider public concourses and other enhancements. The renovations are scheduled to be completed by October 2013. The renovations are so substantial that they will require Madison Square Garden to be shut down three separate times during the summer of 2010 for a total of 20 weeks. This opportunity cost will add on to the cost of the renovations as dozens of events will have to be moved to another location and Cablevision will lose out on those revenues.

In September 2010, JPMorgan Chase inked a deal as the first-ever Marquee Partner of Madison Square Garden (MSG). The deal includes MSG's iconic venues (Madison Square Garden, Theater at Madison Square Garden, Radio City Music Hall, Beacon Theatre, and Chicago



Theatre), entertainment brands and events, professional sports teams (NBA New York Knicks, NHL New York Rangers, and WNBA New York Liberty), regional television networks, and digital platforms. The lucrative deal is worth at least \$30 million a year for 10 years. The agreement gives the bank rights to most of the inventory the Knicks and arena have to offer except for the payment card category which is owned by American Express.

The new 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue entrance will become Chase Square and two new Chase Bridges will be suspended above the floor offering a unique view of the action. The arena will also feature The 1879 Club presented by J.P. Morgan and 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue marquees will feature permanent JPMorgan 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](#)

**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 30-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](#)

**UPDATE:** No update.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** US Airways is paying \$26 million over 30 years for the naming rights that expire in 2019. In January 2006, the name of the arena was changed from America West Arena to the US Airways Center after America West and US Airways merged in 2005.

## **Team: San Antonio Silver Stars**

**Affiliate:** San Antonio Spurs

**Principal Owner:** Peter Holt

**Year Established:** 1997 as Utah Starzz; moved to San Antonio in 2003

[Team Website](#)

**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](#)

**UPDATE:** No update.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** AT&T is paying \$41 million for 20 years for naming rights that expire in 2022.

## **Team: Seattle Storm**

**Principal Owner:** Force 10 Hoops, LLC

**Year Established:** 1999

[Team Website](#)

**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 Supersonics \$19 million.

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Storm announced a new radio partnership with Seattle's CBS Radio, Inc. to broadcast all Seattle Storm basketball games live during the 2011 season on KPTK 1090 AM. The multi-year partnership includes marketing opportunities with additional CBS Radio-affiliated stations.

One of the four original founders, Anne Levinson, is no longer part of the Seattle Storm's ownership group, Force 10 Hoops LLC. The three remaining members of Force 10 Hoops include Dawn Trudeau, chairperson, Lisa Brummel and Ginny Gilder.

KeyArena at Seattle Center, AEG Facilities and Levy Restaurants announced a new partnership for dining and hospitality at the arena. Under the terms of this agreement Levy Restaurants will oversee all food and beverage services for KeyArena. Services include general concessions and premium seating food and beverage service.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Key Bank was originally paying \$15.1 million over 15 years for naming rights that expire at the end of 2010. After the resident NBA team was relocated, Key Bank and the city renegotiated the last two years of the deal. The bank will now paid \$300,000 in 2009 and \$315,000 in 2010.

A source with Seattle City Council said there hasn't been any movement on finding a new sponsor for KeyArena since KeyBank let its contract expire on December 31, 2010. The bank opted not to renew after 15 years. The name of the Storm's home court could change midseason if Seattle Center secures a new naming-rights agreement.

## **Team: Tulsa Shock**

**Principal Owner:** Tulsa Pro Hoops, LLC

**Year Established:** 1998 as Detroit Shock, moved to Tulsa in 2009

[Team Website](#)

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

**Arena:** BOK Center

**Date Built:** 2005-2008

**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:** No update.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Bank of Oklahoma purchased the naming rights for the new arena. The bank will pay \$11 million over 20 years.

## **Team: Washington Mystics**

**Affiliate:** Washington Wizards

**Principal Owner:** Monumental Sports & Entertainment

**Year Established:** 1998

[Team Website](#)

**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:** The Washington Mystics announced the team has entered into a marquee partnership with Inova Health System. As part of the partnership, Mystics players will wear Inova Hospital System's name and logo on the front of their home and away jerseys, shooting shirts and community apparel during the upcoming 2011 WNBA season.

In February 2011 the Verizon Center debuted mobile applications for Android, iPhone and iPod Touch. The free mobile app, developed by YinzCam, provides detailed, searchable maps and locations for all concession food items and drinks, guest services, bathrooms, ATM machines, stairs, elevators, entrances and exits. Additional features include a schedule of all upcoming games, concerts and events, and a customer feedback section for fans to submit queries or concerns during an event. A Blackberry version of the mobile app is currently in development. Additional wi-fi access points were installed throughout the arena in an effort to increase the available bandwidth for cellphone users and allow for the use of the mobile app during events.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Verizon is paying \$44 million over 15 years for the naming rights that expire in 2017. 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.