USB NUMBER OF THE STATES BASKETBALL NETWORK

USBC BASKETBALL RULES

United States Basketball Network (USBN)

presents the

2026 United States Basketball Championship (USBC)

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1.0 Introduction

The United States Basketball Network (USBN) is a media network solely dedicated on professional basketball teams and players in the USA, outside NBA. USBN main event is the annual United States Basketball Championship (USBC).

1.1 Format: 2026 USBC is a 22 Game League.

Opening weekend starts May 30th and 31st, 2026 (Saturday and Sunday). 12 teams are participating. Each team will play one another Home and Away. The season consists of 22 total games played by each team. Games are scheduled to be played on weekends (once a week) but teams might schedule a weekday game to either make up for a weekend unavailable or to shorten the season.

The winner will be determined by whomever is top of the schedules at the end of the season. If there is need for a tiebreaker, points differential will be the used as the tiebreaker.

USBC is the Top League, Top Level. The winner will be named the #1 Pro Basketball in America. The USBN's League structure is designed to be a 4-level league with promotion and relegation each season.

Year 1, the 2026 season will have a USBC winner, and the bottom last 3 teams will be relegated to League 2, 2nd Level. For the 2027 season, Year 2, the league will start with 3 new teams in League 1 and 9 new teams in League 2 plus the 3 relegated teams. For the 2028 season, Year 3, League 1 will have the USBC winner and 3 teams down. League 2 will have 3 teams up and 3 teams down. League 3 will have 3 new teams for League 2 and 9 new teams for League 3 plus 3 relegated teams. For the 2029 season, Year 4, League 1 will have the USBC winner and 3 teams down. League 2 will have 3 teams up and 3 teams down. League 4 will



have 3 teams down from League 4 and 9 new teams to complete the total of 48 teams nationwide.

- **1.2 Voluntary Participation:** The USBN has a Competition Committee that invites teams to participate in competing in the 2026 USBC. Invitations are sent to teams that represent themselves in a professional and competitive manner along with the teams that represent themselves best to their fan base as well as on social media. Teams have the right to either accept or decline the invitation to compete and play in 2026 USBC.
- **1.3 Team's Responsibilities:** As a participating team, it will be up to your team to be responsible for participating in the league. This includes travel, any game related expenses, and any other financial cost associated with your participation in the league. USBN is working to reduce costs, help with expenses, and provide compensation and rewards but gives no official guarantees. Teams compete at their own expense and risk. Teams also agree to follow and act accordingly to the rest of the rules and regulations put in place by USBN for 2026 USBC.

2.0 Requirements to Play in the 2026 USBC

The following will provide you with all the expectations and understanding of what it will take if your team wins the 2026 USBC. The following points are to help your team decide to either accept or decline your invitation to play in 2026 USBC. Below are important dates, travel information, team information, and all else the USBN can foresee to help your team make the best decision possible.

- **2.1 Dates:** The most current and accurate information will always be updated on our website www.usbc.pro. The League starts last weekend in May and can run as late as the last weekend in October (22 weeks). Your team would be responsible for traveling, lodging, and meals for anything needed with away games.
- **2.2 Cost:** The USBN does not charge any fees to compete in 2026 USBC. It is the goal of USBN to use its money from advertisers, sponsors, and revenues generated to provide the league and not pass cost onto any team. At this time, what USBN cannot cover is a team's cost getting to and from the games being played.
- **2.3 Reimbursement:** USBN will attempt ways to increase advertising and sponsorship as well as increasing sales of tickets, concessions, and merchandise. Some of the USBN's ways include the help and participation of teams and/or players. USBN will provide tools and opportunities for teams and/or players to generate income directly to them and to USBN. Money commissioned directly to the team and/or to a player will be their money to spend however one chooses. Money commissioned to USBN will go toward producing the league and/or



helping reduce costs to the team(s) and player(s) participating.

- **2.4 Roster:** Maximum number of players per roster is 12. Players may only play for one team. Switching from one team to another is illegal and will result in the game being forfeited by the team playing the player not on their original roster. Rosters deadline to submit is April 15th, 2026, at midnight EST. After the deadline, your roster is locked. Teams are allowed to make 5 roster changes but must notify the USBN before the players play for the team. You may drop a player or players. Dropped players will not be allowed to be picked up by any team still competing. USBN will provide a roster template for your team to complete and return.
- **2.5 Travel:** USBN will work to provide group discounts, incentives and other financial aid to help lower the cost of one's travel. However, no matter where the location might be, the expectation of the team is that your team will be able to reach its destination to play it's game. All cost associated with teams and players getting to their game is the responsibility of the team and how the team holds its players responsible for getting to game day in time for tip-off.

3.0 Game Rules - Basic NBA rules

- **3.1 Court Dimensions and Equipment:** Most games will be played on a college campus court and therefore court and three-point lines and equipment will be that of the gymnasium being played in.
- **3.2 Length of Game:** Games will be Four (4) Twelve (12) minute quarters. Halftime will be Fifteen (15) minutes. If Overtime is needed. Teams will play Five (5) additional minutes. The break between quarters is Three (3) minutes.
- **3.3 Scoring:** All baskets are worth Two (2) points. All baskets behind the 3-point line are worth Three (3) points. Each Free Throw is worth One (1) point.
- **3.4 Timeouts:** Each team is allowed Three (3) timeouts per half. Unused timeouts do not carry over to the Second Half. Each Time Out is for 2 minutes.
- **3.5 Shot Clock:** Each game will use the 24-second Shot Clock rule and use 14-seconds on any reset.
- **3.6 Goaltending:** Players shall not touch the ball while it is on the rim. NBA goals apply to goaltending.
- **3.7 Fouls and Penalties:** Each player is allowed 6 total fouls for the entire game. Each Team is allowed Four (4) fouls per quarter. On Foul number 5 during a quarter, the player will shoot a Bonus Foul which is being awarded Two Free Throws.
- **3.8 Defensive 3-Second Rule**: There will be NO Defensive 3-(Revised July 19, 2025) 4



Second Rule being called.

3.9 Eight-Second Rule: Teams will be given Eight (8) seconds to get the ball across halfcourt after inbounding. If the ball is not across halfcourt by 16 seconds on the Shot Clock, it will result in a penalty.

4.0 Marketing and Advertising:

A famous movie line once said, "Help me, help you". USBN needs the help of each team, along with their players and fans, to help promote and share the USBN and USBC across all media platforms. The better and bigger this league is, the better the USBN can represent our industry to brands and advertisers. More dollars that can be generated outside of the league will be used to provide additional capital to teams. Instead of pro-level teams having to pay to play, USBN wants to give money for your participation in a profit sharing, if there are profits.

- **4.1 Promoting USBN and USBC:** The first step is making sure your team and players a following USBN social media pages. Best to go to USBN's website www.usbn.pro and from there can access all our major social media accounts. Second step is to share and tag USBN and USBC when talking about your team. Hashtags are #USBN and #2026USBC.
- **4.2 Advertisers and Sponsors:** By accepting your invitation to participate in the USBC you agree to help prompt, support, and advertise our sponsors and advertisers. The USBN might call your team and/or players to help with special marketing and advertising campaigns to support and thank those who support the tournament. At minimum, sending a thank you from your accounts to our supporters is greatly appreciated. Within them, the tournament, the league, our future would struggle to exist.

5.0 Compliance:

It is important that USBN has a clean and safe league. The goal of the USBC is to promote teams and players in a positive manner that will result in good future outcomes for everyone. USBN reserves the right to withdraw, remove, or ask any team, player, or spectator to exit an event or game if they are presenting or representing themselves in any fashion detrimental to USBN or USBN's partners or location providers.

5.1 Team Set Up: A Team must be an existing team determined by the USBN Competition Committee that has a good presence in their community as well as on social media. Teams cannot consist of current NBA or NBA GLeague Players under contract or current eligible NCAA able to still play in the NCAA. No players under the age of 18 will be allowed to play.

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- **5.2 Player Registration:** USBN will need players to provide details on themselves such as name, age, hometown, height, weight, and pervious Team or Club.
- **5.3 Legal Agreements:** The information provided by the USBN is considered a legally binding contract between USBN and all participants which by participation is accepting the terms and conditions of the USBN and all agreements.
- **5.4 Waivers Signed:** Teams and Players are expected to sign a Waiver and Release of Liability.

6.0 Community Standards:

At USBN, we are committed to achieving the highest level of excellence in all aspects of our business. We uphold the utmost integrity, professionalism, and innovation to ensure premier experience for our participants, fans, and partners. Our standards reflect our dedication to fairness, respect, and continuous improvement, fostering a culture of inclusivity, accountability, and excellence. By working together, we strive to set a benchmark for success, creating a positive and lasting impact within our industry and community.

- **6.1 Alcohol and Drug Policy:** Alcohol and Drugs are prohibited. Anyone suspected of being under the influence will be asked to leave the premises. Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of the game and/or additional security measures. Alcohol for VIP concessions and celebrations may be allowed but only with permission from both USBN and facility provider ahead of time.
- **6.2 Property and People Respect:** The number one rule and most important aspect of USBN's United States Basketball Championship is our appreciation for partners, sponsors, advertisers, fans, and supporters. Many aspects of the tournament might be from a donor, investor, supporter, or partner and wanting to show our appreciation through professionalism and politicism. The gymnasiums that games are played at are usually not owned by the USBN or a team and therefore their property, their gym needs to be respected and left in better condition than arrival. All damages done by a team, a player, or fan, will result in criminal action of destruction of public property. This law includes buildings, vehicles, and equipment. USBN asks for everyone participating to please be respectful to others and properties. This rule especially goes towards players, officials, and referees.
- **6.3 Be On Time:** Teams not on the court and ready to play by the tip-off time to start the game will result in a Forfeit. You are responsible for being on time.



Any circumstances or points not addressed within this document that might occur during the tournament. USBN's Competition Committee will be the final decision maker and result provider overseeing the concern and addressing conflicts or issues.