

EuroCup.

2026-27

The first ten games.

32 clubs. Four groups. A preseason field guide built around current rosters, practical questions and evidence you can revisit.

32

CLUB CARDS

4 × 8

GROUP FORMAT

10

GAMES TO MONITOR

RESEARCH FROZEN BEFORE ROUND 1

29 September 2026, 12:11 CEST (Europe/Warsaw, UTC+02:00)

Source hierarchy: competition and clubs first; domestic leagues, specialist reporting and regional sources for reconciliation. Projections are analytical judgements, not rankings or win probabilities.

Evidence first. A clear question for every club.

What this pack measures

A preseason assessment of the first 10 EuroCup regular-season games per club. The competition has 32 teams in four groups of eight; each team plays 14 group games, with four advancing from each group. The tenth game is a review checkpoint, not the end of qualification.

How to read the bands

Bands describe an analyst's qualitative assessment of plausible ambition from the current roster, coach, continuity and group context. They are not a ranking, a predicted table, club quotations, win probabilities or betting value. Several clubs in one group may reasonably aspire to a deep run.

Continuity and confirmed changes

High means an established creation/interior spine largely survives; medium means a meaningful core remains around changed roles; low means the main combinations or organisation need rebuilding. This is a qualitative scale, not a minutes-retained calculation. Key In/Out lists are selective. A new coach and a new player are separate changes.

Evidence and availability

The 28 September official Round 1 kit anchors the field, rosters and opening venues. Newer dated club announcements override lagging lists when appropriate. Club and domestic-league sources are preferred; specialist and regional reporting resolve gaps. Appearance proves participation on that date, not future availability. Missing medical news does not mean a healthy squad.

Limits you should keep visible

No EuroCup result is used in the aspiration bands. Domestic and preseason reports are used for participation and availability checks, not retrospective tier changes. Full independent box-score verification was not obtained for every club. Dated exit evidence remains incomplete for Riga, Šiauliai, Tofaş, PAOK and Balkan; blank exit lists do not imply zero turnover. The private audit records these limits.

Review after games 5 and 10

Log the active squad, principal initiator, closing five, opponent style and venue before comparing performance. Review the two signals on each card after five and ten games. Avoid treating a small shooting sample or a one-off absence as a lasting team characteristic.

Field corrections: Bosna replaces Monaco; Jerusalem opens in Belgrade; Riga-Tortona is on 30 Sep. Maxima Roma (Group B) and Roma Basketball (Group D) are different clubs.

Official competition format · 29 Jul 2026

Bosna replaces Monaco · 1 Sep 2026

Official Round 1 game kit · 28 Sep 2026



Hapoel Midtown Jerusalem

Title ambition

HEAD COACH Saša Obradović · New

CONTINUITY: LOW Harper and the Israeli spine remain, but the coach and most creation roles change.

ROUND 1 vs Rostock Seawolves · 29 Sep · 19:00 CEST · Belgrade · Hala Sportova Ranko Zeravica

KEY IN

- Lorenzo Brown - loan from Milan; 25 Sep
- Shake Milton - from Partizan; 30 Jul
- Kenneth Lofton Jr. - announced 26 Jul
- David Roddy - in the 8 Sep club box score

KEY OUT

- Justin Smith - to Budućnost; ABA 15 Sep
- Anthony Lamb - to Türk Telekom; summer transfer register

CORE RETAINED Jared Harper · Yovel Zoosman · Gaby Chachashvili

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Jerusalem can distribute creation across Brown, Milton and Jaleen Smith while Lofton offers a different passing and interior-scoring route. That variety matters with Harper's availability unresolved. Obradović must decide which combinations preserve spacing around Lofton and Miletic, and which can contain the ball defensively. Zoosman and Chachashvili provide familiar connections, but this is a new hierarchy rather than a continuation of last season's guard-led attack.

SEASON OUTLOOK

The roster supports title ambition, with unusually wide early uncertainty around health, integration and venue. Group A should test whether the depth produces coherent closing lineups.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Who becomes the first option in close games while Harper is unavailable?

AVAILABILITY Harper: thumb surgery reported 29 Aug; a 3-5 month absence was an estimate. No later clearance verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Round 1 is a nominal home game in Belgrade; reassess venue advantages game by game.
- Track Brown's integration and whether Milton and Lofton share the floor in closing stretches.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record the primary initiator and final five in each competitive fourth quarter.
- Compare turnovers and paint protection in Lofton-led units with the alternative centre combinations.

ROSTER NOTE Club roster pages can lag Brown. Opening home game is in Belgrade, not Jerusalem.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 4

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Obradović appointment](#) · 14 Jun 2026
3. [Club Winner Cup appearance report](#) · 8 Sep 2026
4. [Brown loan confirmed](#) · 25 Sep 2026
5. [Harper thumb surgery report](#) · 29 Aug 2026



Rostock Seawolves

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Przemysław Frasunkiewicz · Retained

CONTINUITY: MEDIUM A retained guard/centre spine supports several new scoring wings.

ROUND 1 at Hapoel Midtown Jerusalem · 29 Sep · 19:00 CEST · Belgrade · Hala Sportova Ranko Zeravica

KEY IN

- Zach Copeland - announced 25 Jun
- Johnathan Stove - announced 4 Jul
- Todd Withers - announced 24 Jul
- Artur Konontsuk - announced 18 Jun

KEY OUT

- Kassim Nicholson - to Šiauliai; 27 Sep
- Łukasz Kolenda - to Manresa; current destination roster

CORE RETAINED DeAndre Lansdowne · T.J. Crockett · Owen Klassen

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Rostock can build around Lansdowne's organisation and Crockett's scoring while Copeland and Stove add perimeter options. Klassen and Leuchten offer centre size, with Konontsuk and Withers changing the wing combinations. The useful question is whether the intended pressure creates transition chances without opening the defensive glass. Established domestic relationships should help, but European travel and unfamiliar opponent size will ask more of the second unit.

SEASON OUTLOOK

A qualification fight is the appropriate starting frame in a crowded Group A. The experienced spine creates a route to competitiveness, but the new wings must become dependable away from home.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Rostock sustain its guard pressure without conceding repeated second chances?

AVAILABILITY Copeland did not play in the 11 Sep cup report. No diagnosis or current restriction inferred.

CAPPER WATCH

- Separate Copeland's actual availability from the old cup DNP.
- Monitor which of Klassen, Leuchten and Hartwich closes against mobile frontcourts.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Log opponent offensive rebounds after possessions with perimeter traps or aggressive help.
- Compare bench turnovers and shot creation at home and away across the first ten games.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 4

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [League roster reconciliation](#) · 9 Sep 2026
3. [Club signing archive](#) · Jun-Jul 2026
4. [Official cup appearance report](#) · 11 Sep 2026
5. [Nicholson destination announcement](#) · 27 Sep 2026



Le Mans Sarthe Basket

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Guillaume Vizade · Retained

CONTINUITY: MEDIUM Vizade, Thomas, Yeguete and domestic contributors provide a base around a new lead guard.

ROUND 1 vs Aris Thessaloniki · 29 Sep · 20:00 CEST · Le Mans · Antares

KEY IN

- Jordan King - from Maroussi; 29 Jun
- Moses Wood - from ALBA; 20 Jul

KEY OUT

- Trevor Hudgins - to PAOK; current destination roster
- David DiLeo - to Bahçeşehir; current destination roster

CORE RETAINED TaShawn Thomas · Will Yeguete · Leopold Delaunay

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Le Mans has a recognisable interior foundation in Thomas and Yeguete, with Delaunay and the domestic rotation supporting Vizade's structure. King must replace a substantial part of the lead-guard responsibility, while Wood adds another spacing option. The prospective identity is balanced half-court basketball with several contributors rather than reliance on a single scorer. Its credibility depends on producing useful advantages before the final seconds of possessions.

SEASON OUTLOOK

The retained foundation should keep qualification in view. Against Group A's larger recruitment projects, guard execution and the ability to protect the ball are more persuasive tests than preseason scoring totals.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can King organise efficient late-clock possessions against aggressive ball pressure?

AVAILABILITY No dated current injury bulletin verified; roster membership is not clearance.

CAPPER WATCH

- Track King's ball-handling share and who initiates when he rests.
- Check whether Thomas and Yeguete together leave enough perimeter spacing.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Count possessions reaching the last five seconds without a paint touch.
- Record the turnover pattern of the backup-guard units against each opponent.

ROSTER NOTE MSB article indexed in search but direct access restricted. Kit corroborates the final names. Coach is Guillaume Vizade, not Elric Delord.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 8

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Wood and completed roster](#) · 20 Jul 2026
3. [King signing and Hudgins departure](#) · 29 Jun 2026
4. [Club/coach cross-check](#) · Current roster
5. [Hudgins destination roster](#) · Current roster



Aris Thessaloniki

Title ambition

HEAD COACH Vassilis Spanoulis · New

CONTINUITY: LOW Spanoulis takes over a heavily rebuilt rotation; a small Greek core remains.

ROUND 1 at Le Mans Sarthe Basket · 29 Sep · 20:00 CEST · Le Mans · Antares

KEY IN

- Neno Dimitrijević - listed at the 19 Aug camp
- Jeremiah Robinson-Earl - listed at the 19 Aug camp
- E.J. Liddell - confirmed in 13 Sep club interview
- Adam Mokoka - from Bourg; debut reported 20 Sep

KEY OUT

- Bryce Jones - to Tofaş; 12 Jun

CORE RETAINED Lefteris Bochoridis · Stelios Pouljanitis

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Aris can put several creators around a substantial frontcourt, with Dimitrijević supplying organisation and Liddell and Robinson-Earl offering different screening and finishing combinations. Spanoulis must turn the large collection of names into complementary roles. The appeal is lineup flexibility; the risk is stalled possessions when multiple handlers wait for their turn. Bochoridis provides continuity, but defensive communication and the choice of closing centre require fresh evidence.

SEASON OUTLOOK

The roster justifies title ambition, with a low-continuity adjustment discount. Group A gives Aris little room to treat the opening month as an extended training camp.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Does a stable closing five emerge by the second half of the opening ten games?

AVAILABILITY Mokoka appeared on 20 Sep, superseding earlier absence reports. Older Jović, Pouljanitis and Tanoulis updates require a matchday recheck.

CAPPER WATCH

- Use Mokoka's 20 Sep appearance to update older absence reports.
- Track how Spanoulis balances Dimitrijević, Toliopoulos and the other ball-handlers.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Compare the number of different closing lineups in games 1-5 and 6-10.
- Log defensive breakdowns when changing between larger and smaller frontcourts.

ROSTER NOTE Kostas and Thanasis Antetokounmpo both appear in the kit. Toliopoulos is not classified as a new signing here without a clean prior-season reconciliation.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 8

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Spanoulis presentation](#) · 15 Jun 2026
3. [First-team camp roster](#) · 19 Aug 2026
4. [Mokoka preseason return](#) · 20 Sep 2026
5. [Jones destination announcement](#) · 12 Jun 2026



Riga Zelli

Development / outsider

HEAD COACH Rokas Kondratavičius · New

CONTINUITY: LOW A new coach and imported guard/frontcourt roles surround a smaller Latvian core.

ROUND 1 vs Baglietto Derthona Tortona · 30 Sep · 18:00 CEST · Riga · Xiaomi Arena

KEY IN

- Ben Shungu - one-year signing reported in August
- Ivan Tkachenko - signed before 12 Sep appearance

KEY OUT

Dated exit evidence incomplete; no names asserted. This does not mean no departures.

CORE RETAINED Jānis Bērziņš · Rolands Šulcs

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Riga's new guard mix gives Kondratavičius several ways to begin possessions, with Shungu complementing Perkins and the larger wings. Wahl and Johnson offer interior targets, while Tkachenko adds another connector. The projected route is active ball movement and attacking before the defence is settled. The challenge is retaining that initiative when stronger opponents force longer possessions and repeatedly test the young supporting rotation at the defensive end.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Treat Riga as a development/outsider case in Group A, with room to exceed that label through coherent guard play. Early competitiveness should be judged through possession quality, not a single upset.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Riga create a second advantage after opponents stop the first guard action?

AVAILABILITY Skuja absence has been reported; no definitive current return date verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Recheck Skuja's status and the actual distribution of guard minutes.
- The Tortona opener is 30 Sep in the latest kit, not the older 29 Sep listing.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Track whether half-court possessions generate a second paint touch after the initial action is stopped.
- Record the turnover and foul burden of the young bench against the group's deeper teams.

ROSTER NOTE No departure is featured: dated exit confirmation and a complete prior-season comparison remain incomplete. RealGM coach entry was stale; current coach corroborated by agency and opponent club.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 13

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Coach agency profile](#) · Current profile
3. [Shungu signing](#) · Aug 2026
4. [Opponent official preseason box](#) · 12 Sep 2026
5. [Club president interview](#) · 21 Aug 2026

Baglietto Derthona Tortona

Deep-run ambition

HEAD COACH Mario Fioretti · Retained**CONTINUITY: MEDIUM** Four senior returnees retain some structure under Fioretti.**ROUND 1** at Riga Zelli · 30 Sep · 18:00 CEST · Riga · Xiaomi Arena**KEY IN**

- Amar Alibegović - announced 24 Sep
- Giordano Bortolani - named in club summer rebuild
- Karim Jallow - named in club summer rebuild

KEY OUT

- Tommaso Baldasso - to Virtus Bologna; 8 Sep presentation
- Artūrs Strautiņš - to Roma Basketball; current kit

CORE RETAINED Prentiss Hubb · Justin Gorham · Andrea Pecchia**BASKETBALL IDENTITY**

Tortona can retain the Hubb-led ball-screen framework while Gorham, Pecchia and Olejniczak preserve familiar connections. The additions offer Fioretti more perimeter size and different scoring routes, with late-arriving Alibegović widening the frontcourt choices. The important relationship is between those established actions and the new finishers. More options become useful only if the team maintains spacing and a clear defensive assignment structure when the bench enters.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Deep-run ambition is plausible, with Group A qualification the immediate test. Alibegović's arrival increases options but may delay a settled frontcourt hierarchy.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION**Can the new scorers contribute without disrupting Hubb's established creation role?****AVAILABILITY** No current comprehensive injury bulletin verified.**CAPPER WATCH**

- Track Alibegović's minutes and role as he integrates after 24 Sep.
- Watch how Fioretti replaces the previous Vital/Baldasso shot creation.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Compare assisted baskets and live-ball turnovers in the starting and reserve guard units.
- Record whether the same frontcourt pairing closes games by rounds 6-10.

ROSTER NOTE Alibegović is Amar; Mirza Alibegović belongs to Maxima Roma. Christian Vital is absent from the final kit; destination and dated exit announcement not established, so no definitive destination is printed.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 13

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Alibegović and summer rebuild](#) · 24 Sep 2026
3. [Four official renewals](#) · Summer 2026
4. [Roster changes cross-check](#) · Aug 2026
5. [Official preseason appearance report](#) · 5 Sep 2026



San Pablo Burgos

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Porfi Fisac · Retained

CONTINUITY: LOW Díez and Almazán remain, but the main creation and finishing roles change.

ROUND 1 vs Cedevita Olimpija Ljubljana · 30 Sep · 20:30 CEST · Burgos · Coliseum

KEY IN

- Retin Obasohan - from Manresa; 16 Jul
- Sekou Doumbouya - from Koshigaya; 3 Sep
- Balsa Koprivica - from Bahçeşehir; current kit
- DJ Steward - from Trento; current kit

KEY OUT

- Ethan Happ - to Tenerife; 11 Jul
- Gonzalo Corbalán - club departure 3 Jul

CORE RETAINED Dani Díez · Pablo Almazán

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Burgos has rebuilt its primary actions around Obasohan, Steward and Samar, with Koprivica providing a large interior target. Doumbouya adds a different forward option, while Díez and Almazán retain some club familiarity. Fisac's task is to connect the new guards with the centres without making the floor too narrow. Defensive rebounding and the quality of the first pass after a stop should determine whether this group can run selectively.

SEASON OUTLOOK

The roster offers a credible top-four fight, with upside if roles settle quickly. Group A's depth makes the low continuity and uncertain availability particularly relevant in the opening stretch.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can the guard-centre combinations generate clean finishes without excessive congestion?

AVAILABILITY Obasohan was absent from the 27 Sep report; the cause and Round 1 status are not established.

CAPPER WATCH

- Recheck Obasohan after the 27 Sep absence; no injury cause is assumed.
- Confirm Čančar's competition status before including him in any rotation projection.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Log turnovers on entry passes and rolls, separated by the initiating guard.
- Track defensive-rebound control when Koprivica rests or shares the floor with another big.

ROSTER NOTE Vlatko Čančar appears on a club listing but not in the competition kit; do not project his EuroCup minutes.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 16

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Doumbouya club announcement](#) · 3 Sep 2026
3. [Corbalán departure](#) · 3 Jul 2026
4. [Obasohan signing](#) · 16 Jul 2026
5. [Latest domestic appearances](#) · 27 Sep 2026



Cedevita Olimpija Ljubljana

Deep-run ambition

HEAD COACH Zvezdan Mitrović · Retained

CONTINUITY: MEDIUM Seven players return, including Blažič, Hurt and Škara; new guards carry much of the creation.

ROUND 1 at San Pablo Burgos · 30 Sep · 20:30 CEST · Burgos · Coliseum

KEY IN

- Anthony Cowan - from Mersin; 7 Jul
- Noah Kirkwood - from Śląsk; ABA 16 Sep
- Jayce Johnson - ABA 16 Sep
- Rihards Lomažs - from Neptūnas; 23 Sep

KEY OUT

- Ognjen Jaramaz - to Lietkabelis; 29 Jul
- Thomas Kennedy - to London; 16 Jun

CORE RETAINED Jaka Blažič · Matthew Hurt · David Škara

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Cedevita can combine Cowan's initiation with the retained Blažič, Hurt and Škara framework, while Kirkwood and Johnson add different wing and centre options. Lomažs gives the backcourt another scoring route at a late stage. The expected structure remains recognisable under Mitrović, but availability may dictate combinations before preference does. The first useful evidence will be whether the available wings can maintain spacing and defensive coverage together.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Deep-run ambition fits the blend of returning structure and new talent. The early version may be materially thinner than the nominal roster, so judge the group campaign alongside the active list.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can the available perimeter group sustain creation while injured players work back?

AVAILABILITY 24 Sep reporting identifies absences involving Gainey, Murray, Hurt, Škara and Osifo. Recheck the actual active list; no return timetable established.

CAPPER WATCH

- Recheck the 24 Sep injury cluster before every game; do not infer returns from roster listings.
- Separate Lomažs' immediate role from his eventual role in a healthier squad.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record active wings, minutes and the closing five for every game before comparing performance.
- Track whether Cowan's rest minutes still produce paint touches and low-turnover possessions.

ROSTER NOTE Murray was in club summer plans but is absent from the Round 1 kit; do not treat the kit as a medical report.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 16

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Cowan club announcement](#) · 7 Jul 2026
3. [Official league roster reconciliation](#) · 16 Sep 2026
4. [Lomažs signing confirmation](#) · 23 Sep 2026
5. [Injury-related reinforcement report](#) · 24 Sep 2026



Umana Reyer Venice

Deep-run ambition

HEAD COACH Neven Spahija · Retained

CONTINUITY: MEDIUM Spahija keeps a familiar frontcourt but must reset the guard order.

ROUND 1 vs Skyliners Frankfurt · 29 Sep · 20:30 CEST · Venice · Taliercio

KEY IN

- Glynn Watson Jr. - from ASVEL; 2 Jul
- Sir' Jabari Rice - from Andorra; 11 Sep roundup
- Louis Olinde - from Manresa; 11 Sep roundup
- Erick Green - signed after Rice injury; 11 Sep

KEY OUT

- R.J. Cole - to Milan; 11 Sep roundup
- Carl Wheatle - to Maxima Roma; final 23 Sep roster

CORE RETAINED Kyle Wiltjer · Jordan Parks · Amedeo Tessitori

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Venice can use Watson to connect with a familiar frontcourt, particularly Wiltjer's spacing and the different finishing options of Parks and Tessitori. Green adds another creator after Rice's injury, so the guard hierarchy may evolve as availability changes. Spahija has enough established pieces to preserve structure. The central test is whether the new handlers consistently exploit those relationships without leaving the defence exposed after live-ball turnovers.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Deep-run ambition is reasonable, although Group B has several teams with similar aims. Guard health and the integration of Green are the most immediate sources of uncertainty.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Does Venice maintain organised creation across Watson's rest minutes?

AVAILABILITY Rice ankle sprain reported 5 Sep; club cited it when signing Green on 11 Sep. Neither is in the 20 Sep official box. Recheck both for Round 1.

CAPPER WATCH

- Recheck Rice and Green; both were absent from the 20 Sep official box.
- Monitor the trade-off between Wiltjer-led spacing and defensive mobility at centre.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Compare turnover types and paint entries with Watson on and off the floor.
- Log which frontcourt combination is trusted against spread pick-and-roll opponents.

ROSTER NOTE Some roundups sent Wheatle to the wrong Rome club; current kit places him at Maxima.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 20

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official club roster](#) · Current roster
3. [Watson official signing](#) · 2 Jul 2026
4. [Green signing and Rice injury context](#) · 11 Sep 2026
5. [Official domestic appearances](#) · 20 Sep 2026



Skyliners Frankfurt

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Klaus Perwas · Retained

CONTINUITY: MEDIUM Three perimeter returnees and Perwas give the new veteran additions a base.

ROUND 1 at Umana Reyer Venice · 29 Sep · 20:30 CEST · Venice · Taliercio

KEY IN

- Ryan Arcidiacono - announced 18 Aug
- Thomas Klepeisz - from Ulm; 5 Aug
- Race Thompson - summer acquisition

KEY OUT

- Ryan Hawkins - to Bosna; ABA 14 Sep

CORE RETAINED Isaiah Swope · Nahiem Alleyne · Will Christmas

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Frankfurt retains Swope, Alleyne and Christmas while adding Arcidiacono and Klepeisz to the guard mix. That creates several ways to organise possessions, but also a real allocation problem: someone must supply pressure at the rim while others work away from the ball. Thompson offers a frontcourt target. Perwas' main balancing act is finding enough rebounding and defensive size behind the smaller perimeter combinations he can now deploy.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Frankfurt enters a qualification fight in a demanding Group B. Guard continuity helps, but it must translate into reliable frontcourt support and possessions that survive opponent pressure.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Which guard combinations preserve both rim pressure and defensive rebounding?

AVAILABILITY Knauf muscular issue was reported before the 13 Sep cup game; no later clearance verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Track Arcidiacono's initiating role versus Swope's scoring role.
- Recheck the centre rotation and Knauf's status after the older muscular issue.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record second-chance concessions when the smaller guard lineups play together.
- Compare shot quality in possessions initiated by Arcidiacono and by Swope.

ROSTER NOTE Swope and Alleyne are retained, not new. Marcus Garrett in an earlier roundup is absent from the final kit.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 20

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Arcidiacono club announcement](#) · 18 Aug 2026
3. [Guard renewals cross-check](#) · Aug 2026
4. [Opponent official domestic box](#) · 26 Sep 2026
5. [Official roster and coach](#) · Current roster



GROUP B / SIA

Šiauliai Basketball

Development / outsider

HEAD COACH Darius Songaila · Retained

CONTINUITY: MEDIUM McKnight and Henderson carry over; the added veteran guards and wings change the support structure.

ROUND 1 vs London Lions · 30 Sep · 17:30 CEST · Šiauliai Arena

KEY IN

- Mike Caffey - from Voluntari; 27 Aug
- Kassim Nicholson - from Rostock; 27 Sep
- Karolis Lukošius - from London; departure 6 Aug

KEY OUT

Dated exit evidence incomplete; no names asserted. This does not mean no departures.

CORE RETAINED Dayvion McKnight · Cedric Henderson · Dovydas Romančenko

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Šiauliai can keep McKnight and Henderson as reference points while Caffey adds another organiser and Lukošius supplies an off-ball shooting threat. Nicholson arrives close to the opener, increasing the number of wing combinations Songaila can explore. The route to competitiveness is shared creation that reaches the paint before the defence is comfortable. Rebounding coverage and the ability to defend a second action will matter against Group B's larger squads.

SEASON OUTLOOK

An outsider starting band reflects the group's depth, not an absence of credible players. The retained creators give Šiauliai a useful base from which to test the higher level.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Caffey and McKnight share responsibility without reducing Henderson's useful touches?

AVAILABILITY No current dated medical restriction verified; Nicholson has had little integration time.

CAPPER WATCH

- Nicholson signed on 27 Sep; distinguish immediate minutes from a settled role.
- Monitor which perimeter combinations keep enough size on the defensive glass.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record the initiating guard and Henderson's paint or catch-and-shoot opportunities each game.
- Compare opponent second chances with the smaller guard units and the larger wing units.

ROSTER NOTE No named departure is featured: older databases mix seasons and dated exit confirmation remains incomplete. McKnight is retained.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 24

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official current roster](#) · Current roster
3. [Caffey announcement](#) · 27 Aug 2026
4. [Nicholson announcement](#) · 27 Sep 2026
5. [Official preseason box](#) · 4 Sep 2026



GROUP B / LDN

London Lions

Deep-run ambition

HEAD COACH Tautvydas Sabonis · Retained

CONTINUITY: MEDIUM Sabonis and the Scott/Phillip/Deane Williams spine remain around a new creation hierarchy.

ROUND 1 at Šiauliai Basketball · 30 Sep · 17:30 CEST · Šiauliai Arena

KEY IN

- Devante Jones - from Trento; 22 Jun
- Keenan Evans - Žalgiris loan; 7 Aug
- Maxwell Lewis - loan announced 17 Jun
- Thomas Kennedy - from Cedevisa; 16 Jun

KEY OUT

- Kameron McGusty - departure 13 Jul
- Karolis Lukošius - departure 6 Aug; now Šiauliai

CORE RETAINED Joel Scott · Tarik Phillip · Deane Williams

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

London can pair Jones' handling with Evans' scoring and use Lewis on the wing, while Scott and Kennedy provide different interior targets. The retained Phillip and Deane Williams connections should help Sabonis establish defensive responsibilities. The appeal is multiple creators who can attack a shifting defence. The risk is a pecking order that looks clear in domestic games but becomes less comfortable against sustained European pressure and size.

SEASON OUTLOOK

The recruitment supports deep-run ambition, with a demanding Group B providing the immediate calibration. Domestic dominance would not by itself validate the European outlook.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Do Jones and Evans create complementary advantages rather than alternate isolated possessions?

AVAILABILITY Evans played against Paris on 11 Sep; do not carry a historical injury label into a current absence claim.

CAPPER WATCH

- Evans appeared on 11 Sep; verify current status without assuming a historical injury persists.
- Track the centre choice and Scott's role alongside Kennedy.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Log possessions in which both Jones and Evans influence the same scoring action.
- Compare defensive rebounding and foul exposure against the group's bigger frontcourts.

ROSTER NOTE Loan status does not establish a minutes limit. Official news archive records the featured departures.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 24

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official roster](#) · Current roster
3. [Jones signing](#) · 22 Jun 2026
4. [Evans loan](#) · 7 Aug 2026
5. [Evans preseason appearance](#) · 12 Sep 2026



La Laguna Tenerife

La Laguna Tenerife

Title ambition

HEAD COACH Jaka Lakovič · New

CONTINUITY: HIGH The Huertas/Shermadini/Fitipaldo spine survives a coaching transition.

ROUND 1 vs Türk Telekom Ankara · 30 Sep · 21:00 CEST · Tenerife · Santiago Martín

KEY IN

- Ethan Happ - from Burgos; 11 Jul
- Vince Hunter - from Lokomotiv; 21 Aug

KEY OUT

- Patty Mills - contract ended; 26 Jun
- Thomas Scrubb - departure 26 Jun

CORE RETAINED Marcelinho Huertas · Giorgi Shermadini · Bruno Fitipaldo

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Tenerife retains the Huertas-Shermadini connection and Fitipaldo's organisation, giving Lakovič a platform that already knows how to create through screening and timing. Happ and Hunter broaden the interior options, with Kyle Guy offering another perimeter scoring route. The task is to add those choices without diluting the familiar passing relationships. Defensive coverage when the veteran centres are pulled away from the basket remains a natural pressure point.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Title ambition is justified by the experienced core and added options. A new coach and a different European competition still make the first ten games a genuine adjustment period.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Lakovič add new frontcourt combinations while retaining the core's offensive timing?

AVAILABILITY No comprehensive current availability bulletin verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Track Huertas and Shermadini workload across domestic and European weeks.
- Note whether Happ or Hunter changes the closing defensive scheme.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record the closing centre against mobile opponents and the shots conceded from ball screens.
- Compare creation quality in Huertas-led units and the alternative guard-centre combinations.

ROSTER NOTE Kyle Guy is on the current roster but his arrival/retention category is not asserted here. Bamba Cisse spelling in the kit needs reconciliation; omitted from analysis.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 27

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Lakovič presentation](#) · 24 Jun 2026
3. [Happ signing](#) · 11 Jul 2026
4. [Hunter club announcement index](#) · 21 Aug 2026
5. [Mills departure](#) · 26 Jun 2026



Türk Telekom Ankara

Deep-run ambition

HEAD COACH Erdem Can · Retained

CONTINUITY: LOW Can remains, but the previous lead guard and centre have moved on.

ROUND 1 at La Laguna Tenerife · 30 Sep · 21:00 CEST · Tenerife · Santiago Martín

KEY IN

- Jerrick Harding - from Rytas; 7 Jul
- Shaquille McKissic - current roster; 13 Sep appearance
- Anthony Lamb - from Jerusalem; summer transfer register
- Ismael Bako - from Zenit; summer transfer register

KEY OUT

- Jaleen Smith - to Jerusalem; 8 Sep club appearance
- Kyle Alexander - to PAOK; current club roster

CORE RETAINED Doğuş Özdemiroğlu · Kris Bankston

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Harding gives Türk Telekom a new scoring focal point, with Özdemiroğlu able to contribute organisation and McKissic offering a different way to attack the perimeter. Lamb and Bako broaden Can's frontcourt choices after major departures. The prospective identity depends on linking those contrasting skills rather than asking every possession to begin with a difficult individual shot. Bankston and the retained domestic pieces provide some continuity underneath that change.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Deep-run ambition is credible, but the departure of established creators and finishers widens the adjustment range. Group B should reveal how quickly Harding's scoring translates into a complete team attack.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can the new creators consistently generate advantages for the interior players?

AVAILABILITY No current specific restriction verified; confirm the active big-man rotation.

CAPPER WATCH

- Use the current kit and dated reports; the club's older web roster lags key departures.
- Monitor Harding's shot burden and who organises the non-Harding minutes.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Track assisted interior finishes versus self-created perimeter shots.
- Record whether the same guard-centre pairings remain effective against switches and drop coverage.

ROSTER NOTE Türk Telekom website roster is stale. Jaleen Smith was an actual 2025-26 player, not merely a reversed summer plan.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 27

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Harding signing](#) · 7 Jul 2026
3. [Preseason rotation evidence](#) · 13 Sep 2026
4. [Domestic rotation evidence](#) · 26 Sep 2026
5. [Summer transfer reconciliation](#) · Aug 2026; checked 29 Sep



Maxima Roma

Deep-run ambition

HEAD COACH Matteo Cotelli · New club

CONTINUITY: LOW A new Rome project has no comparable prior-season club core.

ROUND 1 vs U-BT Cluj-Napoca · 30 Sep · 21:00 CEST · Rome · Palazzetto dello Sport

KEY IN

- Miro Bilan - from Brescia; 4 Aug report
- Aaron Holiday - final roster 23 Sep
- John Brown III - final roster 23 Sep
- Hunter Tyson - late final-roster addition

KEY OUT

New club project: no comparable 2025-26 club departures.

CORE RETAINED New club: no comparable core.

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Maxima can organise around Bilan's screening and interior decisions while Holiday and Moon share the responsibility of getting the ball to useful places. Brown offers a contrasting defensive frontcourt profile, and Ryan and Tyson add wing size and shooting options. Cotelli brings some familiar relationships from Brescia, but the new club still needs a coherent rotation. The absent Carey plan makes the practical centre workload especially important.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Deep-run ambition fits the investment and individual quality, with substantial uncertainty around a new organisation. Group B rewards teams that establish dependable road execution quickly.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Holiday and Moon establish a clear partnership with Bilan without overloading his minutes?

AVAILABILITY New-club depth is listed, but a full current medical bulletin is not verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Carey is a reversed summer plan; the current kit includes Tyson instead.
- Confirm each venue: the Round 1 kit specifies Palazzetto dello Sport.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record Bilan's minutes, foul exposure and how the offence functions while he rests.
- Track whether Holiday/Moon closing possessions reach the paint before becoming difficult jump shots.

ROSTER NOTE Do not transfer all Brescia players into a retained core. September secondary roster has corrupted first names; kit controls Aaron Holiday and Mirza Alibegović. Vernon Carey was a planned addition absent from the final roster, not a 2025-26 Maxima departure.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 31

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Final Maxima roster](#) · 23 Sep 2026
3. [Summer roster cross-check](#) · 23 Aug 2026
4. [Cotelli and Bilan project context](#) · 4 Aug 2026



U-BT Cluj-Napoca

Deep-run ambition

HEAD COACH Mihai Silvășan · Retained

CONTINUITY: LOW Silvășan and Richard provide continuity through an extensive senior rebuild.

ROUND 1 at Maxima Roma · 30 Sep · 21:00 CEST · Rome · Palazzetto dello Sport

KEY IN

- Otis Livingston II - from Girona; 14 Jun
- Kristian Kullamäe - from Lietkabelis; 27 Jul
- Javonte Smart - ABA 16 Sep
- Uroš Plavšić - ABA 16 Sep

KEY OUT

- Iverson Molinar - to Budućnost; ABA 15 Sep
- Dušan Miletic - to Jerusalem; announced 4 Aug

CORE RETAINED Patrick Richard

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Cluj's attack must be rebuilt around Livingston, Smart and Kullamäe rather than the departed Molinar and Miletic. Richard provides an established point of reference, while the new interior options give Silvășan several screening and finishing combinations to test. The likely emphasis is guard-driven advantage creation with wings filling around it. That only works if the team protects the ball and establishes defensive rebounding responsibilities across the new rotation.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Deep-run ambition remains plausible, but the low player continuity makes the opening stretch less predictable. In Group B, functional combinations matter more than familiarity with the club's previous attack.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Which new guard-centre partnership becomes reliable under road-game pressure?

AVAILABILITY No comprehensive current medical bulletin verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Track the initiating roles of Livingston, Smart and Kullamäe.
- Watch whether the new interior group can finish defensive possessions without Richard doing extra rebounding work.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record pick-and-roll turnovers and clean interior finishes by guard-centre pairing.
- Compare the rotation used in the first five games with the closing group by game ten.

ROSTER NOTE Miletic belongs to Jerusalem; Molinar belongs to Budućnost. Prior scoring roles cannot be projected onto the current rotation.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 31

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Livingston official signing](#) · 14 Jun 2026
3. [League roster reconciliation](#) · 16 Sep 2026
4. [Kullamäe departure/destination](#) · 27 Jul 2026
5. [Official opponent preseason report](#) · 9 Sep 2026



Neptūnas Klaipėda

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Gediminas Petrauskas · Retained

CONTINUITY: LOW A new lead guard and centre reset the main combinations around a smaller local spine.

ROUND 1 vs Dolomiti Energia Trento · 29 Sep · 18:00 CEST · Klaipėda · Švyturio Arena

KEY IN

- Elvar Fridriksson - announced 6 Jul
- Martynas Echodas - from Vilnius; 21 Jul

KEY OUT

- Rihards Lomažs - to Cedevita; 23 Sep

CORE RETAINED Donatas Tarolis · Mindaugas Girdžiūnas

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Neptūnas has a new organising centre of gravity with Fridriksson handling and Echodas providing an interior target. Franke and the wings give Petrauskas alternatives around those actions, while Tarolis and Girdžiūnas offer local continuity. Lomažs' late move removes a scoring option that older previews may still include. The first task is to replace that responsibility through coordinated movement rather than asking the new guard to solve every late-clock possession.

SEASON OUTLOOK

A top-four fight is a fair starting frame in an open-looking Group C. The new lead-guard/centre connection must mature quickly enough to cover the late perimeter change.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Fridriksson create enough useful wing opportunities after Lomažs' departure?

AVAILABILITY No current medical clearance list verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Exclude Lomažs from the current rotation; he is now with Cedevita.
- Track Echodas' foul burden and the defensive coverage used when he rests.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record paint touches that lead to open wing attempts rather than forced late-clock shots.
- Compare defensive rebounds and rim concessions across the main centre combinations.

ROSTER NOTE Official club pages were intermittently unavailable; indexed announcements and kit cross-check used. Velička departure destination not asserted.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 36

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Fridriksson club announcement](#) · 6 Jul 2026
3. [Echodas club announcement](#) · 21 Jul 2026
4. [Lomažs destination confirmation](#) · 23 Sep 2026
5. [Coach and roster context](#) · 9 Jul 2026



Dolomiti Energia Trento

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Alessandro Rossi · New

CONTINUITY: LOW Rossi replaces Cancellieri and four new Americans reshape the backcourt and wings.

ROUND 1 at Neptūnas Klaipėda · 29 Sep · 18:00 CEST · Klaipėda · Švyturio Arena

KEY IN

- Darius Brown II - club roster review 3 Aug
- Charles Brown Jr. - club roster review 3 Aug
- Quincy Olivari - announced 18 Jul
- Isaiah Bigelow - club roster review 3 Aug

KEY OUT

- Devante Jones - to London; 22 Jun
- Andrej Jakimovski - to Napoli; current roster
- DJ Steward - to Burgos; 27 Sep appearance

CORE RETAINED Toto Forray · Jordan Bayehe

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Trento starts a new coaching phase with Rossi and a newly assembled American perimeter group. Darius Brown can initiate, Olivari and Charles Brown add scoring options, and Bigelow supplies another wing combination around Bayehe and the interior rotation. Forray offers continuity and a reference for tempo. The central uncertainty is decision-making under pressure: the new players must learn which advantages to pursue and when to move the ball on.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Qualification is a realistic ambition, with a wide development range during the first ten games. Group C provides a useful test of whether the rebuild has defensive substance as well as scoring options.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can the new perimeter group organise possessions without leaning excessively on Forray?

AVAILABILITY No current comprehensive medical bulletin verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Track the ball-handling order and the size of Rossi's trusted rotation.
- Distinguish the new Browns: Darius is the guard; Charles/Charlie is the wing.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Compare live-ball turnovers and early-clock shot selection between games 1-5 and 6-10.
- Record which perimeter pairings remain on court during defensive closing possessions.

ROSTER NOTE Selom Mawugbe is current, but not classified as retained without a clean prior-season check.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 36

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official roster review](#) · 3 Aug 2026
3. [Olivari signing](#) · 18 Jul 2026
4. [New coach official profile](#) · Summer 2026
5. [Jones destination signing](#) · 22 Jun 2026



Tofaş Bursa

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Massimo Cancellieri · New

CONTINUITY: LOW The local forwards remain, while Cancellieri and the main imported rotation are new.

ROUND 1 vs Niners Chemnitz · 29 Sep · 19:00 CEST · Bursa · Tofaş Spor Salonu

KEY IN

- Bryce Jones - from Aris; 12 Jun
- Gabe Brown - from Strasbourg; 14 Jun
- Terrell Carter II - announced 22 Jun
- Zach Nutall - announced 25 Jun

KEY OUT

Dated exit evidence incomplete; no names asserted. This does not mean no departures.

CORE RETAINED Yiğitcan Saybir · Sadık Emir Kabaca

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Tofaş can pair Jones' creation with Brown's perimeter threat and use Carter or McNeace as interior targets. Saybir and Kabaca preserve local connections, while Nutall and Reynolds provide alternative guard combinations. Cancellieri inherits enough contrasting pieces to vary the attack, but the rebuilt rotation still needs a common defensive language. The key is generating useful early advantages without letting missed shots and risky passes expose an unsettled transition defence.

SEASON OUTLOOK

A qualification fight is the initial frame, with upside if the new imports quickly connect. Group C should expose whether the depth translates into reliable defence away from home.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Tofaş retain offensive variety while reducing defensive breakdowns between rotations?

AVAILABILITY Thurman missed the 12 Sep friendly through injury; no later clearance established. Apaydın subsequently appeared on 18 Sep.

CAPPER WATCH

- Recheck Thurman's status; the 12 Sep injury report is not current clearance.
- Track whether Jones or Reynolds runs the second-unit possessions.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Log transition chances conceded after live-ball turnovers, separated by guard unit.
- Compare defensive rebounding and foul rates in Carter and McNeace minutes.

ROSTER NOTE No named player departure is featured: current absence alone was not accepted as a confirmed exit. Carter is new, not retained.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 40

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Jones official signing](#) · 12 Jun 2026
3. [New coach and camp roster](#) · 13 Aug 2026
4. [New signings cross-check](#) · 12 Aug 2026
5. [Official domestic appearance report](#) · 25 Sep 2026



Niners Chemnitz

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Rodrigo Pastore · Retained

CONTINUITY: LOW Pastore remains, but the club announced twelve newcomers; no senior retained anchor is assumed.

ROUND 1 at Tofaş Bursa · 29 Sep · 19:00 CEST · Bursa · Tofaş Spor Salonu

KEY IN

- Cobe Williams - announced 1 Jul
- Urald King - from Trier; 3 Jul
- Elias Rödl - announced 15 Jul

KEY OUT

- Kevin Yebo - to Erokspor; 9 Jul
- Aher Uguak - departure 14 Jul
- Nike Sibande - departure 13 Jul
- John Newman III - departure 13 Jul

CORE RETAINED No senior retained anchor asserted.

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Chemnitz retains Pastore's organisational framework while almost entirely replacing the senior playing group. Williams and the other guards must create a workable hierarchy, with King and Atkins offering different interior solutions. The roster can be assessed through how quickly it learns to help, recover and finish defensive possessions together. Familiar club habits cannot be assumed to transfer automatically when so many players are encountering those responsibilities for the first time.

SEASON OUTLOOK

The target is a top-four fight, with unusually high integration uncertainty. Group C competitiveness should be assessed through improving coordination rather than reputation inherited from the previous roster.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Does the new rotation develop a consistent defensive response to the second action?

AVAILABILITY No current comprehensive injury bulletin verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Do not carry Yebo, Uguak, Sibande or Newman into current lineup assumptions.
- Monitor whether Williams becomes the clear late-game organiser.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Count repeat defensive errors after an opponent changes sides or rescreens.
- Compare the stability of the main eight-player rotation in games 1-5 and 6-10.

ROSTER NOTE Do not describe the previous Yebo/Uguak core as retained. Young domestic names in the kit are not evidence of senior continuity.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 40

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Cobe Williams signing](#) · 1 Jul 2026
3. [King signing](#) · 3 Jul 2026
4. [Sibande/Newman departures](#) · 13 Jul 2026
5. [Dated club signing/departure archive](#) · Jul 2026



Śląsk Wrocław

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Danny Franco · New

CONTINUITY: LOW New coach Franco and a new imported spine leave Nizioł and domestic depth as the bridge.

ROUND 1 vs Budućnost VOLI Podgorica · 30 Sep · 19:00 CEST · Wrocław · Hala Orbita

KEY IN

- Anthony Hickey - announced 20 Aug
- Paul Scruggs - announced 27 Sep
- John Egbunu - summer roster review
- Devin Robinson - summer roster review

KEY OUT

- Noah Kirkwood - to Cedevita; ABA 16 Sep
- Stefan Đorđević - to Budućnost; ABA 15 Sep

CORE RETAINED Jakub Nizioł

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Śląsk has changed both its coach and imported spine, with Hickey supplying an experienced handling option and Egbunu offering a substantial interior target. Robinson gives the forwards another route to attack, while Nizioł preserves an established domestic reference. Scruggs arrives immediately before the opener, so the intended guard mix may not be the opening guard mix. Franco must establish a hierarchy that generates paint pressure without sacrificing floor balance.

SEASON OUTLOOK

The aspiration is a top-four fight, with a broad early adjustment range. The late guard addition makes actual integration evidence more useful than a nominal depth chart.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

How quickly can Scruggs join a coherent guard hierarchy alongside Hickey?

AVAILABILITY Scruggs signing does not establish Round 1 registration or readiness; verify the matchday squad.

CAPPER WATCH

- Confirm Scruggs' registration and active status after the 27 Sep signing.
- Track Egbunu's foul exposure and the smaller lineups Franco uses when he rests.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record Hickey/Scruggs overlap minutes and whether those possessions produce paint touches.
- Compare turnovers and defensive rebounds before and after the rotation stabilises.

ROSTER NOTE Scruggs is absent from the kit but confirmed by the newer club announcement. Matt Rogers summer listing is not carried into the active roster.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 44

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Franco appointment](#) · 19 Jun 2026
3. [Hickey announcement](#) · 20 Aug 2026
4. [Scruggs late announcement](#) · 27 Sep 2026
5. [City roster review](#) · 2 Sep; updated 29 Sep 2026



Budućnost VOLI Podgorica

Title ambition

HEAD COACH Andrej Žakelj · Retained

CONTINUITY: HIGH Žakelj retains the guard/centre spine and several established shooting options.

ROUND 1 at Śląsk Wrocław · 30 Sep · 19:00 CEST · Wrocław · Hala Orbita

KEY IN

- Iverson Molinar - from Cluj; ABA 15 Sep
- Justin Smith - from Jerusalem; ABA 15 Sep
- Marial Shayok - from Chiba; ABA 15 Sep
- Stefan Đorđević - from Śląsk; ABA 15 Sep

KEY OUT

- Nikola Tanasković - to Partizan; ABA transfer register
- Zoran Nikolić - to Slovan; ABA transfer register

CORE RETAINED Yogi Ferrell · Jerry Boutsiele · Juwan Morgan

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Budućnost can retain Ferrell's organisation, Morgan's versatility and Boutsiele's interior presence while introducing Molinar as another attacking guard. Shayok and Smith add different wing and forward options around a group that already includes established shooters. Žakelj therefore has less basic reconstruction to do than many rivals. The challenge is deciding which additions improve the core's combinations without creating redundant touches or weakening its defensive rebounding responsibilities.

SEASON OUTLOOK

The balance of continuity and reinforcement supports title ambition. Group C still requires disciplined qualification work, particularly when the new guard combinations face pressure away from home.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Does Molinar expand the attack without reducing the effectiveness of the retained creators?

AVAILABILITY No current comprehensive injury bulletin verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Boutsiele is retained; assess his existing relationship with Ferrell rather than treating it as a new pairing.
- Track which wings close alongside the main guard and centre.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Compare assisted interior finishes and turnovers when Ferrell and Molinar share the floor.
- Record whether new closing combinations protect the defensive glass as reliably as the established core.

ROSTER NOTE Boutsiele is a renewal, not an arrival. The retained-core band does not mean identical roles.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 44

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official league team introduction](#) · 15 Sep 2026
3. [Boutsiele extension](#) · 7 Jun 2026
4. [Reverse transfer register](#) · 12 Sep 2026



Napoli Basketball

Deep-run ambition

HEAD COACH Jasmin Repeša · Retained

CONTINUITY: LOW Repeša and domestic pieces remain, but the main perimeter roles are rebuilt.

ROUND 1 vs Cosea JL Bourg-en-Bresse · 30 Sep · 20:00 CEST · Naples · Alcott Arena

KEY IN

- Jeff Dowtin - from Maccabi; summer roster review
- Marco Spissu - from Zaragoza; summer roster review
- Markel Brown - from Trieste; summer roster review
- Andrej Jakimovski - from Trento; September presentation

KEY OUT

- Naz Mitrou-Long - to PAOK; current club roster
- Milton Doyle - listed among summer departures; 23 Sep roster review

CORE RETAINED Leonardo Faggian · Leonardo Totè · Guglielmo Caruso

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Napoli can spread creation across Dowtin, Spissu, Brown and Ramsey, with Seljaas and the forwards providing finishing and spacing options. Repeša has retained domestic pieces but must construct a new perimeter order. The main tactical opportunity is to attack the second defensive rotation with another capable handler. The main risk is possession-by-possession improvisation that leaves too many players watching and the defence poorly balanced when the shot goes up.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Deep-run ambition is plausible from the recruitment, but qualification in Group C is the first proof point. The opening ten games should clarify whether the guard depth produces complementary roles.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Which perimeter combinations create shared advantages rather than alternating individual attacks?

AVAILABILITY No current comprehensive injury bulletin verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Markel Brown is new from Trieste; his role must be established with the other guards.
- Monitor the interior pairing used behind the different guard groups.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record how often a second handler attacks an advantage created by the first.
- Compare transition defence and defensive rebounding across the main closing lineups.

ROSTER NOTE Markel Brown is an arrival from Trieste, not retained. Jahmi'us Ramsey and Zach Seljaas also appear in the final roster.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 49

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official current roster](#) · Current roster
3. [Dated roster reconciliation](#) · 5 Aug 2026
4. [Dowtin/Jakimovski/Ramsey presentation](#) · Sep 2026
5. [Dated arrivals and departures](#) · 23 Sep 2026



Cosea JL Bourg-en-Bresse

Deep-run ambition

HEAD COACH Freddy Fauthoux · Retained

CONTINUITY: LOW Fauthoux keeps a few domestic/rotation pieces after a major exit wave.

ROUND 1 at Napoli Basketball · 30 Sep · 20:00 CEST · Naples · Alcott Arena

KEY IN

- Tyson Walker - announced 30 May
- Tyrese Samuel - announced 5 Jun
- Keith Jordan - announced 9 Jun
- Kadin Shedrick - announced 22 Jun

KEY OUT

- Adam Mokoka - to Aris; 20 Sep club appearance
- William McDowell-White - departure 7 Jun
- Kevin Kokila - departure confirmed 7 Jun roundup

CORE RETAINED Assemian Moulare · Antony Labanca · Adrian Nelson

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Bourg must replace substantial perimeter and interior responsibility while preserving Fauthoux's structure. Walker and Moulare can organise around Samuel and Shedrick, with Jordan and the wings connecting the actions. The retained Labanca and Nelson links should help, but Robineau's injury narrows the available backcourt combinations. The best early sign would be an attack that reaches the second side with purpose rather than relying on difficult shots from the new guards.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Deep-run ambition is a reasonable aspiration, with a significant player-turnover caveat. Group C will test whether the system can absorb that change while the guard rotation is short.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Walker and Moulare sustain the creation load during Robineau's absence?

AVAILABILITY Robineau: foot muscle injury, 5-6 weeks estimated on 17 Sep. Recheck the club; no guaranteed return date.

CAPPER WATCH

- Robineau's 17 Sep estimate was 5-6 weeks; require a new club update before projecting a return.
- Track the Samuel/Shedrick split and who protects the rim in closing lineups.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record late-clock possessions and turnovers in the reserve-guard minutes.
- Compare opponent paint access with each centre and with smaller frontcourts.

ROSTER NOTE Robineau and Gaudoux transaction category differs across early summaries; neither is labelled retained or new in the card.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 49

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official announcements archive](#) · May-Sep 2026
3. [Club medical update](#) · 17 Sep 2026
4. [Official preseason rotation](#) · 13 Sep 2026
5. [Departure reconciliation](#) · 7 Jun 2026



Bahçeşehir College Istanbul

Title ambition

HEAD COACH Aleksandar Djordjević · Retained

CONTINUITY: HIGH Djordjević and the Flynn/Ponitka/Williams spine survive, with more frontcourt options.

ROUND 1 vs Roma Basketball · 30 Sep · 18:00 CEST · Istanbul · Sinan Erdem

KEY IN

- Aleksa Avramović - from Dubai; 17 Jul club index
- Marcquise Reed - from Trabzonspor; 25 Jun
- Isiaha Mike - announced 2 Jul
- Damien Inglis - announced 29 Jul

KEY OUT

- Balsa Koprivica - to Burgos; 27 Sep appearance

CORE RETAINED Malachi Flynn · Mateusz Ponitka · Trevion Williams

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Bahçeşehir can build on Flynn's handling, Ponitka's connecting work and Trevion Williams' interior decisions while adding Avramović and Reed to the perimeter. Inglis and Mike broaden the forward combinations. The roster offers several ways to initiate without losing a passing hub near the basket. Djordjević's task is to establish which combinations defend the ball and space the floor best, especially when several players can reasonably ask for more touches.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Title ambition follows from the retained spine and multiple additions with substantial responsibility elsewhere. Group D should test whether that depth produces clear roles rather than a changing hierarchy.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can the new perimeter creators improve the attack without taking Williams out of the passing game?

AVAILABILITY No current comprehensive medical bulletin verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Track the Flynn/Avramović/Reed allocation and the defensive assignment of each.
- Monitor Williams' touches against switching opponents and whether Ponitka remains the connector.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record possessions involving both a guard advantage and a Williams passing decision.
- Compare ball containment and defensive rebounding across the preferred closing combinations.

ROSTER NOTE Vitto Brown is not in the final kit. Avramović index/article dates differ within July; exact signing day is not asserted.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 53

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official club roster and news](#) · Current; Jun-Sep 2026
3. [Avramović club signing](#) · Jul 2026
4. [Reed official announcement](#) · 25 Jun 2026
5. [Koprivica destination appearance](#) · 27 Sep 2026

Roma Basketball

Deep-run ambition

HEAD COACH Alessandro Magro · New club

CONTINUITY: LOW A new club project under Magro starts without a comparable retained core.

ROUND 1 at Bahçeşehir College Istanbul · 30 Sep · 18:00 CEST · Istanbul · Sinan Erdem

KEY IN

- Nico Mannion - from Milan; 20 Aug camp
- Marko Simonović - from Türk Telekom; 20 Aug camp
- Trentyn Flowers - 20 Aug camp
- Corey Davis - final September roster

KEY OUT

New club project: no comparable 2025-26 club departures.

CORE RETAINED New club: no comparable core.

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Roma Basketball can begin with Mannion's ball-screen creation and Simonović's interior work, while Davis offers another organiser and the wings supply different finishing routes. Magro is building those relationships within a new club, so the nominal roster should not be mistaken for established depth. Flowers' latest ankle issue adds uncertainty on the wing. The crucial early task is defining repeatable half-court actions that survive when the initial guard advantage disappears.

SEASON OUTLOOK

Deep-run ambition is an upside-oriented band with low confidence in the early version. Group D contains enough established structures to punish slow defensive integration.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Roma establish dependable half-court creation while its wing rotation is unsettled?

AVAILABILITY Flowers injured his ankle in the domestic opener. 28 Sep reporting says no major lesion on scans; reassessment pending, not a clearance.

CAPPER WATCH

- Recheck Flowers after the 28 Sep scan update; no major lesion does not equal match fitness.
- Magro is the coach; Scariolo's advisory role does not imply a different sideline system.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Track turnovers and late-clock attempts in Mannion's rest minutes.
- Record the actual active wings and whether help rotations improve by games 6-10.

ROSTER NOTE Alessandro Magro is head coach; Sergio Scariolo is an adviser. Jesse Edwards appeared in August camp reporting but is absent from the final kit. Do not list him as active.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 53

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Camp and Magro project launch](#) · 20 Aug 2026
3. [Final roster cross-check](#) · 27 Sep 2026
4. [Flowers ankle update](#) · 28 Sep 2026
5. [Scariolo role clarification](#) · 18 Aug 2026



Lietkabelis Panevėžys

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Nenad Čanak · Retained

CONTINUITY: LOW The director identifies only Maldūnas and Radžius as returnees; Čanak supplies the coaching continuity.

ROUND 1 vs Bosna BH Telecom Sarajevo · 30 Sep · 18:30 CEST · Panevėžys · Kalnapilio Arena

KEY IN

- Ognjen Jaramaz - from Cedevita; 29 Jul
- Keondre Kennedy - new roster after rebuild
- Ivan Favier - new roster after rebuild

KEY OUT

- Kristian Kullamäe - to Cluj; 27 Jul

CORE RETAINED Gabrielius Maldūnas · Nojus Radžius

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Lietkabelis combines Čanak's continuity with a largely new playing group. Jaramaz can provide an organising reference, while Kennedy, Favier and the other newcomers must establish their complementary roles around Maldūnas. The director's description of only two returnees is a useful corrective to assumptions of a familiar team. The route is disciplined possession basketball, but that identity must be demonstrated through the new players' spacing, screening and defensive communication.

SEASON OUTLOOK

A top-four fight matches the club's stated wish to reach the next stage, with rebuilding risk in Group D. Coaching continuity provides a platform rather than a guarantee.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Jaramaz turn Čanak's structure into reliable execution with an almost new supporting cast?

AVAILABILITY No current comprehensive medical bulletin verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Track who handles the ball when Jaramaz rests.
- Monitor Maldūnas' workload and the defensive rebounding contribution of the new forwards.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Compare live-ball turnovers in Jaramaz-led and reserve units.
- Record whether a stable closing five forms and reduces repeated help-rotation mistakes.

ROSTER NOTE Rebuild classification follows the director rather than mixed-season roster databases.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 56

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official director roster interview](#) · 14 Sep 2026
3. [Jaramaz confirmed signing](#) · 29 Jul 2026
4. [Kullamäe destination confirmation](#) · 27 Jul 2026
5. [Official domestic appearance report](#) · 26 Sep 2026



Bosna BH Telecom Sarajevo

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Dario Gjergja · New

CONTINUITY: LOW Gjergja takes over a nearly complete rebuild; Atić is the principal senior holdover.

ROUND 1 at Lietkabelis Panevėžys · 30 Sep · 18:30 CEST · Panevėžys · Kalnapilio Arena

KEY IN

- Reggie Perry - current club roster; September appearance
- Gary Browne - announced 9 Sep
- Ryan Hawkins - from Frankfurt; ABA 14 Sep
- Marcus Domask - from Oostende; ABA 14 Sep

KEY OUT

- Michael Young - ABA transfer register
- Janari Jõesaar - ABA transfer register
- Jarrod West - ABA transfer register

CORE RETAINED Edin Atić

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Bosna's rebuild gives Gjergja a new creation route through Browne, with Perry and Banks offering different interior targets. Atić remains a familiar connector, while Hawkins and Domask add alternative forward combinations. The move into the competition increases the importance of shared defensive rules and controlled possessions. The roster has more options than the earliest summer summaries suggest, but the new pieces still have to establish a practical hierarchy under sustained European pressure.

SEASON OUTLOOK

A qualification fight is the constructive starting frame, with substantial uncertainty after the late field change and extensive rebuild. Group D will quickly expose the quality of the guard-centre relationships.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Browne organise the new interior options without the attack becoming dependent on one pairing?

AVAILABILITY No current comprehensive injury bulletin verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Include Perry and Browne in the current roster; older introductions were incomplete.
- Track the closing centre and how Atić is used when the main guard is pressured.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record paint entries and turnovers against pressure in Browne's on- and off-court minutes.
- Compare defensive rebounds and foul exposure across Perry and Banks combinations.

ROSTER NOTE Bosna replaces Monaco in Group D. Earlier ABA introductions did not fully reflect the Perry/Browne additions.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 56

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official club current roster](#) · Current roster
3. [Official league team introduction](#) · 14 Sep 2026
4. [Browne signing](#) · 9 Sep 2026
5. [Perry club preseason appearance](#) · Sep 2026



PAOK Thessaloniki

Title ambition

HEAD COACH Andrea Trinchieri · New

CONTINUITY: LOW Trinchieri and an extensively changed rotation retain Tyree as a scoring bridge.

ROUND 1 vs Kids&Us Manresa · 30 Sep · 18:30 CEST · Thessaloniki · PAOK Sports Arena

KEY IN

- Nick Calathes - from Partizan; 17 Jun
- Cedi Osman - joined practice 3 Sep
- Trevor Hudgins - from Le Mans; current club roster
- Kyle Alexander - from Türk Telekom; current club roster

KEY OUT

Dated exit evidence incomplete; no names asserted. This does not mean no departures.

CORE RETAINED Breein Tyree

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

PAOK can use Calathes as an organiser, Osman as a large perimeter threat and Hudgins as another scoring route, with Alexander and the centres providing interior targets. Trinchieri has a broad set of choices, but most of the relationships are new. Tyree's uncertain recovery affects the guard balance. The first challenge is to distinguish useful depth from overlapping roles and find lineups that maintain spacing while containing the ball defensively.

SEASON OUTLOOK

The roster supports title ambition, with a meaningful integration and availability caveat. Group D should reveal whether the new structure can execute consistently away from home.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Which guard-wing-centre combinations remain balanced when the strongest individual scorer is resting?

AVAILABILITY Tyree underwent arthroscopy on 3 Sep. A later definitive clearance was not verified; do not assume either absence or full fitness.

CAPPER WATCH

- Recheck Tyree's status after the 3 Sep arthroscopy; neither full fitness nor continued absence is established.
- Do not add Motiejūnas to the active roster on the basis of a rumour.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record the closing five and how Calathes and Hudgins divide initiation.
- Compare transition concessions and defensive rebounds across the larger and smaller perimeter units.

ROSTER NOTE No departure featured without current dated confirmation. Motiejūnas was a rumour at cutoff and is excluded. Tyree renewal confirmed separately on 2 Jul.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 59

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official current club roster](#) · Current roster
3. [Trinchieri appointment for 2026-27](#) · 3 Mar 2026
4. [Calathes signing](#) · 17 Jun 2026
5. [Osman/Calathes practice; Tyree surgery](#) · 3 Sep 2026



Kids&Us Manresa

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Diego Ocampo · Retained

CONTINUITY: LOW Ocampo keeps Benítez, Bassas and Oriola around a rebuilt primary rotation.

ROUND 1 at PAOK Thessaloniki · 30 Sep · 18:30 CEST · Thessaloniki · PAOK Sports Arena

KEY IN

- JD Notae - announced 21 Aug
- Timmy Allen - announced 1 Aug
- Chibuzo Agbo - current summer roster
- Nick Ongenda - current summer roster

KEY OUT

- Retin Obasohan - to Burgos; 16 Jul
- Louis Olinde - to Venice; 11 Sep roundup

CORE RETAINED Hugo Benítez · Ferran Bassas · Pierre Oriola

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Manresa can build a new perimeter attack around Notae, Allen and Agbo, with Ongenda offering an interior target and Bassas providing a familiar organising option. Ocampo retains only a small core, and the latest domestic availability problems complicate the opening version. The intended advantage is several players able to attack a moving defence. The challenge is preserving that activity when missing players force narrower lineups and heavier workloads on the available guards.

SEASON OUTLOOK

A top-four fight is appropriate, with the early range strongly dependent on the active list. Group D allows little comfort if the rebuilt rotation is also short-handed.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can the available guard group maintain creation while Benítez, Allen and Oriola are rechecked?

AVAILABILITY Benítez left the 26 Sep domestic opener injured; Allen and Oriola were absent. No confirmed return dates established.

CAPPER WATCH

- Use the 26 Sep injury/absence report as a dated checkpoint, not a current clearance list.
- Track Bassas' workload and which wing is assigned the main opponent creator.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Record active personnel before comparing turnover rates and paint touches game to game.
- Compare defensive rebounding and rim concessions when the smaller lineups are used.

ROSTER NOTE No assumption that the nominal squad depth is immediately available.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 59

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official club roster/history](#) · Current roster
3. [Official announcement archive](#) · Jul-Sep 2026
4. [Preseason roster reconciliation](#) · Sep 2026
5. [Latest availability report](#) · 26 Sep 2026



ratiopharm Ulm

Top-four group qualification fight

HEAD COACH Ty Harrelson · Retained

CONTINUITY: LOW Harrelson remains, but veteran exits leave a younger group around Faye and Milicic.

ROUND 1 vs Balkan Botevgrad · 30 Sep · 19:00 CEST · Ulm · ratiopharm arena

KEY IN

- Jaylen Sims - June club announcement
- Simi Shittu - roster completed 3 Aug
- Michael Rataj - summer signing
- Devin Schmidt - summer signing

KEY OUT

- Thomas Klepeisz - to Frankfurt; 5 Aug
- Christian Sengfelder - to Burgos; current kit

CORE RETAINED Meissa Faye · Teo Milicic

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Ulm has replaced veteran pieces with a group that gives Sims, Schmidt and the younger players more responsibility. Shittu and Rataj provide new frontcourt combinations around Faye, while Milicic offers a retained connection. Harrelson's task is to turn that mix into organised tempo rather than rushed possessions. The roster's development potential is clear as a design, but decision-making and defensive rebounding must carry it through difficult stretches against older opponents.

SEASON OUTLOOK

The aspiration is a top-four fight, with a wide range during the adjustment period. Group D is a useful test of whether the younger rotation can execute when pace is removed.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Ulm preserve possession quality when opponents force the young group into half-court decisions?

AVAILABILITY Milicic, Atamna and Traoré were absent in the 9 Sep report; no current medical conclusion follows.

CAPPER WATCH

- Klepeisz and Sengfelder have moved; do not rely on the June retention picture.
- Recheck the players absent on 9 Sep before projecting the usable rotation.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Compare turnovers from hurried decisions in games 1-5 and 6-10.
- Record defensive rebounds and late-clock shot quality against the group's more experienced frontcourts.

ROSTER NOTE June club text still expected Sengfelder to stay; final Burgos kit supersedes that. Faye is retained, not an arrival.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 63

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official current roster](#) · Current roster
3. [Sims signing](#) · Jun 2026
4. [Initial departure reconciliation](#) · 12 Jun 2026
5. [Official preseason appearance report](#) · 9 Sep 2026



Balkan Botevgrad

Development / outsider

HEAD COACH Bogdan Karaičić · New

CONTINUITY: LOW Karaičić takes over; a retained Bulgarian spine supports a new imported rotation.

ROUND 1 at ratiopharm Ulm · 30 Sep · 19:00 CEST · Ulm · ratiopharm arena

KEY IN

- Javante McCoy - from Netanya; 19 Aug
- Alex Ducas - at 22 Aug camp
- Ulrich Chomche - at 22 Aug camp
- Ivan Alipiev - August signing

KEY OUT

Dated exit evidence incomplete; no names asserted. This does not mean no departures.

CORE RETAINED Dimitar Dimitrov · Nikolay Grozev

BASKETBALL IDENTITY

Balkan can retain Dimitrov and Grozev as local reference points while McCoy, Ducas and the new imports establish a higher-level rotation. Chomche offers a different interior profile, and Alipiev expands the wing options. Karaičić must coordinate those pieces without losing the value of the domestic core. The main early test is whether ball security and defensive rebounding remain functional when opponents repeatedly pressure the guards and play through larger frontcourts.

SEASON OUTLOOK

The development/outsider band reflects the size of the competitive transition and the rebuild. Progress can be visible before results if the rotation becomes more organised across the opening ten games.

THE PRESEASON QUESTION

Can Balkan keep its possession structure intact against sustained pressure and interior size?

AVAILABILITY No current comprehensive medical bulletin verified.

CAPPER WATCH

- Verify the active import rotation and the centre hierarchy on each matchday.
- Use Karaičić as the coaching baseline; older Hristov listings are outdated.

GAMES 1-10: WHAT TO TEST

- Track live-ball turnovers against pressure and whether they decline by games 6-10.
- Record opponent second chances and how often the first defensive stop is completed.

ROSTER NOTE No named exit featured without dated confirmation. Bogdan Karaičić is the current coach; older Vasil Hristov listings are stale.

SOURCE TRAIL · Checked 29 Sep 2026 · Official kit PDF p. 63

1. [Official Round 1 roster and venue](#) · 28 Sep 2026
2. [Official current club roster](#) · Current roster
3. [New coach preseason debut](#) · 31 Aug 2026
4. [McCoy signing](#) · 19 Aug 2026
5. [Newcomers at camp](#) · 22 Aug 2026