



News Release

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*This release is also available on USA Basketball's World Wide Web homepage - <http://www.usabasketball.com>.

MEDIA NOTE: USA Basketball and the U.S. Olympic Committee will conduct a media teleconference today at 12:30 p.m. (EDT) featuring Jerry Colangelo and Mike Krzyzewski to discuss the 12 players selected for the 2008 USA Basketball Men's Senior National Team that will be nominated to the U.S. Olympic Committee to represent the United States in the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. To participate in the media teleconference call **800-311-9410** and give the passcode **BEIJING**.

USA Basketball Announces 12-Member 2008 Men's Senior National Team

-- Five Players Named To Second U.S. Olympic Team --

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (June 23, 2008) – Featuring Olympic gold medalist **Jason Kidd** (Dallas Mavericks) and four 2004 Olympians, USA Basketball Men's Senior National Team managing director **Jerry Colangelo** today announced the 12-players who will represent the United States in the Aug. 8-24 Olympic Summer Games in Beijing, China. The player selections were approved by the USA Basketball Executive Committee, and will be nominated to the United States Olympic Committee to participate in the 2008 Olympic Games.

Named to the 2008 USA Basketball Senior National Team were: **Carmelo Anthony** (Denver Nuggets); **Carlos Boozer** (Utah Jazz); **Chris Bosh** (Toronto Raptors); **Kobe Bryant** (Los Angeles Lakers); **Dwight Howard** (Orlando Magic); **LeBron James** (Cleveland Cavaliers); Kidd; **Chris Paul** (New Orleans Hornets); **Tayshaun Prince** (Detroit Pistons); **Michael Redd** (Milwaukee Bucks); **Dwyane Wade** (Miami Heat); and **Deron Williams** (Utah Jazz).

Duke University Hall of Fame coach **Mike Krzyzewski** is head coach of the USA Senior Team program. Serving as assistant coaches are Syracuse University and Hall of Fame coach **Jim Boeheim**, New York Knicks head mentor **Mike D'Antoni** and Portland Trail Blazers head coach **Nate McMillan**.

"This has been, to say the least, an extremely difficult selection process. The 33 players who committed to be part of the USA Senior National Team program and have been involved in our various training camps and competitions the past two summers deserve recognition and acknowledgment for their contributions and for their commitment to their country," said Colangelo.

"Whatever I say will not fully describe just how difficult this selection process has been. We knew it would be difficult when we began the building of the Senior National Team program. It has become obvious that it would be in the best interest of the team, the players and coaches, to select the 12 players prior to our June 28-29 mini-camp so we could begin the process of gelling and getting the team's focus set.

"The 12 players selected have incredible talent, and more importantly, we think this team has excellent leadership; great versatility and balance; and very good chemistry which are critical parts in building a great team. I believe this team is a team all Americans can and will be proud of," added Colangelo.

"I'm excited about the players who comprise this team. The selections were very difficult and something we've been working toward since we initially got the Senior National Team together in the 2006 summer. Unfortunately we are limited to a roster of 12 players and we had incredible commitment for the 33 players in our Senior Team program," said Krzyzewski, who has directed the team the past two summers.

“Our team has excellent athleticism and great versatility. We have players who are experienced in the international game thanks to the last two summers’ training and competitions. I feel really good where we are, we have the foundation in but we have a lot work ahead.”

“The past two summers’ experiences will definitely help our team. As we have learned, the international teams we will face in Beijing are also extremely talented and they play very well as a team. Our Senior National Team program has helped us achieve confidence, continuity and excellent chemistry too. This summer’s Olympics are going to be an unbelievable competition,” stated Krzyzewski.

Of the 12 selected players, six were part of the 2006 USA Basketball Men's World Championship Team, and eight were part of the 2007 FIBA Americas Championship that qualified the U.S. for the 2008 Olympics. Three players - Anthony, Howard and James, were members of both teams. Players on the 2006 USA Basketball Men's World Championship Team were: Anthony; Bosh; Howard; James; Paul; and Wade. Members of last summer’s FIBA Americas Championship squad were: Anthony; Bryant; Howard; James; Kidd; Prince; Redd; and Williams.

Kidd, at 35 years old, will be the veteran leader of the USA team. A member of the 2000 U.S. Olympic Team that finished 8-0 and captured the gold medal in Sydney, Australia, Kidd has played on eight USA Basketball teams and boasts of a perfect 44-0 record at senior level competitions.

Kidd, along with 2004 Olympians Anthony, Boozer, James and Wade, will look to add their names to an elite USA group of multiple-time Olympians which currently consists of 13 men (David Robinson-1988, 1992 and 1996; Charles Barkley-1992, 1996; Patrick Ewing-1984, 1992; Burdette Haldorson-1956, 1960; William Houglund-1952, 1956; Michael Jordan-1984, 1992; Robert Kurland-1948, 1952; Karl Malone-1996, 1992; Chris Mullin-1984, 1992; Gary Payton-1996, 2000; Scottie Pippen-1992, 1996; Mitch Richmond-1988, 1996; and John Stockton-1992, 1996.

The average age of the 12 players named to the 2008 U.S. team by the end of the ‘08 Olympics will be 26.08 years old. The USA team at the FIBA Americas Championship averaged 26.00, the USA team at the 2006 FIBA World Championship averaged 24.50 years of age, while the USA team at the 2004 Olympics averaged 23.60 years of age.

2008 USA Basketball Senior National Team Training Plans

USA Basketball’s Senior National Team will open its training June 28 in Las Vegas, Nev., when the 12 selected players participate in a mini-training camp at Cox Pavilion on the campus of UNLV.

The USA Team will resume its training in Las Vegas on July 21 and will train daily July 21-24. The Americans will cap the Las Vegas portion of its training on July 25 (5 p.m. Las Vegas local time) with the 2008 State Farm USA Basketball Challenge. The USA will meet the Canadian National Team in the State Farm USA Basketball Challenge that will be held at Thomas & Mack Center.

The United States will then train and play four additional games in the USA Basketball International Challenge that will see the USA play two games in Macao, China, and two more games in Shanghai, China.

The USA in the Macao portion of the USA Basketball International Challenge, will face Turkey on July 31 (8 p.m. Macao local time) and Lithuania on Aug. 1 (8 p.m. Macao local time). The games will be held at the Cotai Strip Cotai Arena (11,572 capacity) at the Venetian Macao Resort Hotel in Macau, China.

Moving to Shanghai, the Americans will conclude the USA Basketball International Challenge with tests versus 2007 EuroBasket champion Russia on Aug. 3 (3 p.m. Shanghai local time) and 2007 Oceania champion Australia on Aug. 5 (8 p.m. Shanghai local time). Both games will be held at the Qizhong Arena (13,708 capacity) in Shanghai.

The U.S. is scheduled to arrive in Beijing on Aug. 6, and preliminary round play of the 2008 Olympics takes place Aug. 10-18.

The U.S., which was placed in preliminary Group B, opens preliminary play Aug. 10 against host China at 10:15 p.m. (all times listed are Beijing local times which is 12 hours ahead of EDT); then play Africa zone champion Angola on Aug. 12 at 8:00 p.m.; on Aug. 14 at 8:00 p.m. the USA will face Qualifier C who will be determined through the July 14-20 FIBA World Olympic Qualifying Tournament; 2006 FIBA World Champion Spain on Aug. 16 at 10:15 p.m.; and the USA will close out preliminary play Aug. 18 at 8:00 p.m. against Qualifier B who will be determined through the FIBA World Olympic Qualifying Tournament.

The men's Olympic quarterfinals action takes place Aug. 20, semifinals play is slated for Aug. 22, and the Olympic men’s gold and bronze medal games will be held Aug. 24.

USA Basketball Men's Senior National Team Program

Following a disappointing 5-3 finish and bronze medal showing at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece, USA Basketball in 2005 set off in a totally new direction with its men's senior national team. Setting aside the old committee system used for selecting its senior teams, USA Basketball's Executive Committee selected respected former Phoenix Suns chairman and CEO Jerry Colangelo to serve in the then newly created position of Managing Director of the USA Men's Senior National Team Program for 2005-2008.

Building a program that eventually consisted of 33 of this country's premiere players, and the very best coaches and support staff, USA Basketball proceeded to create a true USA Senior National Team program.

Players named to the USA Basketball's Men's Senior National Team include: Anthony; **Gilbert Arenas** (Washington Wizards); **Shane Battier** (Houston Rockets); **Chauncey Billups** (Detroit Pistons); Bosh; Boozer (Utah Jazz); **Bruce Bowen** (San Antonio Spurs); **Elton Brand** (Los Angeles Clippers); Bryant; **Tyson Chandler** (New Orleans Hornets); **Nick Collison** (Seattle SuperSonics); **Kevin Durant** (Seattle SuperSonics); **Kirk Hinrich** (Chicago Bulls); Howard; **Joe Johnson** (Atlanta Hawks); Kidd; James; **Antawn Jamison** (Washington Wizards); **Shawn Marion** (Miami Heat); **Brad Miller** (Sacramento Kings); **Mike Miller** (Memphis Grizzlies); **Adam Morrison** (Charlotte Bobcats); **Greg Oden** (Portland Trail Blazers); **Lamar Odom** (Los Angeles Lakers); Paul; **Paul Pierce** (Boston Celtics); Prince; Redd; **J.J. Redick** (Orlando Magic); **Luke Ridnour** (Seattle SuperSonics); **Amaré Stoudemire** (Phoenix Suns); Wade; and Williams.

Through international competitions in 2006 (FIBA World Championship) and 2007 (FIBA Americas Championship), and an exhibition tour by the Senior National Team in 2006, the USA Senior National Team has logged a combined overall record of 23-1.

Members of the Senior National Team program were together 42 days in 2006 (including the FIBA World Championship), and in 2007 the team was together for 24 days (including the 2007 FIBA Americas Championship).

In 2007, the USA Senior National Team rumbled over its opposition at the FIBA Americas Championship in Las Vegas, Nev., and finished 10-0 to win gold and capture one of the FIBA Americas zone's two qualifying berths for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

In winning its 10 games in just 12 days, the USA averaged 116.7 ppg., the most by a USA Senior National Team since the 1994 USA World Championship Team scored 120.1 ppg.; and the USA defeated its 10 opponents by an average of 39.5 ppg., the largest margin by a senior squad since the 1992 U.S. Olympic Team defeated its opponents by 43.8 ppg. The USA team led the FIBA Americas Championship team statistical rankings in 13 of 17 categories. An astounding 61.7 percent of the team's made field goals were assisted on.

Members of the gold medalist 2007 USA FIBA Americas Championship Team were: Anthony; Billups; Bryant; Chandler; Howard; James; Kidd; Mike Miller; Prince; Redd; Stoudemire; and Williams.

Statistically, there were plenty of impressive individual stat lines. Anthony led the team's potent scoring attack averaging 21.2 ppg., James posted 18.1 ppg., Bryant added 15.3 ppg., Redd averaged 14.4 ppg., while Stoudemire and Howard posted 11.1 ppg. and 10.0 ppg., respectively.

The 2006 FIBA World Championship, expanded to 24 teams, proved to be the most competitive and exciting ever. Spain emerged as the World Champion after defeating Argentina in the semifinals (75-74), then Greece (70-47) in the gold medal game. The U.S., after falling to Greece 101-95 in the other semifinal game, rebounded to claim the bronze medal by beating 2004 Olympic champ Argentina 96-81.

Finishing with an 8-1 overall record, as a team, the U.S. finished ranked among the top leading teams in almost every offensive statistical category at the 2006 World Championship. The USA finished ranked first in scoring offense (103.6), first in field goal percentage (.503), first in assists (18.78), first in free throws made (182), first in assist-turnover ratio (1.74), second in scoring margin (+20.4), third in rebounding margin (+5.6), fourth in offensive rebounding (13.11), fifth in 3-pointers made (82) and seventh in 3-point shooting (.369). On the defensive statistical side, the U.S. also ranked first in steals (10.78), second in turnover margin (+7.44) and second in blocked shots (4.89).

Anthony led the team in scoring averaging 19.9 ppg., while Wade added 19.3 ppg., and James contributed 13.9 ppg. Paul led the U.S. in assists handing out 4.9 apg., James and Howard paced the USA effort on the glass snatching 4.8 rpg. and 4.7 rpg., respectively.

Opening training in 2006 on July 19 in Las Vegas, a team of 14 finalists went 5-0 in its pre-World Championship tour.

Selected for the 2006 USA Basketball Men's World Championship Team were: Anthony; Battier; Bosh; Brand; Hinrich; Howard; James; Jamison; Johnson; Brad Miller; Paul; and Wade.

USA Basketball

Based in Colorado Springs, Colo., USA Basketball is a nonprofit organization and the national governing body for men's and women's basketball in the United States. As the recognized governing body for basketball in the United States by the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) and the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), USA Basketball is responsible for the selection, training and fielding of USA teams that compete in FIBA sponsored international basketball competitions, as well as for some national competitions. For more information about USA Basketball visit www.usabasketball.com.

2008 USA Men's Senior National Team Roster

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POS</u>	<u>HGT</u>	<u>WGT</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>CURRENT TEAM / COLLEGE or HIGH SCHOOL</u>
Carmelo Anthony	F	6-8	230	5/29/84	Denver Nuggets / Syracuse University
Carlos Boozer	F	6-9	258	11/20/81	Utah Jazz / Duke University
Chris Bosh	F	6-10	230	3/24/84	Toronto Raptors / Georgia Tech
Kobe Bryant	G	6-6	220	8/23/78	Los Angeles Lakers / Lower Merion H.S. (PA)
Dwight Howard	F/C	6-11	265	12/08/85	Orlando Magic / Southwest Atlanta Christian Acad. (GA)
LeBron James	F	6-8	240	12/30/84	Cleveland Cavaliers / St. Vincent-St. Mary H.S. (OH)
Jason Kidd	G	6-4	212	3/23/73	Dallas Mavericks / University of California
Chris Paul	G	6-0	170	5/06/85	New Orleans Hornets / Wake Forest University
Tayshaun Prince	F	6-9	205	2/28/80	Detroit Pistons / University of Kentucky
Michael Redd	G	6-6	215	8/24/79	Milwaukee Bucks / Ohio State University
Dwyane Wade	G	6-4	212	1/17/82	Miami Heat / Marquette University
Deron Williams	G	6-3	205	7/26/84	Utah Jazz / University of Illinois

Managing Director: Jerry Colangelo

Head Coach: Mike Krzyzewski, Duke University

Assistant Coach: Jim Boeheim, Syracuse University

Assistant Coach: Mike D'Antoni, New York Knicks

Assistant Coach: Nate McMillan, Portland Trail Blazers

Team Physician: Sheldon Burns, Minnesota Timberwolves

Athletic Trainer: Keith Jones, Houston Rockets

Athletic Trainer: Casey Smith, Dallas Mavericks

2008 USA Basketball Men's Senior National Team Schedule

June 28-29

July 28 (12-3 p.m.)	<u>Las Vegas Training/Exhibition / Las Vegas, Nevada</u> USA Team Training	Cox Pavilion, UNLV, Las Vegas, Nevada
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July 21-25

	<u>Las Vegas Training/Exhibition / Las Vegas, Nevada</u>	
July 21 (12-3 p.m.)	USA Team Training	Valley High School, Las Vegas, Nevada
July 22 (12-3 p.m.)	USA Team Training	Valley High School, Las Vegas, Nevada
July 23 (12-3 p.m.)	USA Team Training	Valley High School, Las Vegas, Nevada
July 24 (12-3 p.m.)	USA Team Training	Valley High School, Las Vegas, Nevada
July 25 (5 p.m.)	State Farm USA Basketball Challenge USA vs. Canada	Thomas & Mack Center, Las Vegas, Nevada

July 28-August 1

	<u>USA Basketball International Challenge / Macao, China</u>	
July 28, 29, 30	USA Team Training	Cotai Arena, Venetian, Macao, China
July 31 (8 p.m.)	USA vs. Turkey	Cotai Arena, Venetian, Macao, China
August 1 (8 p.m.)	USA vs. Lithuania	Cotai Arena, Venetian, Macao, China

August 2-6

	<u>USA Basketball International Challenge / Shanghai, China</u>	
August 2, 4	USA Team Training	Shanghai, China
August 3 (3 p.m.)	USA vs. Russia	Qizhong Arena, Shanghai, China
August 5 (8 p.m.)	USA vs. Australia	Qizhong Arena, Shanghai, China

August 8-24

	<u>Olympic Games / Beijing, China</u>	
August 7 (TBD)	Practice	Beijing Normal University
August 7 (4 p.m.)	Official Team Press Conference	Main Press Center
August 8 (TBD)	Practice	Beijing Normal University
August 8	Opening Ceremony	
August 9 (TBD)	Practice	Beijing Normal University

Olympics - Preliminary Round Play

August 10 (10:15 p.m.)	USA - China	Wukesong Indoor Stadium
August 12 (8:00 p.m.)	USA - Angola	Wukesong Indoor Stadium
August 14 (8:00 p.m.)	USA - *Qualifier C	Wukesong Indoor Stadium
August 16 (10:15 p.m.)	USA - Spain	Wukesong Indoor Stadium
August 18 (8:00 p.m.)	USA - *Qualifier B	Wukesong Indoor Stadium
August 20	Quarterfinals	Wukesong Indoor Stadium
August 22	Semifinals	Wukesong Indoor Stadium
August 24	Finals	Wukesong Indoor Stadium

NOTES:

All times listed are local times.

**Opponents to be determined through the 2008 FIBA World Olympic Qualifying Tournament that takes place July 14-20 in Athens, Greece.*