



## International Basketball League expands to the East Coast IBL heads into 7th year; New Jersey will head into its 1st year of IBL play

**IBL Media news release April 28th, 2011:** The International Basketball League is excited to announce that it will be expanding to the East Coast. Already a team from **Albany New York** has enjoyed the IBL product, talent level and efficiency of scheduling; this Albany New York team is currently in its 2nd year after winning the IBL Championship in 2010. A team from New Jersey will now join the IBL as well. Owner Tim Butts is a New Jersey resident and a vice president of an international insurance company and has worked on Wall Street for years. His newest interest is in bringing professional level basketball to the **Hoboken/Jersey City area**. Pro Player Development LLC will own the team; the team name is tentatively named—the New Jersey Titans.

### **Media Members notes:**

- To use a variety of IBL images or logos—visit the IBL web site and click on the [images/logos](#) link
- To contact New Jersey owner Timothy Butts call (phone) 201-349-0300 or email: [tbsportsagent@aol.com](mailto:tbsportsagent@aol.com)
- For information about the IBL, visit the following page and/or visit the web site [www.IBLhoopsonline.com](http://www.IBLhoopsonline.com)
- To contact IBL Commissioner Mikal Duilio, call (ph) 503-380-4539 or email- [mikal@iblhoopsonline.com](mailto:mikal@iblhoopsonline.com)

**About Timothy Butts:** Tim Butts graduated from William Penn University with a Liberal Arts Degree in 1982 where he played college football and where he ran Track & Field. After college, Tim tried his hand at semi-professional football but moved on shortly thereafter to the business world. Tim is currently a vice president at one of the largest international insurance companies in the world with offices in 32 countries. Tim Butt is also a sports agent representing athletes from snowboarders to Division 1 football and basketball players. Recently, Tim Butts began brainstorming ideas of how he could offer elite free agent basketball players in his area an opportunity to showcase their talents. He decided the best way to do that was to own a professional level basketball team. Tim selected the International Basketball League (IBL) as the best fit for his team. Tim said, "There are great basketball players in the NYC/NJ area who have the ability to play at the next level. Bringing the IBL to the NYC/NJ area will give basketball players a chance for exposure and development." Tim intends to recruit elite players for the New Jersey Titans who have the drive and determination to make it to the next level.

**About the International Basketball League:** the IBL is a league based on efficiency of scheduling (owners take only 1 flight per season) but the **original passion** for forming the IBL, was Mikal Duilio's concept of making the game more entertaining—by three specific rules: 1) the IBL only allows 4 timeouts per game, 2) the IBL reduces dead time with an immediate inbounds and 3) the IBL has a 22-second shot clock. As a result of these subtle changes, International Basketball League games are always fast and entertaining and as importantly, the contest only lasts 2 hours. Mikal Duilio, founder of the IBL believes that "basketball was meant to be athletic and the game was meant to move; the IBL takes out the unnatural and unintended breaks in play., unintended by Dr. James Naismith when he created the game"; further, Duilio says "basketball should be an athletic game that ebbs and flows rather than tiptoes along in unnatural stops and starts." For more information about the International Basketball League, see the next page. The inaugural IBL season tipped off on April 7, 2005; the result was that IBL teams averaged 127 points per game and the games occurred in just under two hours. The second season (2006 season) for the IBL was completed in July of 2006 and after 249 games, that season **also** had a scoring average of 127 points per game. The formula worked. From 2007 through 2010, the scoring averages have come down each year, but the games still start and end within 2-hours.



## ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE

- **The International Basketball League is heading into its 7<sup>th</sup> year (8<sup>th</sup> season):** the sixth IBL Championship was held in Albany New York on July 16th, 2010; in that game- the Albany Legends beat the visiting Bellingham Slam (from Washington) 126 to 111 (photo right). The seventh championship occurred on January 16<sup>th</sup> 2011 as Kankakee Illinois Soldiers beat the Gary Indiana Splash on a 40 foot game winning shot from Ryan Edwards at Kellogg's Arena in Battle Creek Michigan. IBL now runs 2 seasons per year—Spring/Summer and Winter.
- **The IBL is international:** Shanxi China and Edmonton Canada competed in the IBL 2008 season. In the 2009 IBL season, a team from Japan- the Nippon Tornadoes and a second Canadian team—the British Columbia Titans competed in the IBL. In addition to those teams from Asia and Canada playing in the IBL, the Central Oregon Hotshots and the Elkhart (Indiana) Express played 5 games apiece in China. In 2011, the Vancouver Volcanoes played 5 games in Japan (photo accessible on IBL web opening page).
- **An entertaining game**—by allowing only one timeout per quarter, and reducing dead time with an immediate inbounds, IBL games are always fast and entertaining and the contest only lasts 2 hours. IBL believes that basketball was meant to be athletic and the game was meant to move; the IBL takes out the unnatural and unintended breaks in play ('unintended' by Naismith).
- **An arena league:** most IBL teams upgraded playing venues in recent seasons.
- **IBL appeals to high level players:** after the 2007 IBL season ended- **102** players went on from the IBL to play overseas.
- **Former NBA players that have played in the IBL:** 25 former NBA players have appeared in the IBL
- **Highest attendance:** 4,400 fans watched the Portland Chinooks beat the Vancouver Volcanoes in 2006 in Portland Oregon at the Rose Garden. 6,000 fans saw the Elkhart Express (Indiana) beat the Grand Rapids (Michigan) Flight (video on IBL site).
- **Key feature of the IBL for an owner:** the IBL was designed around the concept of creating **extremely low travel costs** for the owners; in fact, the IBL has a 'one flight guarantee' for teams. IBL teams can play a variety of opponents from all over the country (or world) but yet those owners only fly **1** time (not counting playoffs which are optional, after the season).
- **The 2009 Championship team featured 6 ex-NBA players:** the L.A. Lightning beat the Oregon Waves 2 games to 1 in a 3-game series. L.A. had **six** former NBA players on one IBL team – Lamond Murray (Clippers) a 12-year NBA veteran who averaged 26.3 points in the finals and was named MVP, Fred Vinson (Seattle SuperSonics), Toby Bailey (Suns), Bryon Russell (Jazz), Darrick Martin (Clippers) and Juaquin Hawkins (Rockets). Other solid performers included Trayvon Lathan- a slashing 6' 7" guard who plays above the rim, ex-UCLA star 6' 5" Billy Knight, 6' 11" Chris Ayer, and 7' 0" Adam Parada
- **About IBL founder:** Mikal Duilio has operated sports leagues and events for 26 years. As a teenager from 1985 to 1992— Duilio founded/directed the Indianola Jamball League (Iowa). In 1992, Duilio obtained a Masters Degree from Iowa State University and moved to Portland, Oregon where he founded and directed PortlandBasketball.Com (1993)—for 18 years and running—PortlandBasketball.Com has been and is- the world's largest basketball league with 8,000 amateur basketball games per year. Duilio founded PugetSoundBasketball.Com in Seattle in 2004 and sold the business within a year. In late 2003, Duilio founded the IBL as a concept with ten test games in the Pacific NW (described in a video found on the IBL web site, opening video); the first official IBL game occurred in April of 2005; on that opening night, former NBA All Star Tim Hardaway scored 45 points for a team in Waterloo, Iowa in a 129 to 131 overtime loss. The IBL is now heading into its 8 season.



**For more info, photos & videos about the IBL or about IBL teams, visit [www.iblhoopsonline.com](http://www.iblhoopsonline.com)**

**Pictured:** Byron Russell, Tim Hardaway & Dennis Rodman—3 of the 25 former NBA players to have played in the IBL

