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Athens

The capital of Greece is arguably also one of the baskeball capitals of the world, with incredible stories told by its most famous clubs and the national team.

The past, the present and the future - Athens has it all, as one of the oldest cities in the world, one of Europe's largest urban areas currently, and a wonderful location to create memories for a lifetime for everybody who plans to visit the city during this BCL Final Four, powered by SUNEL.

The cradle of Western civilization, the birthplace of democracy, Athens breathes in history and the city's museum and attractions will leave you speechless. However, that is not the word we would use if you're planning to visit a basketball game in the city.

Athens and basketball can't go without each other, with colorful fans turning up the decibels in all of city's arenas, most notably at the Panathenaic Stadium, where 150K fans witnessed AEK defeat Slavia Prague to claim the 1968 FIBA Cup Winners' Cup. It's not the only record-breaking attendance, as the 2018 Basketball Champions League Final saw 17,894 fans in the stands for the AEK vs. AS Monaco matchup, the largest attendance in BCL history.

With history, art and architecture on one side, and basketball on the other, if you're among the lucky ones at this event, you will cherish this host city for the rest of your life.



Welcome to SUNEL Arena

SUNEL Arena (Ano Liosia Olympic Hall)
Ano Liosia, Athens, Greece

SUNEL Arena, officially known as the Ano Liosia Olympic Hall (*Greek:* Ολυμπιακό Γυμναστήριο Άνω Λιοσίων), is a state-of-the-art, multi-purpose indoor venue located in the western suburb of Ano Liosia, Athens. Originally constructed for the 2004 Athens Summer Olympics, where it hosted martial arts competitions, the arena has since been transformed into a premier destination for a wide range of sporting and entertainment events.

Since 2021, SUNEL Arena has served as the home court for AEK B.C., accommodating their

fixtures in both the Greek Basket League and the Basketball Champions League. The venue features a versatile seating configuration with a maximum capacity of 9,327 with fully extended retractable seating) and a concert capacity of up to 11,600 attendees.

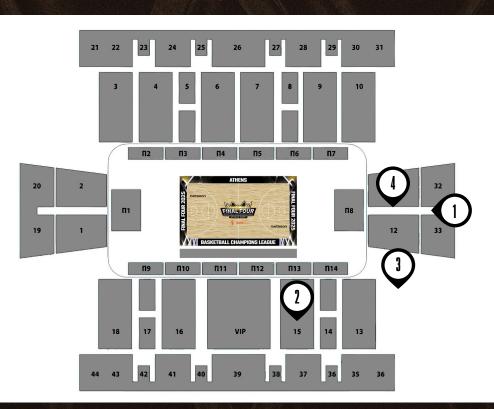
As the third-largest basketball arena in Greece, SUNEL Arena offers modern facilities, flexible seating arrangements, and excellent sightlines, making it an ideal setting for high-profile sports contests, concerts, and large-scale events – such as the Basketball Champions League Final Four.



Access Maps



Venue Media Areas



SUNEL ARENA

- PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM
 1 LOCATED BELOW THE TRIBUNE
 LOCATED ON LEVEL 0
- MEDIA TRIBUNE
 2 LOCATED IN BLOCK 15
 LOCATED ON LEVEL 1
- 3 MIXED ZONE
- 4 MEDIA WORKING ROOM LOCATED ON LEVEL 0



Regular Season Standings

GR	OUP A	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1		FIT/ONE WÜRZBURG BASKETS *	6	4	2	66.7%	10
2		NANTERRE 92 **	6	3	3	50%	9
3		HAPOEL NETANEL HOLON	6	3	3	50%	9
4		IGOKEA M:TEL	6	2	4	33.3%	8

GRO	OUP E	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1	MEX Durt Siscory	AEK BETSSON BC *	6	4	2	66.7%	10
2	BASKETS	TELEKOM BASKETS BONN **	6	4	2	66.7%	10
3		MACCABI RAMAT-GAN **	6	3	3	50%	9
4	VEF	VEF RIGA	6	1	5	16.7%	7

GR	OUP B	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1	Fundación Unicaja Balonceiro	UNICAJA *	6	6	0	100%	12
2	Petkim SPOR	ALIAGA PETKIMSPOR **	6	4	2	66.7%	10
3	<u>\$</u>	FILOU OOSTENDE **	6	2	4	33.3%	8
4		KING SZCZECIN	6	0	6	0%	6

GRO	OUP F	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1		RYTAS VILNIUS *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2	6	FALCO-VULCANO SZOMBATHELY **	6	3	3	50%	9
3	R	PALLACANESTRO REGGIANA **	6	3	3	50%	9
4		WKS SLASK WROCLAW	6	3	3	16.7%	7

GR	OUP C	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1		LA LAGUNA TENERIFE *	6	6	0	100%	12
2		KARSIYAKA **	6	4	2	66.7%	10
3		SAINT-QUENTIN BASKET- BALL **	6	2	4	33.3%	8
4		KOLOSSOS H HOTELS	6	0	6	0%	6

GRC	UP G	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1	BAXI	BAXI MANRESA *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2	DERTHEMA	BERTRAM DERTHONA BASKET **	6	5	1	83.3%	11
3	99	NINERS CHEMNITZ **	6	1	5	16.7%	7
4	Ö	SL BENFICA	6	1	5	16.7%	7

GR	OUP D	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1		ERA NYMBURK *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2	6	GALATASARAY **	6	4	2	66.7%	10
3	6	PROMITHEAS PATRAS BC VIKOS COLA **	6	2	4	33.3%	8
4	Rasta Tesa gran	RASTA VECHTA	6	1	5	16.7%	7

				*			
GRO	UP H	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1	1	UCAM MURCIA *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2	Marita Baser	MANISA BASKET DIVISSA **	6	4	2	66.7%	10
3	Domino's	PERISTERI DOMINO'S **	6	2	4	33.3%	8
4		FMP SOCCERBET	6	1	5	16.7%	7

* QUALIFIED FOR ROUND OF 16

** QUALIFIED FOR PLAY-INS



Round of 16 Standings

GRO	UP I	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1	AK Contractor	AEK BETSSON BC *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2	DESTINONA	BERTRAM DERTHONA BASKET *	6	4	2	66.7%	10
3		FIT/ONE WÜRZBURG BASKETS	6	2	4	33.3%	8
4	(A)	PROMITHEAS PATRAS BC VIKOS COLA	6	1	5	16.7%	7

GRO	OUP K	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1		LA LAGUNA TENERIFE *	6	6	Θ	66.7%	12
2	R	PALLACANESTRO REGGIANA *	6	3	3	50%	9
3	BAXI	BAXI MANRESA	6	2	4	33.3%	8
4	// Petkim	ALIAGA PETKIMSPOR	6	1	5	16,7%	7

	(400 miles)						
GRO	UP J	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1	Fundación Unicaja Baloncesto	UNICAJA *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2	6	GALATASARAY *	6	4	2	66.7%	10
3		RYTAS VILNIUS	6	2	4	33.3%	8
4	Marin Britis	MANISA BASKET DIVISSA	6	1	5	16.7%	7

GR	OUP L	TEAM	Р	W	L	%	PTS
1	RANKETRALL RANKETRALL	ERA NYMBURK *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2		NANTERRE 92 *	6	4	2	66.7%	10
3	W	UCAM MURCIA	6	3	3	50%	9
4	6	FALCO-VULCANO SZOMBATHELY	6	0	6	0%	6

* QUALIFIED FOR QUARTER FINALS





Game Schedule



FRIDAY

MAY 9



SEMI-FINAL 1

LA LAGUNA TENERIFE

17:00 CET

GALATASARAY



AEK BETSSON

FRIDAY

MAY 9



SEMI-FINAL 2

20:00 CET

UNICAJA



SUNDAY

MAY 11



THIRD PLACE GAME

TBA

16:00 CET

 TBA



TBA

SUNDAY

MAY 11



FINAL

19:00 CET

ТВА

ALL GAME TIMES IN CENTRAL EUROPEAN TIME (CET)























US.









BASKETBALL NYMBURK

US.











sketball Champions League



AEK BETSSON BC

A Royal Return

The AEK flag is flying high in the Athens wind because the Queen has returned home. The BCL Final Four has been resident in Athens twice before, and the city will now host its third royal rumble, this time in the SUNEL Arena. The first time AEK played hosts for the BCL Final Four, they were the champions in 2018 and then went on to win the 2019 FIBA Intercontinental Cup. The second time, they finished as runners-up in 2020. In both of those seasons, they also won the Greek Cup. Domestic success and deep runs in the BCL seem to be inextricably linked for AEK BC.

This season, there could be a similar story written in the history books for AEK. They are playing Olympiacos in the Semi-Finals of the Greek League Play-Offs, on either side of the BCL Final Four, and currently sit on the verge of a historic double. They ended their Regular Season in the Greek League in third place and topped the group in the BCL Regular Season

and Round of 16. The way this team has been able to raise its level in the biggest games and also adapt to different demands as the season has progressed, you would be foolish to discount them from achieving anything.

Dragan Sakota was the head coach in 2018 and is back in charge this season. This club means more to him than any other in the world, and you can feel the passion and emotion that he pumps into his team when they step onto the hardwood. Much like that 2018 team, this current iteration of AEK is built around their playmakers, Hunter Hale and Prentiss Hubb. They are supported in the creation of offense by C.J. Bryce, Dimitris Flionis, Omer Netzipoglou, and Zois Karampelas. Rayjon Tucker has also brought his brand of athleticism and energy into the mix. Perhaps the thing that sets this team apart from either the 2018 or 2020 rosters is the frontline. Between Grant Golden, RaiQuan Gray, Mindaugas





AEK BETSSON BC

Kuzminskas, Gaios Skordilis, and Ionnis Kouzeloglou, they have the most powerful and versatile group of bigs they have been able to put out since the BCL started. Between them, they have rebounding, rim protection, post-up threats, face-up threats, rim-rollers, pick-and-poppers, and maybe even above all that, they are a fantastic group of passing big men.

The BCL season started with an 80-71 win for AEK over Maccabi Ramat-Gan, Hubb leading the way with 28 points, 6 assists, 4 rebounds, and 3 steals. They followed that up with a 93-74 loss to another previous champ, Telekom Baskets Bonn. The bounce-back win against VEF Riga saw Kuzmunskas unload 19 points as AEK ran out 80-69 victors. The double over Riga was complete two weeks later with another 80-70 win, but the Queen then inexplicably lost 95-84 against Maccabi Ramat-Gan. The loss left them without the head-tohead over the Israeli's and also in need of one more win to secure passage to the Round of 16. There was no need to be concerned for AEK fans. A dominant 96-65 demolition of Telekom Baskets Bonn confirmed their spot at the top of Group E. Ionnis Kouzeloglou had his best game of the season with 18 points and 9 rebounds, whilst shooting 71 percent from the field.

The Round of 16 saw AEK click up a gear as they only lost one game and never looked like finishing anywhere other than top of Group I. A 97-76 win over Greek rivals Promitheas Patras BC Vikos Cola was led by 21 points and 8 assists from Hunter Hale. The next game was the Prentiss Hubb show as he dropped 30 points on 71 percent shooting, steering the good ship, AEK, to a 93-86 win over Bertram Derthona Basket. Back-to-back wins over German challengers FIT/One Würzburg Baskets were next on the menu for Sakota's squad. 77-71 in Germany and 84-77 got the job done and put AEK firmly in the driver's seat in their Round of 16 group, with Grant Golden's 20 points on the road and Hunter Hale's 23 points leading the way in Athens. AEK's only loss of the Round of 16 came against Derthona, 83-82 in Italy, but AEK already knew that they only needed a loss that maintained their headto-head advantage, and the Quarter-Finals were secured. Grant Golden's 14 points and 6 rebounds helped them smooth out the final game before the Play-offs wth a 60-56 win over Promitheas.

If there were ever to be a matchup in the Quarter-Finals that would serve up a dramatic three-game series, it was always going to be AEK vs Nanterre 92, and the two clubs didn't disappoint. Especially when it was announced that the winner of the series would host the Final Four. Hunter Hale and Prentiss Hubb had 20 and 15 points each, respectively, in Game 1, as AEK looked too strong for their French opponents and pulled off a 76-69 win. Game 2 went to the Paris suburbs, and Nanterre gave their home fans something to cheer as they held AEK to an 82-70 loss. With so much on the line, AEK and their incredible fans in the SUNEL Arena pulled out all the stops for Game 3. The atmosphere felt like the Final Four had already started, and the Queen took it to a level that Nanterre couldn't live with. 23 points from Hunter Hale and 19 points from Grant Golden led the way as AEK shot 53 percent as a team and 44 percent from deep on their way to a 104-69 win and a ticket to take on the reigning champions, Unicaja, in the Semi-Final.



AEK will be hoping their free-throw shooting and ability to control possession of the ball will be a decisive factor for them against the Spanish juggernaut. They lead the Final Four with 80.2 percent shooting from the stripe and rank second for both steals and turnovers at 7.7 and 12.6, respectively. The last time Dragan Sakota and Ibon Navarro met in a Final Four, the wily experience of Sakota and the raucous AEK crowd were enough to get the Queen past Navarro's UCAM Murcia in the 2018 Semi-Final. Sakota will need to lean on all his experience and every decibel of noise in the SUNEL Arena if he is to repeat the feat this time.





BCL COACHING RECORD

RECURD

22-3-1

BCL RANK IN COACHING WINS

#25

COACHING CAREER

IMT (YUG; 1983-88), Zadar (YUG; 1988-89), Cibona (YUG; 1989-90), PAOK (GRE; 1990-91, 1994-95), Apollon Patras (GRE; 1992-93), Iraklis (GRE; 1993-94, 1998-2000), Peristeri (GRE; 1995-97), Aris (GRE; 2000-01), AEK (GRE; 2001-03, 2014-16, 2017-18, 2024-), Olympiacos (GRE; 2003-04), Crvena Zvezda (SRB; 2005-07, 2019-20), Fortitudo Bologna (ITA; 2008), Trabzonspor (TUR; 2010-11), Antalya (TUR; 2011-12), Zaragoza (ESP; 2022), Pallacanestro Reggiana (ITA; 2022-23), Brindisi (ITA; 2023-24)

You read that correctly. This is a coaching career that had begun 42 years ago, when his Semi-Finals rival coach lbon Navarro was still in kindergarten. But while this sentence is a testament to Navarro reaching the heights of European coaching legends, it's also a sign that coach Sakota managed to adapt to all the changes in the sport since his first days at the helm of IMT in ex-Yugoslavia. Just imagine how many times the rules have changed since the early 1980s, how many times the competition formats have changed, and the composition of teams, too. Somehow, Dragan kept finding ways to fit in his old-school ways with all the new trends in basketball and bring his favorite team to another Final Four. Make no mistake about it, Sakota said it himself, he was an AEK fan even before he got a chance to coach the team, and that probably explains all those years in brackets next to The Queen's name in the box listing his coaching career. He just keeps on coming back. The three most famous moments he experienced with the team: (1) winning the Greek League in 2002, the only non-Panathinaikos, non-Olympiacos Greek champions between 1992 and today, (2) winning the Greek Cup in 2018, ending Panathinaikos' reign of six straight cups, and (3) lifting the spiky BCL trophy in 2018, in front of a record crowd of 17,984 fans at the OAKA, largest attendance ever for a BCL Final.





HUNTER HALE

POINTS



GRANT GOLDEN

REBOUNDS



PRENTISS HUBB

ASSISTS



PRENTISS HUBB

EFFICIENCY





DATE OF BIRTH	25/06/1997
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	192CM/6'4''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	23 POINTS
	TWICE
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	31 POINTS
VS. UNICAJA; APR 9, 2024	

Club career: Nelson Giants (NZL; 2020-21), Borac Cacak (SRB; 2021-23), Promitheas Patras (GRE; 2023-24), AEK (GRE; 2024-)

Coach Sakota did not have to dig deep to find himself a high scoring guard. All he needed to do was phone a couple of friends in Serbia to tell him how Hunter Hale led the Adriatic League in scoring in 2023, or just witness it first hand, as Hale topped the scoring charts with Promitheas in Greece last season. There are players who go on heat checks, and Hale is certainly up there, with multiple games where he just sprints to double digits within minutes. With his unique style on the court and his fun lovin' celebrations, it was clear as day that AEK fans were going to fall in love instantly, and that happened as soon as he put on the black-and-yellow jersey. The best part about his season? He's already crazy good, and yet, he could still be better, because his four highest scoring games in the BCL were all with Promitheas, including a 31-point outing against Unicaja in the Quarter-Finals last season. One of the reasons for that is that coach Sakota manges his minutes perfectly, and Hale did not have to play more than 30 minutes in a single game all season long. AEK always loved bringing in charismatic shooting guards, and Hunter Hale is exactly what you get when you put Kevin Punter and Keith Langford in a blender.



DATE OF BIRTH	06/12/1987
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	207CM/6'9''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	4 POINTS
	TWICE
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	10 POINTS
VS. TEN	ERIFE; JAN 8, 2020

Club career: Aris (GRE; 2006-11), Ikaros Kallitheas (GRE; 2011-12), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2012-13), Panionios (GRE; 2013-14), Apollon Patras (GRE; 2014-15, 2023), Faros Keratsiniou (GRE; 2015-17), Peristeri (GRE; 2017-21), Iraklis (GRE; 2021-22), Montreal Alliance (CAN; 2022), Grindvik (ISL; 2022-23), Milon (GRE; 2023-24), AEK (GRE; 2024-)

The oldest player on this roster, Gaios Skordilis has had a peculiar career path, winning the second division in Greece twice, but also claiming the Greek League and Cup double with Panathinaikos, and exploring territories where not a lot of Greek players go - namely Canada and Iceland. Skordilis stayed patient throughout all these journeys, and lived to see his childhood dream becoming reality, as he made his national team debut with Greece in 2020. This season, he has not been involved in a lot of action, but he wasn't brought in to win games and play 30+ minutes per game. He's there to give the youngsters some valuable advice and be the veteran presence AEK so desperately needed in the locker room. Fun fact, Gaios set his BCL career-high against a current Final Four team, playing for Peristeri back then in January 2020.



DATE OF BIRTH	07/07/1999
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	203CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	18 POINTS
VS. PROMITHEAS	PATRAS BC VIKOS COLA JAN 29, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	18 POINTS
VS. PROMITHEAS	PATRAS BC VIKOS COLA JAN 29, 2025

Club career: Long Island Nets (USA; 2021-23), Brooklyn Nets (USA; 2023), Austin Spurs (USA; 2023-24), San Antonio Spurs (USA; 2024), AEK (GRE; 2024-)

There have been plenty of impressive rookies in European basketball, especially the ones coming to the BCL. But the way RaiQuan Gray has elevated his game from the first games all the way to this Final Four, he's certainly up there on the list of the best newcomers. A physical beast, Gray struggled to make an impact early on, failing to reach double digits in scoring in the six Regular Season games. Then, he put together a string of four straight in the Round of 16, finding his role as a low post creator, underrated passer, and a one man wrecking crew in transition. Gray saved AEK's domestic season, knocking down a long two at the buzzer to force overtime against PAOK in Game 3 of the Quarter-Finals. They won in OT, setting up a date in the Semi-Finals with Olympiacos, all thanks to Gray's clutchness.



DATE OF BIRTH	19/03/1999
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	190CM/6'3''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	30 POINTS
VS. BER	TRAM DERTHONA BASKET FEB 4, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH	30 POINTS
VS. BER	TRAM DERTHONA BASKET FEB 4, 2025

Club career: MHP RIESEN Ludwigsburg (GER; 2022-23), Dolomiti Energia Trento (ITA; 2023-24), AEK (GRE; 2024-)

If we had Hale as this team's Keith Langford, then consider Prentiss Hubb this team's Tyrese Rice. Another lefty guard, capable of creating for himself and others, Hubb is the primary ball handler for AEK, and their leader in efficiency and assists, a role similar to the one he had in his first ever BCL adventure with Ludwigsburg two seasons ago. He's got a childhood friend competing at this Final Four - well, we're assuming they are friends, because Galatasaray's James Palmer Jr and Prentiss were both born in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, and by the 2020 United States Census, the whole town has a population of 652. Not 652 thousand. Just 652. When he's done playing basketball, we'll make sure to keep him involved on our end. He's got a major in television studies, which sounds great for our Basketball Champions League Final Four TV content plans in 2035 or so.



DATE OF BIRTH	27/04/2001
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	185CM/6'1''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	4 POINTS
@ MACCABI RAMAT	-GAN; DEC 10, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	8 POINTS
@ VEF I	RIGA; JAN 16, 2021

Club career: Peristeri (GRE; 2017-21), Larisa (GRE; 2021-22), Apollon Patras (GRE; 2022-23), AEK (GRE; 2023-)

Whenever talented Greek youngsters pop up in the Greek League, they get plenty of attention from the biggest of clubs. AEK were the fastest to sign Zois Karampelas, getting him in 2022, and sending him on loan to Apollon Patras immediately, as there is no rush in having him deliver for AEK immediately. A former Best Young Player of the Greek League, winning that award in 2019, Karampelas is a point guard who has got all the time in the world ahead of him, and elite mentors in Prentiss Hubb and Dimitris Flionis. Even though he may not be a factor at this Final Four, he will take in every single minute and come back stronger next season. Zois was known for crazy long range buzzer beaters in his U16 and U18 days, we can't wait to see him replicate those on a senior level, too.



DATE OF BIRTH	30/10/1996
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	196CM/6'5''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	18 POINTS
@ TEL	EKOM BASKETS BONN OCT 15, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	18 POINTS
@ TEL	EKOM BASKETS BONN OCT 15, 2024

Club career: Hubner (HUN; 2021-22), Wurzburg Baskets (GER; 2022-23), Parma Basket (RUS; 2023-24), AEK (GRE; 2024-)

It's never easy getting to a new location and having to change your game immediately upon arrival. C.J. Bryce had all the freedom in Russia, playing on the ball most of the time, but that wasn't a possibility in the AEK locker room with so many great individuals and ball dominant guards such as Hunter Hale and Prentiss Hubb. C.J. did not back away from that challenge. Instead, he adjusted to this situation, and AEK decided to explore the fact that he shot 59 percent from deep through 24 games in Russia last season. Bryce delivered when it mattered most, shooting 5-of-7 from deep at home in the Quarter-Finals, after going just 7-of-25 from the same distance up until that point of the BCL season. We're expecting him to show up with a boombox at the Final Four, because music was actually his major in college.



DATE OF BIRTH	08/04/1997
POSITION	GUARD
HEIGHT	193CM/6'4''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	10 POINTS
VS. FIT/ONE	WURZBURG BASKETS MAR 11, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	13 POINTS
VS. HAPOEL BAN	NK YAHAV JERUSALEM APR 12, 2023

Club career: Aris (GRE; 2015-21), AEK (GRE; 2021-)

When AEK went through the changes in the early 2020s, they needed somebody to be their anchor and a leader in the locker room. They found one in Dimitris Flionis, team captain, a jack of all trades, filling out the stat sheet whenever he gets the minutes on the floor. Flionis nearly picked up a BCL triple-double - those happened only three times over the nine seasons of this competition - when he had 11 points, 10 rebounds and 9 assists against Galatasaray in 2023, and earlier this season he showed how fast those hands are, stealing the ball seven times in a game against Wurzburg, the same game when he set his BCL season-high. Flionis was a regular in youth basketball, winning medals in all the major FIBA Youth Events, including a pair of gold medals at the FIBA U18 EuroBasket and FIBA U20 EuroBasket in 2015 and 2017, respectively.



DATE OF BIRTH	19/10/1989
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	205CM/6'9''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	00 POINTS
	@ TEAM NAME; DATE
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	00 POINTS
	@ TEAM NAME; DATE

Club career: Sakalai (LTU; 2006-07), Perlas (LTU; 2007-08), Siauliai (LTU; 2008-10), Zalgiris (LTU; 2010-13), Unicaja (ESP; 2013-16), New York Knicks (USA; 2016-17), Olimpia Milano (ITA; 2018-19), Olympiacos (GRE; 2019), Lokomotiv Kuban (RUS; 2019-21), Zenit Saint Petersburg (RUS; 2021-22), Karsiyaka (TUR; 2022-23), AEK (GRE; 2023-)

Is there really anything you don't know about Kuz? Let's just keep it BCL related here, as he nearly had a single game record, pouring in 40 points against Hapoel Holon last season, while also grabbing 11 rebounds, the only 40-10 game in BCL history. He will receive a standing ovation ahead of the Semi-Finals, because not only is he beloved in Athens, he spent three years at Unicaja, playing so well, it earned him an NBA contract with the New York Knicks. And finally, let's talk about this season, as Mindaugas keeps delivering, 10.9 points and 4.1 rebounds in just 23.5 minutes per game. Coach Sakota loves using him in the low post, his footwork and the ability to seal the opponent should be studied in schools and basketball academies all over the world. He retired from the national team recently, but he'll stay with AEK at least until 2026.

AEK BETSSON BC ROSTER





DATE OF BIRTH	18/11/2002
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	190CM/6'3''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	19 POINTS
VS. PROMITHEAS	PATRAS BC VIKOS COLA JAN 29, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	19 POINTS
VS. PROMITHEAS	PATRAS BC VIKOS COLA JAN 29, 2025

Club career: Aris (GRE; 2019-23), AEK (GRE; 2023-)

Another one of those youngsters with all the time in the world in front of them. Omiros Netzipoglou picked up the Best Young Player award in the Greek League in 2022, and a year later, AEK brought him to Athens after a long run with Aris in Thessaloniki. His first season with the Queen in the BCL wasn't that flashy, but if we were to have a Most Improved Player award, he would've been a top contender to get it in 2025. That's because Omiros has a total of four BCL games with double digit points, and three of them came this season, including a 10-point performance to help seal the deal against Nanterre 92 in Game 3 of the Quarter-Finals. Netzipoglou is one of those physical guards with solid instincts, so don't be surprised if he pushes people around, gets offensive rebounds and knocks down catch-and-shoot opportunities.



DATE OF BIRTH	15/01/1998
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	208CM/6'10''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	20 POINTS
@ FIT/ONE	WURZBURG BASKETS MAR 4, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	20 POINTS
@ FIT/ONE	WURZBURG BASKETS MAR 4, 2025

 $\textbf{Club career:} \ \ \text{Grand Rapids Gold (USA; 2022-23), Vanoli Cremona (ITA; 2023-24), AEK (GRE; 2024-)$

Perhaps the key to all of AEK's success this season. Coach Sakota determined early on he wants to have the best running team in Europe, and with so much movement off the ball, he needed a big who can pass the ball. He found him in Italy, where Grant Golden had started his overseas career last season. When you see 2.2 assists per game, you don't get the real picture, because a lot of Grant's passes end up being hockey assists. All AEK need is a couple of them to go through, and it fuels their entire offense, opening up the floor for all the ball dominant guys on this roster. Similar to Kouzeloglou, he's not a center who can stretch the floor with three-point shooting, but his floaters and shots from the painted area can still carry him to 20 points on any given day. Just ask Wurzburg if you don't believe us.



DATE OF BIRTH	01/04/1995
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	207CM/6'9''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	00 POINTS
	@ TEAM NAME; DATE
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	00 POINTS
	@ TEAM NAME; DATE

Club career: Partizan (SRB; 2014-15), Apollon Patras (GRE; 2015-17), Lavrio (GRE; 2017-20, 2022-23), Aris (GRE; 2020-21), Elan Bernais (FRA; 2021), Iraklis (GRE; 2021), AEK (GRE; 2021-22, 2023-), San Pablo Burgos (ESP; 2023)

More than a decade ago, Partizan were trying to figure out what to do with their frontcourt as Joffrey Lauvergne was leaving the club. Then, out of nowhere they announced they signed a kid from an academy in Greece. But stepping into such a demanding role was too big of a task for the 19-year-old Kouzeloglou, so they parted ways after a single season, allowing him to make a name for himself in Greece. He did so, most notably with Lavrio and AEK, and he's got the best of both worlds. He is athletic, can play in transition, play above the rim and attack you off the dribble, but at the same time, he's as old school as they get, enjoying the left low block, passing out of double-teams and taking midrange jumpers. Three-pointers? Not so much, only took five of them all season long, making two.



DATE OF BIRTH	24/09/1997
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	191CM/6'3''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	10 POINTS
VS. NANTERRI	E 92; APR 23, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	10 POINTS
VS. NANTERRI	E 92; APR 23, 2025

Club career: Wisconsin Herd (USA; 2019, 2021-22), Utah Jazz (USA; 2019-20), Salt Lake City Stars (USA; 2020), Philadelphia 76ers (USA; 2021), Delaware Blue Coats (USA; 2021), Denver Nuggets (USA; 2022), Milwaukee Bucks (USA; 2022), Melbourne United (AUS; 2022-23), Reyer Venezia (ITA; 2023-24), Virtus Bologna (ITA; 2024-25), AEK (GRE; 2025-)

Late addition, instant impact. Rayjon Tucker was brought in to the team just before the Quarter-Finals against Nanterre 92, and he wasted no time in introducing himself to AEK fans. To be fair, it's not that hard to fall in love with one of the best in-game dunkers in all of Europe in recent years, and once he starts knocking down his jumpshots regularly, AEK will get another solution capable of hurting you from the inside and the outside. Tucker needed a fresh start after a disappointing stint with Virtus in Italy, averaging just 5.3 points per game, nowhere near his 2023-24 Venezia numbers of 14.7 points, 4.2 rebounds and 1.1 steals. If he could once again flirt with those numbers in his AEK days, it would be good news for everybody. Especially us, because we'd get to post his crazy poster dunks day in, day out.





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GALATASARAY

Timing is Everything

They have finally done it!. After joining the BCL in 2020, CimBomBom have made it to the Final Four. They reached the Round of 16 in each of the previous three seasons, but despite having what appeared to be a squad stacked with talent, they fell short every time. Even at times this season, it appeared that Yakup Sekizkok's team were going to struggle to get this far and It may not have been clear from the start of the season that this was the Galatasaray roster to do it. In fact, they didn't top their group in the Regular Season, nor did they top their group in the Round of 16. In truth, it actually took the loss of Otis Livingston to injury in late February to force other players on the roster to step up into different roles before Gala truly found their identity this season.

Once that final blow landed with Livingston injured for the season and all the chips were finally down, that was when we saw the real Galatasaray. James Palmer Jr stepped up into more ball-handling responsibilities, and Tyrone Wallace essentially moved to the point guard position. The upshot was suddenly that Yakup Sekizkok was able to put out lineups with size advantages all over the floor, and Gala were able to give opponents mismatch headaches on the interior and exterior. With Will Cummings, Tyrone Wallace, Rob Gray, Palmer Jr, and Bugrahan Tuncer, Sekizkok has one of the biggest and most talented backcourts in the BCL. Then, upfront, Sadik Kabaca, Roberts Blumbergs, Michael Young, Ebuka Izundu, Samet Geyik, and Angel Delgado is a group of bigs that has depth, variety, physicality, and versatility. Captain Goksenin Koksal adds that element of experience and team culture, and looking now, in hindsight, it seems almost obvious that this would be the first Galatasaray roster to really challenge in the BCL because it's absolutely one of, if not the most talented groups that will suit up in Athens this week.





GALATASARAY

The Regular Season draw at first appeared kind to Galatasaray as they were matched up against ERA Nymburk, Rasta Vechta, and Promitheas Patras BC Vikos Cola. Whilst all of those are BCL regulars, none of them are amongst the traditional powerhouse clubs that regularly challenge to win this competition. As it happened, this was the best-ever Nymburk team, and Gala needed to fight and scrap the whole way to make it out of the group. They opened their season with a dominant 103-91 win over Vechta, with Livingston's 21 points leading the way. That was followed by a frustrating 87-75 loss at home to Nymburk, and they needed to bounce back on the road in Patras in the next game.. The Greeks led the game as late as 1:26 to go in the fourth quarter, but in the end, 21 points and 5 rebounds from Will Cummings were enough to get the team from Istanbul back on track, as they picked up a hard-fought 79-75 win. Two weeks later, they completed the double over Promitheas with an impressive 91-74 win in Istanbul. Another loss to Nymburk meant they weren't able to top the group and advance directly to the Round of 16, but another 74-64 win in Vechta secured a spot in the Play-Ins against Saint-Quentin Basket-Ball.

Gala needed all three games to get past the talented French newcomers. Palmer Jr and Izundu shone in Game 1, with 15 and 17 points respectively, as CimBom took a healthy 84-63 victory into Game 2. But after a 90-79 loss in France, Gala had it all to do in the third game back at home. Saint-Quentin were up as much as 70-64 with 4 minutes to go in the fourth quarter, but two free throws from Cummings eventually gave them a 75-73 win and a spot in the Round of 16. Cummings ended the game with 24 huge points and 6 rebounds.

The Round of 16 drew Galatasaray in a group of death with the champions, Unicaja, Rytas Vilnius, and Turkish rivals, Manisa Basket Divissa. The first game of the group couldn't have started any worse as they went on the road to Vilnius and got handed a morale-dampening 86-76 loss. The bounceback, 96-85 win in Manisa looked to have got Galatasaray back on track. Palmer Jr had a huge 20 points, 10 rebounds, and 7 assists outing, but then things looked to have turned bad again as Otis Livingston then went down to a season-ending injury. In true Galatasaray fashion, just when it looked like the

rollercoaster ride might be coming to an end, they found a way to pick up an unlikely 86-84 win over Unicaja. And it wasn't just a case of Unicaja playing badly either. Tyrone Wallace stepped up with 17 points, 4 rebounds, and 3 assists, whilst hitting numerous tough shots and embracing his new role as the point guard. Angel Delgado's 16 points and 9 rebounds were huge as well. Unicaja did exact their revenge in Malaga a week later but the belief was already coursing through Galatasaray's veins. After an impressive 89-71 win over Rytas in which Cummings and Palmer picked up 22 and 18 points apiece, Rytas head coach Giedrius Zibenas was forthright in his claims that both Unicaja and Galatasaray would eventually reach the Final Four. He was, of course, absolutely correct. Palmer Jr and Kabaca had 16 points each as the Round of 16 was closed out with a 104-81 win over Manisa, and a Quarter-Finals date was set with Nymburk.

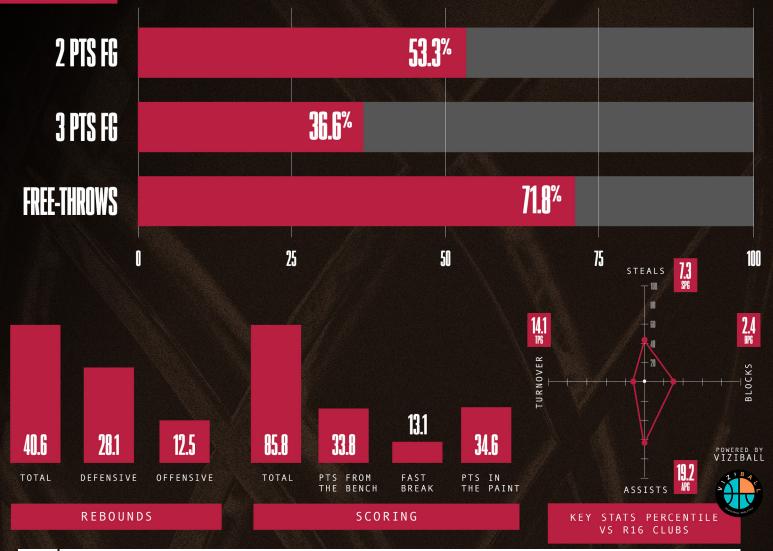
After losing both games to the high-flying Czechs in the Regular Season, Gala showed just how much this team has grown by closing out the Quarter-Finals in two games. Boosted by Rob Gray's arrival and the 19 points he produced on debut, Cummings had his best game of the season with 33 points on 67 percent shooting, as Gala dominated en route to a 106-80 win. With a one game lead to take back to Istanbul, Palmer Jr showed exactly why many people have him as a front-runner for the MVP award, as he put up 24 points, 7 rebounds, and 5 assists, as Gala closed out the series 90-74 and reached their first Final Four.

They may not have been the best team in the BCL all season, but Yakup Sekizkok's Galatasaray squad have put it together at exactly the right time. They have now scored the most points in the BCL



with 1458 and are the best rebounding team at the Final Four with 40.6 per game. It doesn't come much tougher than La Laguna Tenerife in a BCL Semi-Final, but momentum can be a decisive factor in the game of basketball, and Galatasaray certainly have it coming into Athens this week.





YAKUP SEKIZKOK



BCL COACHING RECORD

14-7

BCL RANK IN COACHING WINS

#43

COACHING CAREER

Darussafaka (U16, TUR; 2005-07), Bandirma (assistant, TUR; 2007-08), Erdemirspor (assistant, TUR; 2009-10), Besiktas (assistant, TUR: 2010-12), Galatasaray (assistant, TUR: 2012-17), Türkiye (assistant, national team: 2012-17), Anadolu Efes (assistant, TUR; 2018-23), Darussafaka (TUR; 2023-24), Galatasaray (TUR; 2024-)

When he had his first big soundbite, it did sound a bit too confident. When we heard the second one, it grew on us. Once he told the world they are here to win the Basketball Champions League, we totally believed it. Yakup Sekizkok speaks his mind, he's not one of those coaches who want to keep it calm. Instead, he'll tell you Galatasaray are the best team in the world, he'll tell you they are going out there to take on any team in any competition and go for the win. This is exactly the kind of charisma that his players love, and therefore are willing to do anything for the coach, the club, the fans, he gets them to buy in instantly. No wonder he spent the majority of his career sitting next to Ergin Ataman, and the two of them carved out unreal results, winning the Turkish League with Besiktas in 2012 as a #4 seed, before moving to Galatasaray and picking up the EuroCup crown in 2016. Once they moved to Anadolu Efes together, they created a dynasty, lifting the Euro League in 2021 and 2022. Finally, in 2023, it was time to part ways. A taman took over at Panathinaikos, while Sekizkok and the sekizkok over at Panathinaikos, while Sekizkok over at Panathinaikos over at Panathinstarted the head coaching career, enjoying a fine season with Darussafaka and moving to Galatasaray last summer. He knows how to talk the talk. He knows how to walk the walk, too.





POINTS



EBUKA IZUNDU

REBOUNDS



OTIS LIVINGSTON

ASSISTS



WILL CUMMINGS

BERICIENCY



DATE OF BIRTH	31/07/1996
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	196CM/6'5''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	29 POINTS
@ SAINT-QUENTIN BASKET-BALL JAN 15, 2025	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	29 POINTS
@ SAINT-QUENTIN BASKET-BALL JAN 15, 2025	

Club career: Agua Caliente Clippers (USA; 2019-21), BM Slam Stal Ostrow Wielkopolski (POL; 2021-22), JL Bourg (FRA; 2022-23), Turk Telekom (TUR; 2023-24), Galatasaray (TUR; 2024-)

The glue guy. James Palmer Jr not only dominated on the floor this season, he was also crucial off the floor. It's all so connected that we're wondering if he's actually a recruiter, too, because the club brought in Michael Young, ex-teammate from Poland; then they called Tyrone Wallace, ex-teammate from Turk Telekom and the Agua Caliente Clippers, and Ebuka Izundu played with Palmer at the University of Miami. The chemistry is clearly there, and Palmer enjoys being in the center of it, taking on more responsibility as the season progresses. He was always known as a shooting threat, knocking down 49.6 percent of threes for Turk Telekom last season, but once Otis Livingston went down with an injury, Palmer unlocked new levels to his game. He's handling the ball a lot more, being the point forward for this team, creating for himself and his teammates, averaging a career-high 4.1 assists per game in the Turkish League. Same goes for his BCL numbers, he never had an international season with more than three assists per game, but since the start of the Round of 16, he's averaged 5.1 dimes across those eight crucial games. Palmer can do it all, he's already etched his name in BCL history, as the one who made the game-winning bucket to end Unicaja's 18-game win streak.



DATE OF BIRTH	10/06/1994
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	196CM/6'5''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	00 POINTS
	@ TEAM NAME; DATE
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	00 POINTS
	@ TEAM NAME; DATE

Club career: Salt Lake City Stars (USA; 2016-17), Agua Caliente Clippers (USA; 2017-18, 2020-21), Los Angeles Clippers (USA; 2018-19), Atlanta Hawks (USA; 2019), College Park Skyhawks (USA; 2019), Long Island Nets (USA, 2022), New Orleans Pelicans (USA; 2022), Paris Basketball (FRA; 2022-23), Turk Telekom (TUR; 2023-24), Zalgiris (LTU; 2024), Galatasaray (TUR; 2025-)

There was worrying news coming from Lithuania earlier this season, as Tyrone Wallace left Zalgiris for personal reasons, and rumors started going around that the 30-year-old was thinking of retirement. Luckily, he decided to give it another go in Istanbul, joining his former teammate James Palmer Jr, and looking like the legit double digit scorer we were used to. The lefty shooter knocked down 36 percent of his three-pointers in seven BCL games, and when you know he averaged 17 points per game just last season, you shouldn't be surprised if he goes off during this Final Four. After all, his best game for Galatasaray came against Unicaja. When the pressure level is at its highest, that's when Tyrone is feeling the most comfortable with the ball in his hands. That's when he gets to show us what he learned in 100+ NBA games that he has played with the Clippers, Hawks and Pelicans



1	
DATE OF BIRTH	05/09/1994
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	203CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	13 POINTS
@ ERA NY!	MBURK; APR 9, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	18 POINTS
@ TEL	EKOM BASKETS BONN NOV 21, 2023

Club career: Delaware 87ers (USA; 2017), Northern Arizona Suns (USA; 2017-18), Leones de Ponce (PUR; 2018), Cholet (FRA; 2018-19), Hebei Xianglan (CHN; 2019), JDA Dijon (FRA; 2019), Hapoel Gilboa Galil (ISR; 2020), Al Nasr (UAE; 2020), Ironi Nahariya (ISR; 2020-21), BM Slam Stal Ostrow Wielkopolski (POL; 2021-22), Kawasaki Brave Thunders (JPN; 2022-23), Bursaspor (TUR; 2023-24), Indios de Mayaguez (PUR; 2024), Anyang Jung Kwan Jang Red Lobsters (KOR; 2024), Galatasaray (TUR; 2024-)

Versatility is what this guy is all about. Michael Young can go local, choosing to play for Pitt in the NCAA so his family and friends from nearby Duquesne could watch from the stands as he dominated on the floor averaging 20 points and seven rebounds in his final college season. Or, he could go global - just look at the list of countries he's been to as a professional basketball player, learning about new cultures, exploring the world and earning a living with his talents. Versatility is his game, too, as he can hurt you off the dribble, on the block, through contact, above the rim or from beyond the arc. Young has plenty of BCL experience, too, having played this competition with Dijon, Ostrow Wilekopolski and Bursaspor. Even though his best scoring season came with the Polish champs, averaging 12.5 points, but his BCL career-high was from a game with Bursaspor.



DATE OF BIRTH	13/12/2000
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	207CM/6'9''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	16 POINTS
VS. MANI	ISA BASKET DIVISSA MAR 25, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	20 POINTS
VS. SL BENI	FICA; NOV 14, 2023

Club career: Bandirma (TUR; 2016-20), Besiktas (TUR; 2020-21), Galatasaray (TUR; 2021-)

The former BCL Best Young Player is all grown up! Sadik is 24 now, and figuring out life on his own, after spending most of his formative years with Alperen Sengun, Sehmus Hazer and Furkan Haltali, sharing the locker rooms in Bandirma and Besiktas. Kabaca had his fair share of ups and downs with Galatasaray over the past four years, but he has established himself as a force in the frontcourt, capable of playing the stretch five, and always putting in the effort on the floor which the fans appreciate the most. This season goes in line with the ups and downs, as he had games in double digits, but also games where he wasn't a part of the rotation, watching on from the bench for the full 40 minutes. At six points per game, he's way below his last season average of 10.2 points per game.





DATE OF BIRTH	07/10/1992
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	188CM/6'2''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	33 POINTS
@ ERA NYN	1BURK; APR 9, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	33 POINTS
@ ERA NYN	1BURK; APR 9, 2025

Club career: Rio Grande Valley Vipers (USA; 2015-16), Dolomiti Energia Trento (ITA; 2016), Aris Thessaloniki (GRE; 2016-17), Darussafaka (TUR; 2017-18), EWE Baskets Oldenburg (GER; 2018-19), Lokomotiv Kuban (RUS; 2019-21), Metropolitans 92 (FRA; 2021-22), Zhejiang Lions (CHN; 2022-23), South East Melbourne Phoenix (AUS; 2023), Hapoel Tel Aviv (ISR; 2023-24), Galatasaray (TUR; 2024-)

When kids nowadays use the word aura, that's what you see when Will Cummings is out there on the floor for Galatasaray. The leader of the team, with all the experience in the world, and a game changer, whichever way you want him to do that part. Cummings has all sorts of crafty finishes from the painted area, he reads the game and finds the right passes, and if his shots are falling from deep, then you could be in for a 33-point ride that helped Galatasaray steal home court advantage in the Quarter-Finals. It's crazy to think he's still only 32, as he is one of the rare returning players who witnessed the very first BCL season, playing with Aris in Greece. He averaged 15.2 points as a 24-year-old then, he's up to 16.6 points this season, while shooting 45 percent from deep. He just keeps improving, that's all.

6	
SAMET GEYIK	

DATE OF BIRTH	12/01/1993
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	206CM/6'9''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	7 POINTS
VS. SAINT-QU	JENTIN BASKET-BALL JAN 7, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	18 POINTS
	TWICE

Club career: Bornova Belediye (TUR; 2009-10), Tofas Bursa (TUR; 2010-15), Darussafaka (TUR; 2015-16), Karsiyaka (TUR; 2016), Anadolu Efes (TUR; 2016-17), Besiktas (TUR; 2017-20), Turk Telekom (TUR; 2020-22), Fenerbahce (TUR; 2022-23), Galatasaray (TUR; 2023-)

Time flies. Samet Geyik was a regular on all Turkish youth teams, and he was already playing professional basketball at 16 years of age. Fast forward, and he's now the experienced role player with a solid career behind him, playing for all the biggest Turkish clubs. He is in his sixth BCL season, and while it's not his best one, he is one of the biggest reasons why Galatasaray made it to the Final Four, playing his best game when the team flirted with elimination in the Play-Ins against SQBB. His minutes were more consistent early on in the season, later he struggled to get 10+ minutes of playing time once the Round of 16 began. In fact, the only time he played double digit minutes in that span was in an 86-84 win over Unicaja, helping his team out with six points, so maybe it's not a bad idea to keep him out there.



DATE OF BIRTH	29/04/1998
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	208CM/6'10''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	13 POINTS
@ PROMITHEAS PAT	RAS BC VIKOS COLA OCT 23, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	13 POINTS
@ PROMITHEAS PAT	RAS BC VIKOS COLA OCT 23, 2024

Club career: Valmiera (LAT; 2019-20), Liepaja (LAT; 2020-21), Palencia (ESP; 2021-22), Aris Thessaloniki (GRE; 2023-24), Galatasaray (TUR; 2024-)

Mr Worldwide Roberts Blumbergs grew up in Latvia, moved to Czechia where he was a part of the Get Better Academy, and also spent time with the Artland Dragons in Germany, living with a certain Hartenstein family you may have heard of, before getting to the United States to attend the Grand Canyon University. He was nowhere near done travelling, and his pro career took him to Spain, Greece and finally Türkiye last summer. Blumbergs is exactly what you imagine when you think about Latvian bigs, smooth with his movements, sharp with his shots, hitting 44 percent of his three-pointers in the BCL this season, and always looking to finish strong around the rim. His role varied from the start of the season, he is usually a starter for coach Sekizkok, but he only played 20+ minutes in one game since the start of the Round of 16.



DATE OF BIRTH	28/06/1996
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	208CM/6'10''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	17 POINTS
VS. SAINT-QU	JENTIN BASKET-BALL JAN 7, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	17 POINTS
VS. SAINT-QU	JENTIN BASKET-BALL JAN 7, 2025

Club career: Real Betis (ESP; 2019-20), SIG Strasbourg (FRA; 2020), FMP (SRB; 2021-23), EWE Baskets Oldenburg (GER; 2023-24), Galatasaray (TUR; 2024-)

If it was up to him, he would've loved us preparing this sort of a document about a UEFA Champions League Semi-Final, probably lining up next to Victor Osimhen, another Lagos, Nigeria native playing for Galatasaray. Yes, Ebuka had dreams of being the next Jay-Jay Okocha, Obafemi Martins or Nwankwo Kanu, but his soccer career was cut short as he grew to nearly seven feet in his teens. He switched to basketball at 16, and it turned out he was a natural with the orange ball, too. The athleticism is off the charts with Izundu, probably related to him being a track runner in high school, and you can always find him in our highlight reels on social media because the dunks are emphatic. Izundu is an elite option off the bench, giving Galatasaray rim protection on one end, and somebody to finish off alley-oops on the other end.



DATE OF BIRTH	23/03/1993
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	194CM/6'4''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	23 POINTS
@ RASTA VE	CHTA; DEC 17, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	23 POINTS
@ RASTA VE	CHTA; DEC 17, 2024

Club career: Besiktas (TUR; 2009-11), Aliaga Petkimspor (TUR; 2011-13), Mersin (TUR; 2013-14), Eskisehir (TUR; 2014-15, 2016-18), Yesilgiresun (TUR; 2015), Best Balikesir (TUR; 2015-16), Anadolu Efes (TUR; 2018-23), Galatasaray (TUR; 2023-)

They say point guards are supposed to be the coaches' extended arms on the court, sharing the same basketball mindset and philosophy. That connection is obvious for Bugrahan Tuncer and coach Sekizkok, as they spent time together in Besiktas and Efes, winning a pair of EuroLeague titles. Once the team parted ways with Ataman and Sekizkok, Tuncer was also gone, moving to the Galatasaray part of Istanbul, ready to impress the BCL community with his decision making and no-look passes as soon as he took the court. Tuncer is not afraid to shoot the ball if you take away the passing lanes, and has been impressive all season long, culminating with a pair of double digit games against ERA Nymburk in the Quarter-Finals. He said he wants to reach the Final Four and win the BCL earlier this season. Two steps away from that goal now.



DATE OF BIRTH	03/04/1994
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	185CM/6'1''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	19 POINTS
@ ERA NY!	1BURK; APR 9, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	27 POINTS
	TWICE

Club career: Fort Wayne Mad Ants (USA; 2018-19), JL Bourg (FRA; 2019), Metropolitans 92 (FRA; 2019-20), Monaco (FRA; 2020-22), Tofas Bursa (TUR; 2022-23), Prometey (UKR; 2023-24), Breogan (ESP; 2024), Scafati Basket (ITA; 2024-25), Galatasaray (TUR; 2025-)

Just before the Quarter-Finals, Galatasaray decided they needed more scoring. So they called the man who averaged 21.1 points per game in Italy this season, the EuroCup Finals MVP from 2021, that same guy who put up 20.0 points across eight games in his previous BCL endeavour. That's Rob Gray for you. As his Houston coach used to say, he's unorthodox, somebody who loves challenging coaches and being challenged, too. He always knew he'd have a career in basketball, but he graduated with a degree in sociology, and plans to use that degree in the future. A lively character, it's easy to fall in love with Gray when he's on your team, with his unique hairstyle and tattoos, and even if he's not on your team, you can appreciate his crazy scoring talents. We witnessed back-to-back games of 27 points against SIG Strasbourg in 2022, so we know what we're talking about.



DATE OF BIRTH	20/11/1994
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	208CM/6'10''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	16 POINTS
VS. UN	ICAJA; MAR 5, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	17 POINTS
VS	. AEK; OCT 4, 2022

Club career: Los Angeles Clippers (USA; 2018-19), Agua Caliente Clippers (USA; 2018-19), Hapoel Holon (ISR; 2019-20), Sioux Falls Skyforce (USA; 2020), Estudiantes (ESP; 2020-21), Bilbao Basket (ESP; 2021-22), Karsiyaka (TUR; 2022-23), Besiktas (TUR; 2023-24), Galatasaray (TUR; 2024-)

An Angel with a diabolical post up game. Delgado is one powerful figure under the rim, a completely different profile to Ebuka Izundu, which allows Galatasaray to figure out different ways to attack you from the center position. His hands are elite, at times you will feel like they are magnetic as all the rebounds somehow always end up in his possession. He averages 5.9 of them per game, a stunning number when you realize he plays less than 18 minutes per game. Delgado is also a Dominican Republic national team player, last sharing the locker room with Karl-Anthony Towns, Andres Feliz and teammates at the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023, and he said he always carries the country's flag with him. That's great news for our photographers. Imagine the scenes if he had that flag around his shoulders and the spiky BCL trophy in his arms on Sunday...



DATE OF BIRTH	08/01/1991
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	196CM/6'5''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	10 POINTS
VS. PROMITHEAS	PATRAS BC VIKOS COLA NOV 5, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	11 POINTS
VS. HAPOEL BA	NK YAHAV JERUSALEM NOV 30, 2023

Club career: Galatasaray (TUR; 2010-), Darussafaka (TUR; 2014-15)

The boxscore has a bunch of pluses and minuses when you're trying to analyze a player. Pun intended, the +/- is the column you should be looking at when talking about Goksenin Koksal. Not only is it mostly on the right side, but it also includes a monstrous +19 with Goksenin on the floor in the season defining Game 3 of the Play-Ins against SQBB. What's monstrous about it, you may wonder? The fact that Galatasaray won the game by just two points. They were also +24 in his 26 minutes of work in Game 1 against ERA Nymburk. Koksal is also a unique character when it comes to interviews and soundbites, giving us a memorable quote after the Quarter-Finals: "This is my dream, to win this cup as the team captain." He was there in 2016 when they won the EuroCup. He's two steps away from turning dreams to reality in 2025.



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FIBA INTERCONTINENTAL CUP





BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGLE AMERICAS











LA LAGUNA TENERIFE

Consistency is the Key

It's easy to take for granted how consistently brilliant Txus Vidorreta's La Laguna Tenerife team are. Before every season starts, if you were to ask any neutral to predict the teams that will reach the Final Four, no matter the season and no matter the other teams in the competition, Tenerife will be on that list. And they will be on that list for a very good reason. Of the eight previous BCL Final Fours, Tenerife have reached five, and this year now makes it six from nine. They have won two and reached the Final three times. Without any shadow of a doubt, Tenerife are the most successful club in the history of this competition. Hereda San Pablo Burgos may be the only team to go back-to-back, but nobody has even come close to this level of sustained excellence. Even this season, Tenerife have probably not been in the headlines as much as some other clubs but they have just become the first team to reach the Final Four unbeaten and quietly put together what may end up as the best season in the history of the BCL.

On the floor, everyone knows the brand of basketball that Txus Vidorreta has built this Tenerife project around. Across the world of basketball, the Canarians have become known for precision execution, driving a technically and tactically astute vision of the beautiful game. The ball moves through actions before the action they want to score from, and even though teams know exactly what they want to achieve every possession, they are still helpless to stop them because every option has a counter option that each player is instinctively drilled into understanding inside out. The likes of Marcelinho Huertas, Giorgi Shermadini, Aaron Doornekamp, Tim Abromaitis, Bruno Fitipaldo, Fran Guerra, Jaime Fernandez, and Joan Sastre have all been playing this system so long that sometimes it looks so seamless that it's almost as if the game is playing them and not vice versa. David Kramer and Thomas Scrubb have slotted into their roles perfectly, Henri Drell looked like a Tenerife player even before he arrived, and





LA LAGUNA TENERIFE

Konstantin Kostadinov is having a breakout season. We don't know yet what kind of impact to expect from Ibou Badji but with the absence of Guerra, we are likely about to find out.

The Regular Season saw Tenerife drawn with old rivals Pinar Karsiyaka, Greek challengers Kolossos H Hotels, and a talented French team in Saint-Quentin Basket-Ball. As expected, Tenerife used their experience and sailed through, unmolested. If they were to slip up in this group, it would have been on Gameday 1, on the road in Izmir at Karsiyaka, but that wasn't to be. Fran Guerra's 20 points on 86 percent shooting were enough to give Tenerife a comfy 87-76 win. The next game saw Tenerife breeze past Kolossos 71-47, in Greece, before Saint-Quentin gave them their first test of the Regular Season. The Frenchmen led the game for 28 minutes, with Tenerife only finding a way to get their noses in front in the fourth quarter. Tim Abromaitis' 17 points helped them steal the game in France. The home game against Saint-Quentin was much less competitive as Tenerife blew the game open early and eventually ran out 96-57 winners. Karsiyaka were the next team to visit the Santiago Martin Arena, and they very nearly found a way to win. A late run actually put them up 79-78 halfway through the fourth, but in the end, 18 points and 7 assists from Marcelinho Huertas led Tenerife to an 85-82 victory. A 92-73 win over Kolossos closed out the Regular Season in comfort even though Txus and his squad already knew they had avoided the extra games required for the Play-Ins.

The Round of 16 raised the level of challengers and also raised the levels from Tenerife themselves. First up was Pallacanestro Reggiana at home. Huertas was at it again with 27 points and 7 assists, and he was ably supported by David Kramer's six 3-pointers and 22 points, as Tenerife rolled out a 91-69 win. Huertas continued his scoring form with 18 points against ACB rivals BAXI Manresa in the next game, but Tenerife also needed 17 points from Joan Sastre to sneak past Manresa 84-73 in the Nou Congost. Thomas Scrubb put up 15 points against Aliaga Petkimspor as the Aurinegros recorded a 90-83 win back on home soil, before a much tougher test in Italy against Reggiana. Huertas and Kramer were the protagonists again with 25 and 22 points apiece, Kramer knocking down

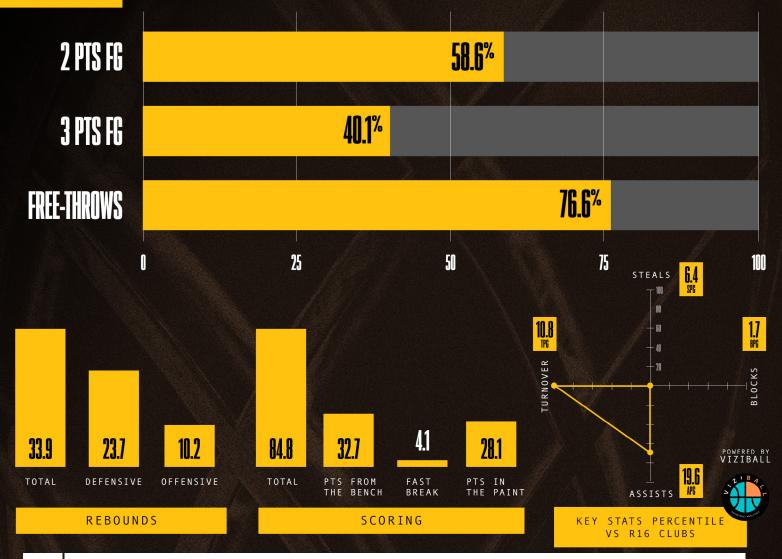
seven triples, as Tenerife put the finishing touches on an 84-74 triumph. Huertas and the gang closed out the R16 with 85-80 and 81-71 wins over Petkimspor and Manresa to secure their place in the Quarter-Finals. Kostadinov's 22 points in Turkiye and Luis Costa's 22 against Manresa were the standout performances in the two games.

The Quarter-Finals arrived, and with them a matchup against a new force on the continent, Bertram Derthona Basket, coached by Txus Vidorreta's old friend and rival from the Season 1 Final Four, Walter De Raffaele. Tenerife's experience and depth proved too much for the valiant Italians but they did force the Canary Islanders to play their best basketball to get the job done in two games. Huertas had a monster 26 points and 9 rebounds in the first game as Tenerife won it 93-89 at home. Shermadini also had 19 points in what looked very much like a Tenerife, Final Four level performance. Game 2 in Italy saw the Tenerife defense turn the dial up a notch as they held Derthona to just 64 points at home. Shermadini's 23 points and 9 rebounds led the way as he steered his team to a 77-64 victory and another trip to the Final Four.



Almost miraculously, despite being the third Final Four in Athens and Tenerife's sixth Final Four out of nine, this year marks the first time Tenerife have played in a Final Four hosted in Athens. They will arrive in the SUNEL Arena with the second-best offense in the BCL at 124 points per 100 possessions, the second-best field goal percentage at 50 percent, the second-best assist numbers at 19.8 per game, and, perhaps crucially, the best turnover record at just 10.7 per game. Undoubtedly, Txus Vidorreta's Tenerife will be a hot favorite to become the first team to win a third BCL title.





TXUS VIDORRETA



BCL COACHING RECORD

BCL RANK IN COACHING WINS

104-32

#1

COACHING CAREER

Cajabilbao (ESP; 1992-94), Askartza (ESP; 1995-96, 1997-98), Bilbao Patronato (ESP; 1996-97), La Palma (ESP; 1998-2001), Bilbao (ESP; 2001-10), Lucentum Alicante (ESP; 2010-12), Estudiantes (ESP; 2012-15), Tenerife (ESP; 2015-17, 2018-), Valencia (ESP; 2017-18)

What is there to say about the winningest coach in Basketball Champions League history? Coach Vidorreta became the first playcaller to pick up 100 BCL wins, and his well-oiled machine is marching towards an incredible second spot in the Liga Endesa Regular Season, as well. Tenerife are just two wins away from becoming the first team to achieve a perfect season, and their coach is often praised for creating an incredible offensive system, which sees them get 124.1 points per 100 possessions in the BCL this season. However, we are here to correct one segment. Txus has developed a rock solid defense, allowing just 103.6 points per 100 possessions, despite the fact that he doesn't have the world's youngest roster or the most athletic one. This will be Tenerife's eighth appearance in the season ending tournament, and the only time they missed out was back in 2017-18. Go check his coaching career over here - it was the season when he was back on the mainland, with Valencia. But there is one paradox throughout all of his successes with Tenerife. Despite winning the event twice, and being a perennial contender, Txus Vidorreta is yet to win the BCL Coach of the Season award.





MARCELINHO HUERTAS

POINTS



THOMAS SCRUBB

REBOUNDS



MARCELINHO HUERTAS

ASSISTS



MARCELINHO HUERTAS

BRRICIBNCY

LA LAGUNA TENERIFE ROSTER





DATE OF BIRTH	25/05/1983	
POSITION	POINT GUARD	
HEIGHT	191CM/6'3''	
BCL SEASON-HIGH	27 POINTS	
VS. PALLACANESTRO REGGIANA; JAN 28, 2025		
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	31 POINTS	
@ PERISTERI [BWIN; MAR 19, 2024	

Club career: FMU Sao Paulo (BRA; 2001-02, 2003-04), Pinheiros (BRA; 2002-03), Joventut Badalona (ESP; 2004-07), Bilbao (ESP; 2007-08), Fortitudo Bologna (ITA; 2008-09), Baskonia (ESP; 2009-11), Barcelona (ESP; 2011-15), Los Angeles Lakers (USA; 2015-17), Baskonia (ESP; 2017-19), Tenerife (ESP; 2019-)

Benjamin Button has done it again. Marcelinho Huertas is the youngest 41-year-old in the world, and his performances are somehow getting better and better with each season, making it sound incredible that he will turn 42 later this month. The reigning BCL MVP of the Season could afford some rest thanks to Tenerife's incredible record, skipping a game or two when they secured their ticket to the next rounds. Then, when it mattered most, it was a case of Marce being Marce. He was named the MVP of the Quarter-Finals this season, because the series vs. Bertram Derthona Basket would've been a whole lot different without him. We've previously dubbed him the best decision-maker off of one leg in the basketball world, his midrange arsenal is lethal as he always makes the right reads, whether to pass, shoot or continue the drive. He entered the season after an unforgettable ride with the Brazilian national team, reaching the Quarter-Finals of the Olympics, receiving a standing ovation as he left the court in Paris. He'll have some stories to tell when he retires, we can already see it would be a bestseller. But not yet, please. Give it another year or two.



DATE OF BIRTH	25/03/2003
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	203CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	22 POINTS
@ ALIAGA PETKIM	5POR; MAR 19, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	22 POINTS
@ ALIAGA PETKIMS	SPOR; MAR 19, 2025

Club career: Real Madrid (ESP; 2020-21), Palma (ESP; 2021-22), Palencia (ESP; 2022-23), Alicante (ESP; 2023-24), Tenerife (ESP; 2024-)

The big dunking Bulgarian is all grown up now, and ready to contribute when he gets the call. He was a part of Real Madrid's academy, but Tenerife picked him up as a 19-year-old, sending him on a couple of loans before finally bringing him back to the lineup last summer. His big body and elite leaping ability allow him to play as the center in this rotation, but he has got no issues if he needs to be bumped down a position, as he can play the 'four' and spread the floor, hitting 3-of-6 three-pointers in limited minutes this season. However, his perfect role in this system is being the vertical option, both on offense to finish above the rim, and on defense, when Tenerife need a big block or two. While he's not a kid anymore, he's still a baby when you see the rest of this roster. Time is on his side. for sure.



DATE OF BIRTH	14/01/1997
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	196CM/6'5''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	27 POINTS
VS. SAINT-QUENTIN BASKET-BALL NOV 13, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	27 POINTS
VS. SAINT-QU	JENTIN BASKET-BALL NOV 13, 2024
/ALIT 0040.44)	LUL (CED 0044

Club career: Oberwart Gunners (AUT; 2013-14), ratiopharm Ulm (GER; 2014-19), Northern Arizona Suns (USA; 2019-20), Bayern Munich (GER; 2021), Lowen Braunschweig (GER; 2021-23), Granada (ESP; 2023-24), Tenerife (ESP; 2024-)

Is there life after Sasu Salin and Kyle Guy? Sure there is, when you get a guy named David Kramer. The FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 winner with Germany, Kramer has been sensational all season long for the Islanders, despite a slow start to his run. Once everything clicked and he figured out he's got the green light to shoot lights out, it was game over for most of Tenerife's opponents. We can even pinpoint the exact moment it happened, as Kramer had a total of 19 points in his first three BCL encounters, hitting 5-of-9 three-pointers. Then, he detonated for 27 points in 28 minutes, knocking down 8-of-11 from deep against Saint-Quentin Basket-Ball, becoming the crowd favorite instantly. He's not just about shooting, he is sneaky athletic and had memorable dunks and blocks this season, so it's no wonder his name will attract a lot of attention over the summer.



DATE OF BIRTH	04/06/1993
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	186CM/6'1''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	15 POINTS
(VS. BAXI MANF	RESA; MAR 25, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	22 POINTS
VS. VEF	RIGA; NOV 8, 2023

Club career: Estudiantes (ESP; 2010-17), Andorra (ESP; 2017-18), Unicaja (ESP; 2018-22), Tenerife (ESP; 2022-)

As if having Marcelinho Huertas and Bruno Fitipaldo in the backcourt was not enough, La Laguna Tenerife finally have Jaime Fernandez back after what seemed like an endless injury. He remained patient, he did not rush his way back, and a month before his 32nd birthday, he could go for his first ever BCL title, if they indeed go with him, and not Lluis Costa in the 12-men rotation. Fernandez is all about creating with the ball in his hands, whether for himself or for his teammates - or both, really. Because when that BCL career-high game happened, he also had 7 assists, so it's a matter of picking your poison when he's feeling good out there. And he is, finally, after a year on the sidelines in street clothes. Don't forget he was on Spain's FIBA EuroBasket 2022 winning roster, meaning he knows how to pick up silverware in major continental tournaments.

LA LAGUNA TENERIFE ROSTER





DATE OF BIRTH	02/08/1991
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	183CM/6'0''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	16 POINTS
@ KARSI	IYAKA; OCT 2, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	24 POINTS
@ DINAMO BDS SAS	SSARI, NOV 4, 2020

Club career: Club Malvin (URU; 2006-14), Obras Sanitarias (ARG; 2014-16), Orlandina (ITA; 2016), Galatasaray (TUR; 2016-17), Avellino (ITA; 2017-18), San Pablo Burgos (ESP; 2018-20), Tenerife (ESP; 2020-)

Does this count as a full circle? Bruno Fitipaldo has finally reached Athens, the same city where he missed out on lifting a trophy he fully deserved to lift. In the 2019-20 season, the Uruguayan point guard was playing great basketball and powered Hereda San Pablo Burgos to a spot at the BCL Final 8 in Athens. However, during the Covid break that season, Fitipaldo left the club and signed with Tenerife, while his former teammates went on to lift the spiky trophy. He did get his chance to lift it in 2022, and went on to lift the FIBA Intercontinental Cup in 2023, also winning the MVP award in the process, but Athens feels different for him. While Marcelinho often gets all the praise in the backcourt, coach Vidorreta always makes sure to mention Fitipaldo's name in there, too, as he's the perfect running mate throughout all of Tenerife's campaigns.



DATE OF BIRTH	26/09/1991
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	198CM/6'6''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	15 POINTS
VS. ALIAGA PETKIN	1SPOR; MAR 4, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	24 POINTS
@ ERA NYME	BURK; JAN 23, 2018

Club career: Kataja (FIN; 2015-16), Giessen 46ers (GER; 2016-17), Scandone Avellino (ITA; 2017-18), Varese (ITA; 2018-19), SIG Strasbourg (FRA; 2019-20), Ottawa Black Jacks (CAN; 2020), JL Bourg (FRA; 2020-21), Obradoiro (ESP; 2022-24), Tenerife (ESP; 2024-)

Yes, you read that right, Thomas Scrubb set his BCL career-high way back in January 2018. The lefty forward has one thing that separates him from the others, because his instincts are incredible, and while you won't see him pick up 10 offensive rebounds, it will most definitely feel like that because the ones he pulls in are usually super important. The Canadian saw the entire continent, but it seems that the Spanish climate is suiting him just fine, as his last three seasons there solidified his status as one of the smartest players on the court. Scrubb is all about basketball, anywhere, any time, any form, as he even gave 3x3 a shot back home in Canada. Of course he did, his wife Catherine Traer was a Canadian national team player in 3x3, so he fell in love with the smaller court, too. But for now, let's keep him in 5x5, please. Thanks.



DATE OF BIRTH	25/04/2000
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	206CM/6'9''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	13 POINTS
VS. BAXI MANI	RESA; MAR 25, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	13 POINTS
VS. BAXI MANI	RESA; MAR 25, 2025

Club career: Audentes (EST; 2015-16), Brose Bamberg (GER; 2016-19), Baunach Young Pikes (GER; 2016-19), VL Pesaro (ITA; 2019-21), Windy City Bulls (USA; 2022-23), Chorale Roanne (FRA; 2023), Chicago Bulls (USA; 2023-24), Windy City Bulls (USA; 2023-24), Rip City Remix (USA; 2024-25), Tenerife (ESP; 2025-)

He was a late addition to this lineup, but Henri Drell is one of those youngsters who have loads of experience already. Coming from Estonia, he got plenty of attention with his performances as a kid, and Brose Bamberg were the fastest to dial his number, setting up some firecracker games in the Next Generation Tournament, notably scoring 40 points against Bayern and being dubbed the Estonian Toni Kukoc. However, it wasn't all smooth sailing for Henri, as he never got to replicate Kukoc's success with the Bulls, and he opted for different paths, landing in Europe once again. His Rip City Remix numbers were impressive in 36 games, averaging 17 points and 8 rebounds, which is why Tenerife were happy to bring him in, as he gives them another strong on-ball option, with pretty good athleticism and a solid shooting stroke from beyond the arc. Sounds perfect for this system.



DATE OF BIRTH	10/12/1991	
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD	
HEIGHT	201CM/6'7''	
BCL SEASON-HIGH	17 POINTS	
@ BAXI MANRESA; FEB 5,2025		
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	22 POINTS	
VS. HAPOEL BAN	NK YAHAV JERUSALEM MAR 6, 2024	

Club career: Inca (ESP; 2008), Mallorca (ESP; 2008-09), Sevilla (ESP; 2009-14), Zaragoza (ESP; 2014-16), Valencia (ESP; 2016-21), Tenerife (ESP; 2021-)

Call him Mr Reliable. Joan Sastre isn't the one to make a lot of noise, but his production levels have always had the same pitch and tempo. Over his four BCL seasons, he has knocked down 50, 49, 56 and 51 percent of his field goals, respectively. Meanwhile, his worst three-point shooting season was at a 39 percent clip, so don't even think about leaving him open beyond the arc. A constant 50-40-90 threat, Sastre has made 100 percent of his free throws this season, albeit in just three attempts. He also has a BCL career-high 12 steals this season, but even with all of his accolades, he'll still be only the second most famous Joan Sastre in Greece. Another Joan Sastre is a notable footballer, playing as a right back or winger for PAOK FC, and to make matters even more interesting, both of Joan Sastres were born in Mallorca, a few kilometers apart.

LA LAGUNA TENERIFE ROSTER





DATE OF BIRTH	13/10/2002
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	211CM/6'11''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	4 POINTS
@ BERTRA	M DERTHONA BASKET APR 16, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	4 POINTS
@ BERTRA	M DERTHONA BASKET APR 16, 2025

Club career: Barcelona (ESP; 2019-21), Forca Lleida (ESP; 2021-22), Wisconsin Herd (USA; 2022-23, 2024-25), Portland Trail Blazers (USA; 2023-24), Rip City Remix (USA; 2023-24), Tenerife (ESP; 2025-)

The latest addition to the team, seven-footer Ibou Badji was added to the squad after Fran Guerra suffered a season-ending injury, giving him a new start back in Spain after an attempt to make a name for himself in the NBA. It's easy to see what he brings to the table, since his wingspan is measured at 2.34m/7'8" and his standing reach at 3.00m/9'10". Yes, you read that correctly, he's basically dunking by just getting up on his toes... No wonder he averaged an incredible 3.5 blocks in just 22.4 minutes per game for the Wisconsin Herd in 50 appearances earlier this season, leading the NBA G League in blocks easily, and being selected to the NBA G League All-Defensive Team. Badji's rim protection, athleticism and energy could be crucial for Tenerife since these were all on Fran Guerra's to-do list in their system.



DATE OF BIRTH	17/09/1989
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	201CM/6'7''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	17 POINTS
	TWICE
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	23 POINTS
VS. FRIBOURG OLY	MPIC; OCT 23, 2018

Club career: ASVEL (FRA; 2012-13), SIG Strasbourg (FRA; 2013-14), Braunschweig (GER; 2014-15), Tenerife (ESP; 2015-19, 2022-), Zenit (RUS; 2019-20), Unicaja (ESP; 2020-22)

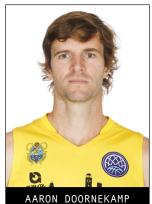
We have done plenty of silly things through the nine-year long history of the Basketball Champions League. But the fact we added a location called Abromaitis Corner to Google Maps is not in there, as it lost its silliness when we started receiving notifications that people are actually visiting, liking and talking about our recently added location! Close your eyes, can you imagine where it would be on the floor? Yep. That's right. The right corner belongs to Mr Abromaitis, and we know it more than anybody else, as Tim Abromaitis leads the all-time list of games played in this competition, entering the Final Four with 113 appearances. Only three other guys have broken the century mark (L. Chrysikopoulos 103, B. Fitipaldo 102, V. Hruban 101). It's not the only category he's leading. Nobody else has more than 500 rebounds in the BCL, he sits at the top of the list with 523.



DATE OF BIRTH	02/04/1989
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	217CM/7'1''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	23 POINTS
@ BERTRA	M DERTHONA BASKET APR 16, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	26 POINTS
VS. BAKKEN B	EARS; OCT 20, 2020

Club career: Maccabi Tbilisi (GEO; 2005-08), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2008-10), Union Olimpija (SLO; 2010-11), Cantu (ITA; 2011-12, 2014-15), Maccabi Tel Aviv (ISR; 2012), Olympiacos (GRE; 2012-13, 2014), Zaragoza (ESP; 2013, 2014), Andorra (ESP; 2015-17), Unicaja (ESP; 2017-19), Tenerife (ESP; 2019-)

If anybody on this team needs a tour guide in Athens and the surrounding municipalities, Giorgi Shermadini will answer the call. He made the city his home twice in his career, as a kid learning about the tough pro athlete life with Panathinaikos in 2008, and then returning to Piraeus to try on the red-and-white colors. To be fair, he never got his chance to shine in Greece, but a move to Spain unlocked incredible stuff for the Georgian giant. With guys like Marcelinho Huertas and Bruno Fitipaldo feeding him 24/7, he has turned into a high efficiency merchant, winning a pair of Spanish Liga Endesa MVP awards, in 2021 and 2023. He found a home in Tenerife, and the whole continent loves seeing it, as this is his sixth season with the club. The only other time he spent more than two seasons in one location was back at the start of his career in Georgia.



DATE OF BIRTH	05/12/1985
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	201CM/6'7''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	12 POINTS
@ ALIAGA PETKIMSPOR; MAR 4, 2025	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	23 POINTS
VS. FILOU OOSTENDE; JAN 11, 2017	

Club career: Carleton (CAN; 2004-09), Caserta (ITA; 2009-12), Braunschweig (GER; 2013-14), Skyliners Frankfurt (GER; 2014-16), Tenerife (ESP; 2016-17, 2020-), Valencia (ESP; 2017-20)

When you talk about Tenerife's longevity, make sure to mention Aaron Doornekamp. Turning 40 in December, it feels like Aaron made availability his priority for Tenerife this season, appearing in all 14 games, spending third-most minutes on the floor, trailing only Thomas Scrubb and Marcelinho Huertas. Along with Tim Abromaitis, he's the best player to talk to about the rise of BCL's quality, as he witnessed it from the very beginning, claiming the first ever BCL trophy back in 2017. He also won it in 2022, so you're probably wondering what keeps this 39-year-old going, at least in terms of motivation. We've got the answer for you - Aaron missed last year's Final Four in Belgrade due to injury, his first and only serious injury since he returned to the island, and everybody will tell you that the Final against Unicaja would've been a whole lot different with him on the floor.

GAMIFY THE GAME. ENGAGE YOUR FANS.



YOUR FANS ARE READY. ARE YOU?

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UNICAJA The Best Just Got Better

Ibon Navarro and his staff have created a monster in Malaga. They are not only the current holders of the BCL trophy, but they added to that this season the Copa del Rey and the Spanish Supercopa, after already winning the FIBA Intercontinental Cup in 2024. If they were to become the second team since Hereda San Pablo Burgos to become back-to-back BCL champions this year, Unicaja would do so on the back of a quadruple-winning season. They set a BCL record this year for the most wins in a row at 18, and even when that record run was broken by Galatasaray in the Round of 16, they just reeled off another five wins on the bounce straight after it.

Domestically, Unicaja started the Liga Endesa season on fire and topped the standings for most of 2024. Results have cooled off somewhat as the season has progressed and the sheer volume of games they have played in the last 18 months started to but. They still sit fourth in the table and look set for another deep run in the Play-Offs. They recently had a convincing 91-78 win over La LagunaTenerife and head into Athens in great shape. Head coach, Ibon Navarro has steered a team to three BCL Final Fours now, finishing third with UCAM Murcia in 2018, fourth with Unicaja in 2023 and finally getting over the hump with Unicaja in Belgrade last May. He also steered Unicaja to the Copa de Rey title in 2023 and is leading what is possibly the most successful period in the club's history.

The success of this team is undoubtedly thanks to the continuity they have been able to achieve through keeping this team together. Kendrick Perry, Alberto Diaz, Tyler Kalinoski, Tyson Carter, Kameron Taylor, who came in to replace Dario Brizuela, and Nihad Dedovic run their backcourt like a well-oiled machine. On the wings, Melvin Ejim and Jonathan





UNICAJA

Barreiro know exactly what they need to do and exactly when they need to do it. Up front, David Kravish, Dylan Osetkowski, and Yankuba Sima have rotated together for over two years now and keep the pressure on their opponents with relentless floor running and paint domination. That continuity has also made the adaptation period much faster for the more recent recruits, Olek Balcerowski, Tyson Perez, and Killian Tillie. Navarro rotates his entire roster so that nobody plays big minutes. Tyson Carter leads the team with 20.6 minutes per game, and the outcome is that every player coming into the game understands that they need to push the tempo and make the absolute most of their time on the floor.

As expected, Unicaja won both their Regular Season and Round of 16 groups, and they won both with games to spare. Group B of the Regular Season resulted in Unicaja going 6-0. The first game was 92-85 win over Filou Oostende with Dylan Osetkowski putting up 24 points and 7 rebounds. After that was the Polish club King Szczecin in the firing line. Jonathan Barreiro and David Kravish had 14 points apiece to power Unicaja to an 83-60 win. The double-header with Aliaga Petkimspor resulted in Navarro's squad cruising to 112-82 and 108-56 wins. Tyler Kalinoski's shooting was too much for their Polish opponents, as he dropped 21 and 16 points in the two games, shooting 71.4 percent from 3-point range in the process. 98-82 and 91-67 wins over Oostende and Szczecin rounded out the Regular Season as they qualified for the Round of 16 in third gear. Tyson Carter led with 17 points against the Belgians, whilst his namesake, Tyson Perez, had 19 points against Szczecin.

Unicaja were drawn in what many considered to be the Round of 16 group of death with Rytas Vilnius, Galatasaray, and Manisa Basket Divissa. Unfortunately for every other team in the group, Unicaja made it a group of death for them and not themselves. Despite Galatasaray ending their 18-game win streak in Istanbul, Unicaja won their games by an average of 13 points. 91-73 was the first win of the Round of 16 for Unicaja over Manisa. That was followed by a dominant 92-74 win over Rytas in Malaga and Tyson Carter exploding for 26 points on 66.7 percent shooting. Galatasaray temporarily knocked them off their perch and inflicted an 84-82 loss in

Turkiye but Kendrick Perry and the crew bounced right back in the return leg when Gala visited Malaga. Perry had 16 points and 9 rebounds as Unicaja secured the 97-91 revenge win. Kameron Taylor had his game of the season with 33 points in a 103-97 win in Manisa, and then Tyson Carter's 17 points led the way in a tight-fought 83-82 win in Vilnius.

The Quarter-Finals brought Pallacanestro Reggiana to town, and with them came the threat of Kwan Cheatham Jr, Kenneth Faried, Cassius Winston, Jaylen Barford, and Jamar Smith. Despite the considerable talent on that Reggiana roster, the champs were already in championship mode and eventually made light work of the Italians in two games. The home leg in Malaga ended 105-68, Tyson Carter continuing his MVP form with 20 points on 78 percent shooting. Ibon Navarro and Unicaja spread the love across their roster to get the job done in Italy for the second game. Osetkowski and Tillie both had 11 points each as Unicaja ran out 82-72 winners to secure a



meeting with royalty as they will face AEK this week.

Unicaja will go into the game full to the brim with confidence. And as they should. Their numbers this season are absurd. They rank first in the BCL for points per game at 94.4, first in the BCL for offensive efficiency with a record-setting 125 points per 100 possessions, first for field goal percentage at 52.3 percent, and first for assists with 23.4 per game. Defensively, they also lead the Final Four teams for blocks and steals at 3.5 and 9.1 per game, and also have the best defensive efficiency in Athens, allowing teams just 102.9 points per 100 possessions. Ibon Navarro and this Unicaja team will take some stopping.



SCORING



51-19

#2

REBOUNDS

RECORD

BCL RANK IN

COACHING WINS

COACHING CAREER

ASSISTS

STATS PERCENTIL VS R16 CLUBS

Baskonia (assistant, ESP; 2000-05, 2007-10, 2013-14), Alava (ESP; 2005-06), Tenerife (assistant, ESP; 2006-07), Menorca (ESP: 2010-11), Valencia (ESP: 2011-12), Puerto Rico (assistant, national team: 2014), Baskonia (ESP: 2014-15), Manresa (ESP; 2015-17), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2017-18), Andorra (ESP; 2018-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

Back where it all began. Coach Ibon Navarro's story is not a new one, but it was at the BCL Final Four in Athens that the rest of the continent found out about another brilliant young coach from Spain. He brought UCAM Murcia to the summit in 2018, but their Cinderella story ended without the big trophy, settling for third spot instead. After moving around nearly on a yearly basis, that run secured him a longer tenure at Andorra, and once the club let him go in early $2022, Unicaja\ wasted\ no\ time\ in\ getting\ him\ to\ join\ the\ fun\ in\ Malaga.\ How\ do\ you\ determine\ if\ somebody\ is\ a\ good\ coach$ or not? Well, the first aspect are the results, and they speak for themselves for the defending champions. The other is players' loyalty. Scroll through these pages, check out the incredible number of players who joined the project in 2022. All of them were quick to sign long term extensions knowing Ibon has a plan for them, no matter what. It's been a crazy three-year long ride so far, and the best aspect of Navarro's coaching is that he keeps improving his schemes, not settling and never getting complacent just because his men won a trophy or two. Ibon was #18 in coaching wins in the BCL when we prepared this same document in Belgrade last year. He's already up to #2 now.



POINTS

REBOUNDS

ASSISTS



EFFICIENCY



DATE OF BIRTH	23/12/1992
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	183CM/6'0''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	18 POINTS
@ MANI	ISA BASKET DIVISSA MAR 18, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	34 POINTS
VS. UM	IANA REYER VENEZIA MAR 5, 2019

Club career: Sydney Kings (AUS; 2014-15), Iowa Energy (USA; 2015), Kormend (HUN; 2015-16), Karpos Sokoli (MKD; 2016-17), Szolnoki Olaj (HUN; 2017-18), Nizhny Novgorod (RUS; 2018-19), Metropolitans 92 (FRA; 2019), Mega (SRB; 2019-20), Cedevita Olimpija (SLO; 2020-21), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2021-22), Buducnost (MNE; 2022), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

When all is said and done, are people going to call you 'champ' when you retire? We have a pretty good guess when it comes to the Hungarian Cup, North Macedonian Cup, Slovenian Supercup, Slovenian League, Montenegrin League, Greek Supercup, Spanish Supercup, Spanish Cup, FIBA Intercontinental Cup, and BCL winner Kendrick Perry. Oh, he was also the MVP in plenty of those endeavours, including picking up the BCL Final Four MVP award a year ago. This man has a habit of turning it up a notch when it matters most, as evident by winning the Copa del Rey MVP award back in February. We praise their coach, system, recruiting, fans... But something tells us, maybe none of these wins and trophies happen without K-Dot running the floor and controlling the pace of the game like a metronome. Perry has been consistent all season long for Unicaja, and he fell in love with Malaga, too, dropping hints of Spanish language in his media activities, paired up with that contagious smile. We could see that smile again, as Athens gives him a chance to experience that good old Greek katharsis. His last adventure in the city was with Panathinaikos, and it wasn't exactly a successful one. Chance to prove his doubters wrong. Again.



DATE OF BIRTH	08/08/1996
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	206CM/6'9''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	24 POINTS
@ FILOU OOS	ΓENDE; OCT 1, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	24 POINTS
@ FILOU OOS	TENDE; OCT 1, 2024

 $\label{lem:club career: Gottingen (GER; 2019-20), ratiopharm Ulm (GER; 2020-21), ASVEL (FRA; 2021-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)$

The only difference from 2024 to 2025? Dylan Osetkowski is now a German national team player! His grandmother was German, Dylan calling her Oma, and this allowed him to obtain German citizenship back in Gottingen in 2020, but last November, he finally got a call from coach Alex Mumbru, and made his mark for the reigning world champs instantly. He helped Germany qualify for the FIBA EuroBasket 2025, with the same kind of role as with Unicaja: Spread the floor, run the floor, dominate the boards, be physical and always have a great hair day. He set his new BCL career-high on the opening day of this season, knocking down six three-pointers to prevent an Oostende upset, which isn't all that surprising since he was still hot from winning the FIBA Intercontinental Cup MVP award. With regular major event appearances, the only question now is how to find the time to go fishing...



DATE OF BIRTH	29/01/1996
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	202CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	19 POINTS
@ KING SZCZ	ECIN; DEC 17, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	19 POINTS
@ KING SZCZ	ECIN; DEC 17, 2024

Club career: Santo Domingo Betanzos (ESP; 2014-16), Eurocolegio Casvi (ESP; 2016-17), Real Canoe (ESP; 2017-19), Andorra (ESP; 2019-23), BAXI Manresa (ESP; 2022), Real Betis (ESP; 2023), Unicaja (ESP; 2023-)

Imagine having a nickname so fitting, everybody just forgets it's not your real name. Jose Miguel Perez Balbuena probably doesn't ring a lot of bells, but when you say Tyson, you can already see that #0 jersey sprinting down the court and throwing down a big dunk. In fact, we all thought people called him Tyson because he punches those dunks with enormous force. Instead, his father called him Tyson because they boxed a lot when he was just a kid in the Dominican Republic, and the nickname stayed with him when he started pursuing his dream of becoming a pro in Spain. Perez is that key missing ingredient in a lot of games, as coach Navarro loves his energy and hustle back from their days together at Andorra. He is one of the most efficient players of the BCL, getting 11.1 efficiency points in just 15 minutes per game.



DATE OF BIRTH	19/11/2000
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	215CM/7'1''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	8 POINTS
@ KING SZCZ	ECIN; DEC 17, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	8 POINTS
@ KING SZCZ	ECIN; DEC 17, 2024

Club career: Gran Canaria (ESP; 2017-23), Mega (SRB; 2021-22), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2023-24), Unicaja (ESP; 2024-)

Game over, folks, Olek is here. He's becoming a sort of an omen, wherever he plays, that team ends up winning major international events, as he won back-to-back EuroCup and EuroLeague titles with Gran Canaria and Panathinaikos, respectively, before joining Unicaja and immediately winning the FIBA Intercontinental Cup and the Spanish Supercopa. Balcerowski is not a youngster anymore, a lot of time has passed since he moved to Gran Canaria as a 13-year-old, but we won't say he's in his prime just yet. A trip to Malaga sounded like a nice solution to help him elevate his game even higher. Modern basketball loves big guys like him, who can space the floor, but also finish high above the rim and provide a lot of size defensively. Give him playing time, and you'll probably end up with crazy highlights and sequences on both ends of the floor in a matter of minutes.



DATE OF BIRTH	19/12/1992
POSITION	GUARD
HEIGHT	193CM/6'4''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	21 POINTS
VS. ALIAGA PETKIMSPOR; OCT 23, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	23 POINTS
@ PROMITHEAS PATRAS; APR 9, 2024	

Club career: Elan Chalon (FRA; 2015-16), Apollon Patras (GRE; 2016-17), Antwerp Giants (BEL; 2017-19), Bandirma (TUR; 2019-20), Brescia (ITA; 2020-21), Rio Breogan (ESP; 2021-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

There is a term called the gravitational pull used in basketball, and Tyler Kalinoski is the perfect player for us to explain it. With everybody in the basketball world knowing what an elite shooter he is, any time he steps on the floor, the defense is panicking and somewhat overacting to his runs without the ball, meaning his gravitational pull is sending the defense away from other threats on this Unicaja roster. Kalinoski is now in the same mode as Kyle Korver or Jaycee Carroll, he doesn't even need to hit five threes to make an impact. But the ones he makes, oh boy, those are usually daggers and take the air out of your defensive balloon if you're on the other end. This season, he's shooting 41 percent from deep, making it his best shooting BCL season since he made 46 percent for Telenet Giants Anterp in 2018-19.



DATE OF BIRTH	16/01/1997
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	203CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	17 POINTS
VS. ALIAGA PETKIMSPOR; OCT 23, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	26 POINTS
@ DINAMO BDS SA	SSARI; MAR 2, 2021

Club career: Real Madrid (ESP; 2014-15), Ourense (ESP; 2015-16), Zaragoza (ESP; 2016-21), Unicaja (ESP; 2021-)

Just like that, that promising young forward from Zaragoza's Final 8 teams is now the most experienced BCL player for the defending champions. He's got a total of 86 BCL games to his name, and he is one of the rare players who have been with Unicaja before the summer of 2022. A catch-and-shoot specialist, Barreiro's shooting can break hearts, because when you stop all the Tysons, Kendricks, Kamerons, Davids or Dylans on this team, Jonathan comes up with a long range shot to kill your hopes of upsetting Unicaja. He took 26 two-pointers and 25 three-pointers this season, knocking down 52 percent of his attempts from deep. He's still only 28 years old, but he made his professional debut with Real Madrid a full 11 years ago, just adding to that intro about him being the most experienced player on this roster. Experience counts, especially in tournaments like these.



DA	TE OF BIRTH	05/10/1994
P0	SITION	SHOOTING GUARD
НЕ	IGHT	198CM/6'6''
ВС	L SEASON-HIGH	33 POINTS
	@ MAN	ISA BASKET DIVISSA MAR 18, 2025
ВС	L CAREER-HIGH:	33 POINTS
	@ MAN	ISA BASKET DIVISSA MAR 18, 2025

Club career: Erdgas Ehingen (GER; 2016-17), Dragons Rhondorf (GER; 2017-18), s.Oliver Wurzburg (GER; 2018), PVSK-Panthers (HUN; 2018-19), Brose Bamberg (GER; 2019-20), Hamburg Towers (GER; 2020-21), Maccabi Tel Aviv (ISR; 2021-22), SIG Strasbourg (FRA; 2022), Girona (ESP; 2022-23), Unicaja (ESP; 2023-)

With Unicaja running a 14-men rotation - shoutout to Melvin Ejim and Yankuba Sima who were left out of this Official Program simply because we're limited to 12 slots - it's rare to see one guy going off and scoring 20+ or 25+ points in a single game. The 30+ territory was completely uncharted until Kameron Taylor decided to cook in Manisa. It wasn't just that he scored 33 points, he also had 5 rebounds, 5 assists and 2 steals in that game, all done in just 26 minutes of action. He is another one of their MVPs, claiming the award at the Spanish Supercup in September, and that's a testament to his growth over the years. Not that long ago, he was just a kid learning about international basketball with Erdgas Ehingen, now he's one of the most lethal scorers in all of Europe, and a legit contender for the MVP award in Athens.



DATE	OF BIRTH	23/04/1994
POSI	ITION	POINT GUARD
HEIG	нт	190CM/6'3''
BCL	SEASON-HIGH	8 POINTS
	VS. FILOU OOS	TENDE; DEC 3, 2024
BCL	CAREER-HIGH:	10 POINTS
		TWICE

Club career: Clinicas Rincon (ESP; 2011-14), Surne Bilbao (ESP; 2014), Fuenlabrada (ESP; 2014-15), Unicaja (ESP; 2015-)

Every single season, a new high scoring guard enters the BCL and thinks to himself, 'Okay, time to prove that I can do it against the toughest defender out there.' Every single season, a new high scoring guard finds out he can't. Alberto Diaz took home the BCL Defensive Player of the Season award in 2023, but had to surrender it to Howard Sant-Roos last season. It felt like that was just enough to fuel his motivation to go on an all-out defensive clinic all season long, coming up with five games with multiple steals. But it's never about the steals when he's on the court. It's about setting the tone, playing mind games against the best scorers, and being a true captain for his teammates. He's 31 now, but already a legend in Malaga, a homegrown kid with 500 appearances for the club - it doesn't get any better than that.



DATE OF BIRTH	14/01/1998
POSITION	GUARD
HEIGHT	193CM/6'4''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	26 POINTS
VS. RYTAS VI	LNIUS; FEB 4, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	35 POINTS
VS. NIZHNY NOVO	GOROD, NOV 2, 2021

Club career: Lavrio (GRE; 2020-21), Zenit (RUS; 2021-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

When Greg Carter poured in 1,123 points for MSU in the NCAA, everybody around him probably thought they would never see another scorer like that. Turns out, his son Tyson is probably even better at getting the ball to go through the rim. Tyson and Greg are the only father-son duo to score 1000+ career points in Southeastern Conference history, and that high scoring habit continued once Tyson arrived in Europe. In fact, Tyson can do it any single way. You need him to take a bunch of shots and have the ball most of the time? Sure, he'll go off for 35 against Nizhny Novgorod. Want him to be an offensive spark in limited minutes? Sure, he'll get you 26 points in just 19 minutes of work against Rytas. Whenever Unicaja need a tough bucket in the clutch, expect coach Navarro to draw up a play for him.



DATE OF BIRTH	05/03/1998
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	205CM/6'9''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	14 POINTS
VS. MANI	ISA BASKET DIVISSA JAN 29, 2025
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	14 POINTS
VS. MANI	ISA BASKET DIVISSA JAN 29, 2025

Club career: Memphis Grizzlies (USA; 2020-22), Memphis Hustle (USA; 2021), Unicaja (ESP; 2024-)

It's hard to keep up with the Tillie's, but let's try. Dad Laurent was a pro volleyball player, and is a volleyball coach, leading France to a magical moment as they won gold at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. One of the players on that team: Killian's brother Kevin. Mom Caroline was also a volleyball player, so the question is how did Killian end up in basketball? It probably has to do with his older brother Kim, and Kim probably told him moving to Spain after Gonzaga and the Grizzlies was a smart move. Indeed, it was an excellent move, as Killian needed no time at all to fit in perfectly with this Unicaja lineup. A sharp shooting big guy, loves playing with his face to the rim, and is still physical enough to punish you with his back to the basket, too. Elite nickname, too, as he goes by Kill Till.



DATE OF BIRTH	12/01/1990
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	198CM/6'6''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	13 POINTS
	TWICE
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	14 POINTS
	TWICE

Club career: Bosna (BIH; 2005-07), Cornella (ESP; 2007-09), Obradoiro (ESP; 2009-10), Virtus Roma (ITA; 2010-12), Galatasaray Nef (TUR; 2012), Alba Berlin (GER; 2012-13), Bayern Munich (GER; 2013-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

The unsung hero of last season's Final, Nihad Dedovic - or Djedovic, if you prefer - went off for 14 points in just 18 minutes of action in Belgrade, giving Unicaja a much needed boost off the bench to take home the spiky trophy. Nihad has always had the panache of a veteran, always being a couple of steps in front of you in terms of decision making, so it's understandable Unicaja were a +102 team during his 164 minutes of action in the BCL this season. It's not by accident, no way. The 35-year-old has a lot of stories to tell from his days in Sarajevo, throughout all the Spanish, Italian, Turkish and German adventures, and would you look at that - he's already started telling them, in his weekly podcast with his childhood teammate and best friend Eldin Camdzic. The way he talks, it's safe to say he's got a future in the media, for sure.



DATE OF BIRTH	12/09/1992
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	208CM/6'10''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	15 POINTS
@ ALIAGA PETKIN	1SPOR; NOV 6, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	22 POINTS
VS.	AEK; JAN 25, 2023

Club career: Nokia (FIN; 2015-16), Czarni Slupsk (POL; 2016-17), Tsmoki-Minsk (BLR; 2017-18), Avtodor Saratov (RUS; 2018-19), BAXI Manresa (ESP; 2019-20), Brose Bamberg (GER; 2020-21), Galatasaray Nef (TUR; 2021-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

It's hard to keep up with the Tillie's, but let's try. Dad Laurent was a pro volleyball player, and is a volleyball coach, leading France to a magical moment as they won gold at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. One of the players on that team: Killian's brother Kevin. Mom Caroline was also a volleyball player, so the question is how did Killian end up in basketball? It probably has to do with his older brother Kim, and Kim probably told him moving to Spain after Gonzaga and the Grizzlies was a smart move. Indeed, it was an excellent move, as Killian needed no time at all to fit in perfectly with this Unicaja lineup. A sharp shooting big guy, loves playing with his face to the rim, and is still physical enough to punish you with his back to the basket, too. Elite nickname, too, as he goes by Kill Till.





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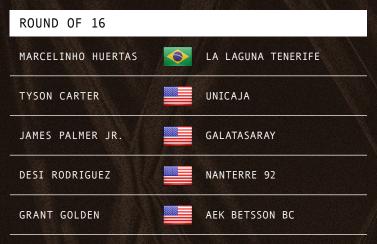
Season Awards

















Official Practices

LOCAL TIMES, ATHENS (GREECE), GMT +3

		RS	DA	Y
	$\mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{I}}$			

MAY 8

START	END	TEAM
13:00	15:00	UNICAJA
15:00	17:00	LA LAGUNA TENERIFE
17:00	19:00	GALATASARAY
19:00	21:00	AEK BETSSON BC

FRIDAY

MAY 9

		1 miles (1 miles)
START	END	TEAM
9:30	10:30	GALATASARAY
10:40	11:40	LA LAGUNA TENERIFE
11:50	12:50	UNICAJA
13:00	14:00	AEK BETSSON BC

SATURDAY

MAY 10

START	END	TEAM
16:30	17:50	3RD PLACE TEAM A
18:00	19:20	3RD PLACE TEAM B
19:30	20:50	FINAL TEAM A
21:00	22:20	FINAL TEAM B

SUNDAY

MAY 11

START	END	TEAM
09:00	10:00	3RD PLACE TEAM B
10:10	11:10	3RD PLACE TEAM A
11:20	12:20	FINAL TEAM B
12:30	13:30	FINAL TEAM A

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Media Activities

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025



ALL ACCREDITED MEDIA ARE INVITED

10:00-11:00

OFFICIAL PRESS CONFERENCE WITH THE HEAD COACHES AND CAPTAINS OF THE FOUR PARTICIPATING TEAMS

LOCATION: SOFITEL ATHENS AIRPORT, INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ATHENS, SPATA 19019

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025

MEDIA WORKING ROOM & MEDIA TRIBUNE

MIXED ZONE

POST-GAME PRESS CONFERENCES

LOCATION: SUNEL ARENA, KONSTANTINOUPOLEOS 59, ANO LIOSIA 133 42, GREECE

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025



ALL ACCREDITED MEDIA WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE AFOREMENTIONED ACTIVITIES

11:00-12:00

AWARDS CEREMONY

LOCATION: HELLENIC COSMOS CULTURAL CENTER, PIREOS 254, TAVROS 177 78

12:00-12:30

MEDIA AVAILABILITY WITH FINALISTS' COACHES/CAPTAINS AND AWARD WINNERS

LOCATION: SUNEL ARENA, KONSTANTINOUPOLEOS 59, ANO LIOSIA 133 42, GREECE

12:30-13:00

MEDIA ROUND TABLE WITH BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CEO PATRICK COMNINOS

LOCATION: HELLENIC COSMOS CULTURAL CENTER, PIREOS 254, TAVROS 177 78

SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025

MEDIA WORKING ROOM & MEDIA TRIBUNE

MIXED ZONE

POST-GAME PRESS CONFERENCES

LOCATION: SUNEL ARENA, KONSTANTINOUPOLEOS 59, ANO LIOSIA 133 42, GREECE



INDIVIDUAL RECORD	os ———			
PLAYER	RECORD	TEAM	OPPONENT	DATE
KYLE GUY	34 POINTS	LA LAGUNA TENERIFE	PERISTERI DOMINO'S	26/04/2024 (SF)
GEDIMINAS ORELIK	13 REBOUNDS	BANDIRMA	LENOVO TENERIFE	30/04/2017 (FINAL)
CHIMA MONEKE	13 KEBUUNDS	BAXI MANRESA	MHP RIESEN	06/05/2022 (SF)
MARCELINHO HUERTAS	14 ASSISTS	LENOVO TENERIFE	BAXI MANRESA	08/05/2022 (FINAL)
FRAN VAZQUEZ		LENOVO TENERIFE	BANDIRMA	30/04/2017 (FINAL)
KEVIN TUMBA	3 BLOCKS	UCAM MURCIA	AEK	04/05/2018 (SF)
VINCE HUNTER		AEK	MONACO	06/05/2018 (FINAL)
JACOB WILEY		CASADEMONT ZARAGOZA	PINAR KARSIYAKA	07/05/2021 (SF)
DEE BOST	5 STEALS	MONACO	UMANA REYER VENEZIA	30/04/2017 (3RD PLACE)
SASU SALIN	3 STEALS	TENERIFE	UNET HOLON	06/05/2022 (SF)
SEK HENRY	7 3PM	PINAR KARSIYAKA	CASADEMONT ZARAGOZA	07/05/2021 (SF)
MARCELINHO HUERTAS	32 EFF	LA LAGUNA TENERIFE	PERISTERI DOMINO'S	26/04/2024 (SF)
GEDIMINAS ORELIK	40 MINUTES PLAYED	BANDIRMA	MONACO	28/04/2017 (SF)

TEAM RECORDS -

TEAM	RECORD	OPPONENT	DATE
AEK	100 POINTS SCORED	MONACO	06/05/2018 (FINAL)
VIRTUS BOLOGNA	50 POINTS ALLOWED	BROSE BAMBERG	03/05/2019 (SF)
SAN PABLO BURGOS	17 MADE 3-POINTERS	AEK	4/10/2020 (FINAL)
BAXI MANRESA	55 REBOUNDS	MHP RIESEN	06/05/2022 (SF)
BAXI MANRESA	35 DEFENSIVE REBOUNDS	MHP RIESEN	06/05/2022 (SF)
LENOVO TENERIFE	24 OFFENSIVE REBOUNDS	VIRTUS BOLOGNA	05/05/2019 (FINAL)
MONACO	27 ASSISTS	MHP RIESEN	04/05/2018 (SF)
AEK	LARGEST WIN: +24 POINTS	CASADEMONT ZARAGOZA	02/10/2020 (SF)
HAPOEL JERUSALEM	SMALLER WIN: +1 POINT	LENOVO TENERIFE	12/05/2023 (SF)
AEK	LARGEST HT LEAD: +21 POINTS	CASADEMONT ZARAGOZA	02/10/2020 (SF)
TEKSUT BANDIRMA	BIGGEST COMEBACK WIN: 13 POINTS	MONACO	28/04/2017 (SF)
MHP RIESEN	MOST PLAYERS USED: 13		2022 FINAL FOUR
UNICAJA	HOST FLATERS USED. 13		2024 FINAL FOUR
NOLID ADL	FEWEST PLAYERS USED: 9		2022 FINAL FOUR

	POINTS
MARCELINHO HUERTAS	101
GIORGI SHERMADINI	95
VÍTOR BENITE	94

	REBOUNDS
TIM ABROMAITIS	47
DEJAN KRAVIC	41
NICOLAS BRUSSINO	3 2

		ASSISTS
•	MARCELINHO HUERTAS	5 0
ě.	RODRIGO SAN MIGUEL	3 4
	JOE RAGLAND	23

	BLOCKS
ELGIN COOK	6
KEVIN TUMBA	5
AMARA SY	5

STEALS



	EFF (AVG)
CHIMA MONEKE	22,5
MARCELINHO HUERTAS	22.2
KYLE GUY	20.5

TIM ABROMAITIS	9
RODRIGO SAN MIGUEL	8
SASU SALIN	7
KEVIN PUNTER	7
ELGIN COOK	7
CLEVIN HANNAH	7
SERGII GLADYR	7
TYLER KALINOSKI	7

			3 P M
	KEVIN	PUNTER	16
•	VÍTOR	BENITE	15
	AARON	DOORNEKAMP	14

	MINUTES
RODRIGO SAN MIGUEL	202
TIM ABROMAITIS	196
AARON DOORNEKAMP	178







