

The Beginning of the WNBA and the Challenges IT Faced

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The WNBA (Women's National Basketball Association) was formally founded in 1996, with the very 1st season starting at the beginning of the year 1997, and till now it has started around nineteen seasons; the association has demonstrated itself to be highly admired. It has also retained the power regardless of the fact that it does not get anywhere near the same sum of money or handling as its male equivalent, the association is still active and performing great. This paper will discuss the beginning of the WNBA and the challenges that the association faced in the beginning from 1996 to 1999.

The Women's [National Basketball Association](#) did have several kinds of stuff going for it that numerous women's leagues didn't have, mainly the element that the NBA assisted in introducing and has wholly sustained the association also in the rough patches in its past. And as one expects from some new sporting league, particularly miserably one with sports, the Women's National Basketball Association has had its hard work. However, before these nineteen seasons, they had been crushed by the odds (*WNBA Basketball - InsideHoops.Com*).

The Women's National Basketball Association's 1st season started on June 21 of the year 1997, with a match between the Los Angeles Sparks and the New York Liberty. In the very 1st year, the league has a total of eight teams: the Cleveland Rockers, the Charlotte Sting, the Houston Comets, the Los Angeles Sparks, the New York Liberty, the Phoenix Mercury, the Sacramento Monarchs, and the Utah Starz. Famous players like Sheryl Swoopes and Rebecca Lobo, who were the 1st players to be contracted, were very hyped about the league (though Swoops was out in most of the matches of the 1st season due to her pregnancy). Further new stars comprised Tina Thompson and Lisa Leslie, but the factual stand-out was the unbelievable Cynthia Cooper, who led the league by scoring in the 1997 season and was the MVP of the year. She has also directed her team, the Houston Comets, to the first WNBA championship(*WNBA.Com: WNBA History/Timeline*).

The Comets sustained to lead the women's league up to the end of the '90s era, as one could imagine, with the killer grouping of Swoops,, Houston, and Cooper Thompson. They always won the tournament without losing a single match in the next four years.

Public Appearance in the initial seasons was very good. In the very 1st season, around ten hundred thousand people appeared at a Women's National Basketball Association game with a usual attendance of around 9,000 people per game, and those statistics remained firmly for the subsequent several seasons, too. With the partnership of the Television channels with NBC, Lifetime, and ESPN, several of the individuals were watching the tournament(Berri).

First All-Star Game

The very first Women's National Basketball Association All-Star game did not occur until the year 1999. It was played in Madison Square Garden, and a sold-out audience of more than eighteen thousand people turned out to watch the match. The Western Conference has won the tournament, and Lisa Leslie was named the MVP of the All-Star. Women's National Basketball Association All-Star games are still a viral game, and their spectators are increasing day by day.

Financial Trouble

Despite its early admiration, the Women's National Basketball Association started to have financial problems at the end of the year 1999. Though the league has usually been considered very decently managed, in terms of money, it had many unsuccessful periods comprised of many years, and deprived of the support from the NBA, it is furthermost probable to have doubled. Actually, in the year 2007, it was projected that each team had lost around 2 million dollars each year. Numerous teams have joined the women's league. However, many teams doubled, too. Also, with the financial assistance of the NBA, it did not look to be good (Cueto).

Luckily, the Women's National Basketball Association has stabilized since that year. The Connecticut Sun came to be the 1st team in the association to have a progressive cash flow of cash as in the season of year 2010, viewer-ship on both NBC and ESPN are considerably up, as produce sales, Boost-Mobile is currently the sponsor of the league-wide, and the association currently has a long-lasting agreement with ESPN TV channel in which all of the teams were waged the TV rights dues.

In the previous years, around half of the teams in the league have been cost-effective. Moreover, though the previous teams have doubled because of the lack of concerned purchasers, the Los Angeles Sparks had some problems in finding new proprietors in the year 2013. Optimistically, the financial steadiness will continue to increase.

Teams Old and New

The Women's National Basketball Association team lines up look very dissimilar from what it did in the year 1997. In many years, there were around eighteen different franchises of the women's association; currently, there are merely twelve teams that are active in the association. Three of the eight established teams have meanwhile ceased: The Cleveland Rockers ceased in the year 2003. Afterwards, the possessor proclaimed that he was not involved in possession of the team and the association was not capable of finding any other purchaser; the Houston Comets, who had won more tournaments than any other team in the association, ceased in the year 2008 for the same reason; and the Charlotte-Sting ceased in the year 2008 after an unsuccessful effort to shift to the city of Kansas. Moreover, the Sacramento Monarchs made an unsuccessful effort to shift to San Francisco;

however, the Utah Starzz came out to be the San Antonio Stars in the year 2003(*Maya Moore Leads Lynx to 4th WNBA Title in Team History with Win over Sparks | Bleacher Report*).

However, several other teams have contacted the Women's National Basketball Association. The Washington Mystics and Detroit Shock made the contract with the organization in the year 1998 (however, the Shock currently plays in Tulsa). The Orlando Miracle and Minnesota Lynx made a contract with the association in the year 1999 (notwithstanding the Miracle coming to be the Connecticut Sun in the year 2003).

Four more teams joined the league in the year 2000; however, the Portland Fire and Miami Sol are the only teams to have been in the league for the last three seasons. However, the Seattle Storm and Indiana Fever are still playing in the league. Indiana has just reached the final stage. Previously, the Atlanta Dream and Chicago Sky have also made a contract with the league in the years 2008 and 2006, respectively.

In further details, it has been a tempestuous nineteen seasons, with the teams that are going and coming and transferring fairly a bit. However, 4 of the established teams are presently playing in the league, and gradually but assuredly, the league has grown up, even through the shifting stages.

The Women's National Basketball Association is not only moral on the court. The league has also supported many generous reasons, which include breast health consciousness and their Read to attain inventiveness intended at heartening interpretation and operational literacy in the kids. They are functioning to decrease their [carbon footprint](#), likewise, which is a much greater step.

Nowadays, there's an entire new generation of players in the women's association, which includes stars like Maya Moore, Elena Delle Donne, Britney Griner and several others. The Minnesota-Lynx are the teams to be beaten, having won the tournament 3 of the previous five years, and the level of play fairly endures throughout the association.

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