



PRESS RELEASE

Barbados' senior men left the island for the Dominican Republic, on Saturday, 3rd July to participate in the Centrobasket Championship for Men (7th – 11th July). The men qualified for this competition after placing second at the recently concluded XVII Caribbean Basketball Confederation (CBC) Championships, held in Cuba last month.

The team, having left the island four days prior to the start of competition, will be using this time to acclimatize and have practice sessions, which will consist of a practice game with a Venezuelan team, currently in the Dominican Republic.

The Head Coach is Nigel Lloyd and he will be assisted by Dwight Rouse and Adrian Craigwell, the latter will perform the dual role as Trainer. Chelston Bostic will travel as Barbados' FIBA referee.

The contingent is further comprised of Victor Payne (Captain), Mark Foster, Darwin Downes, Michael Nurse, Zahir Motora, Pearson Griffith, Dean Browne, Roderick Ramsey, David Gill, Kelvin Patterson, Mario Layne and Damian Browne.

In an effort to make the team even stronger for this tournament Mario and Damian, who were unavailable for the CBC championships were added. They have replaced Terrence Roach and Andre Boadu.

Eight teams will be participating in the tournament, divided into the following zones:

<u>Group A</u>	<u>Group B</u>
Dominican Republic	Puerto Rico
Mexico	Panama
Guatemala	Cuba
Barbados	Antigua & Barbuda



Teams will play three games in the preliminaries, with the top two teams in each zone advancing to the semi-finals. Barbados' first game will be on Wednesday, 7th July against Mexico at 3:00 pm. On Thursday, 8th July they play the Dominican Republic at 9:30 pm and on Friday, 9th July, they will play Guatemala at 3:00 pm. The top four teams from this tournament will qualify for the Tournament of the Americas, to be held in 2006.

The junior boys will be leaving the island on Monday, 12th July for Puerto Rico, to compete at the Under 21 Centrobasket Tournament for Men (14th - 18th July).

The Head Coach is Terry Inniss and he will be assisted by Cosmo Edwards and Derek Aimey. The Manager is Michael Holder and the Trainer is Denzil Jackman. Richard Walrond will travel as Barbados' FIBA referee.

The team is comprised of Jason Brewster, David Gill, Matthew Harding, Omar Harris, Ormond Haynes, Shawn Jacobs, Andre Lockhart, Ryan Moseley-Clarke, Zenas Phillips, Roderick Ramsay, Ramon Simmons and Charles Vanderpool.

Due to the unavailability of sufficient funds, we regret to inform that we are unable to send a women's team to the Centrobasket Tournament for Women, to be held in Guatemala, 21st - 25th July. The women had qualified for the tournament after placing fourth at the CBC championships.

The BABA wishes to thank the Barbados Olympic Association (BOA) and the National Sports Council (NSC), for the support that they were able to render, as our ability to attend these tournaments was dependent on their assistance.

We encourage, all persons to support our players and once conditions allow for the relay of timely information, we will post information on our website, www.baba.org.bb, and email to all our contacts, as was the case for the CBC championships.