

FIBA EUROPE – ULEB AGREEMENT

This Agreement is made this 3rd November 2004, in Geneva, Switzerland

between FIBA EUROPE

Of the one part

and

ULEB

Of the other part

Whereas:

“FIBA” is the world governing authority of basketball before the Olympic Movement and, in general, before any other international body or organisation;

“FIBA Europe” is responsible for managing and promoting basketball in Europe on behalf of FIBA;

“ULEB” is the Union of European Basketball Leagues currently organising the Euroleague and the ULEB Cup;

Considering:

That it is in the best interest of European basketball to reach an agreement between the parties

It is hereby agreed as follows:

1) Definitions:

- a. **“European Club Competitions”**: All club competitions played in Europe under the direct administration or auspices/sanction of FIBA Europe
- b. **”Competitions”**: Competitions administered by ULEB and sanctioned by FIBA Europe

2) Institutional Framework

FIBA is the world governing body of basketball as recognised by the IOC; FIBA Europe is the FIBA Zone Commission that promotes, supervises and directs the sport of basketball in Europe on behalf of FIBA in accordance with Article 44 of the FIBA General Statutes. ULEB is the organisation recognised by FIBA Europe and FIBA.

3) Joint Commission

- a. **FIBA Europe and ULEB will create a joint commission (2 persons from FIBA Europe and 2 persons from ULEB) responsible for dealing on all matters that need to be coordinated. Both parties have the right to ask for a meeting to be convened. The Executive Director of FIBA Europe shall be responsible to convene and preside over such meetings.**
- b. **Any dispute that can not be settled within this group will be decided by a Permanent Committee composed of the President of FIBA Europe, the President of ULEB, the Executive Director of FIBA Europe, the CEO of Euroleague, the Secretary General Emeritus of FIBA and, as Chair, the Secretary General of FIBA.**

4) FIBA Europe Responsibilities for the “European Club Competitions”

- **FIBA Europe will administer for all “European Club Competitions” the eligibility, the international transfer of players and doping controls in accordance with the appropriate FIBA regulations.**
- **The application of free circulation for the “Competitions” and only for the “Competitions”, in accordance with the FIBA Internal Regulations, is to be decided by the General Assembly of the clubs of ULEB.**

5) ULEB Responsibilities for the “Competitions”

ULEB will manage and administer the “Competitions” for Clubs on behalf of FIBA Europe. The “Competitions” will be FIBA Europe sanctioned Competitions, as per Article 1.1.2 of FIBA’s Internal Regulations.

6) Division of Clubs

The “Competitions” will be played with 48 clubs.

7) Criteria for Selection of Clubs/Countries for the “Competitions”

The “Competitions” will be played by clubs, selected according to:

- a. National championship results will be the basic criteria to determine the participation of clubs, unless a National Federation decides otherwise. National Championships must be respected at all times and teams shall be obliged to participate in their national championships unless the respective national federation decides otherwise.**
- b. Economical criteria will allow a certain number of clubs to participate for a reasonable number of seasons regardless of their ranking in the national championships.**
- c. National Federations will submit the registration forms for all “European Club Competitions” according to the respective regulations for the participation. National Federations may delegate this responsibility to the domestic league.**
- d. The participation of the clubs in the “European Club Competitions” in one given season will be limited to eight (8) clubs from one country, distributed reasonably across all “European Club Competitions”.**
- e. While the top competition may be organised with fewer countries, these same countries must be allowed to register, within the limit set on 7d, clubs at all existing European levels.**
- f. There shall be a minimum of 16 countries in the “Competitions”**
- g. There shall be promotion/relegation between all European Club Competition levels.**

8) International Calendar

FIBA Europe and ULEB will respect the yearly calendar as follows:

- **Club competitions shall end at the latest with the third weekend of June**
- **National Teams' competitions for Men shall end at the latest with the third weekend of September.**

9) Official Basketball Rules

All "European Club Competitions" are played, without any exceptions, according to the FIBA Official Basketball Rules and Mechanics.

10) Players Availability for National Teams

ULEB will promote and support the participation of all players in their respective national teams programs and use its best efforts to ensure that the clubs provide the best players to play on the national teams during the period reserved for national teams' competitions. FIBA Europe must ensure that all involved National Federations will use the insurance coverage for national team players organised by FIBA Europe.

11) Referees

- a. Only FIBA active referees and commissioners can officiate in the "European Club Competitions".**
- b. FIBA is responsible for establishing the rules and procedures for certifying referees and commissioners for the official international Club and National Teams Competitions.**
- c. National Federations transmit every year to FIBA a list with their entire number of FIBA international referees and commissioners. A decision by a National Federation not to include a FIBA international referee or commissioner in the list must be fully justified. FIBA then informs FIBA Europe.**
- d. FIBA Europe will establish and publish, on the base of the lists transmitted by FIBA to FIBA Europe, a "ranking list" of all of the FIBA international referees from Europe by the end of May of each year and the list of European FIBA Commissioners.**

- e. ULEB will use for nominations approximately 100 referees for the “Competitions”. ULEB will be responsible for all of the administrative work related to this group of FIBA referees.
- f. ULEB will present to FIBA Europe the list of nominees for commissioners for their entire season. Any refusal must be fully justified,
- g. During the Euroleague season, ULEB may request the replacement of certain referees or commissioners as needed.
- h. Evaluation and educational processes for the “Competitions” during a season shall be organised by ULEB.
- i. Referees and commissioners shall be available at all times for each other’s competitions.

12) Disciplinary Proceedings

FIBA Europe and ULEB will mutually respect any sanctions imposed in a disciplinary process, i.e. sanctions will apply to all “European Club Competitions”. Disciplinary regulations for all “European Club Competitions” will be drafted and approved by the joint commission. Extension of individual sanctions to National Team competitions will be decided by the appropriate FIBA body in charge of that competition.

13) Final provisions

- a. The parties will separately agree on the financial contribution by ULEB to FIBA Europe.
- b. Any change to this agreement requires the written agreement of both parties.
- c. The parties confirm and guarantee that they are properly and legally authorized to sign this agreement by their respective constituencies.
- d. Any legal case pending in front of a court shall be withdrawn with immediate effect.
- e. For any point not solved herein and which affects the interests of both parties, the parties shall in good faith meet and discuss an appropriate solution according to Article 3) above.

Signed and Agreed

in Geneva, Switzerland on November 3, 2004

FIBA Europe



**President
George Vassilakopoulos**


ULEB



**President
Eduardo Portela**




**Executive Director
Nar Zanolin**




**Chief Executive Officer
Jordi Bertomeu**

Witnessed by, this day, 3 November 2004, in Geneva, Switzerland



**FIBA Secretary General
Patrick Baumann**



**FIBA Secretary General Emeritus
Borislav Stankovic**