

Montreal prepares to launch new American basketball franchise

New TBL franchise will pit local players against American teams.

Montreal, Quebec Oct 5, 2022 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - MONTREAL - Canadian basketball icon Juan Mendez has announced the arrival of a new, Montreal-based professional team that will play American rivals in The Basketball League. TBL, founded by Evelyn and David Magley, is a professional basketball league with 44 franchises across the USA.

The arrival of TBL in Montreal will allow local players and fans to enjoy some of America's best basketball talent, at a time when basketball is more popular than ever. With over one billion fans and the second-highest number of professional teams globally, basketball is the world's fastest-growing sport. More than 350,000 young people between the ages of three and 17 play the sport in Canada. Montreal is home to four current NBA players: Chris Boucher, Khem Birch, Luguentz Dort, and Karim Mané.

"The love for basketball in this city keeps growing every day," enthuses new team General Manager Juan Mendez, who played with the Canadian national basketball team, and several professional teams overseas. "The arrival of a TBL team will give local talent a real chance to shine," Mendez adds that the new team will allow Montreal's high-quality players to stay in their hometown rather than play in Europe. "This team will mean we keep the best our city has to offer right here - and let them face off against rivals across the USA."

The as-yet-unnamed team will play the 2023 season at the Pierre Charbonneau arena, welcoming up to 2,500 fans per game. A portion of the team's profits will be donated to the Fondation CHU Sainte-Justine. "When David and Evelyn Magley founded TBL, their goal was to give back to the community. It's ours, too. We'll concentrate our charitable efforts on the great work being done by the CHU Sainte-Justine. The sacrifice and dedication they demonstrated in the last few years have been incredibly inspiring. We want to recognize that, by donating funds, free seats at our games for patients, their families, and volunteers, and more," explains Mendez.

The name and logo of the new franchise will be revealed in the coming weeks.

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