



Basketballers' Association saddened by departure of Townsville Crocs from NBL

The Australian Basketballers' Association (ABA) is disappointed with the news that the National Basketball League's (NBL) Townsville Crocodiles has folded.

Jacob Holmes, former player and chief officer of the ABA said, "The NBL and the ABA have worked tirelessly to try and ensure the Crocodiles continued in the NBL for season 2016/17, but these efforts have been unsuccessful in securing the financial and community support which a sustainable franchise in the NBL requires."

The Crocodiles re-entered the 2015/16 NBL competition after placing themselves into voluntary administration following the 2014/15 season.

The NBL worked closely with the ABA to ensure all players receive their pay and entitlements for this financial year.

Furthermore, from today, the players will be able to enter into the free agency market, allowing them to be picked up by recruiters from other teams.

Holmes said, "On a personal note, as a former player for the team, I know first-hand the passion that sits behind the Crocodiles within the Townsville community and it is heartbreaking to see the end of era for the franchise."

"Looking forward, NBL players should be confident in the long term viability of their clubs. The ABA will continue to work with the NBL to ensure that our collective efforts are concentrated on the continued growth of league and basketball in Australia." He said.

The ABA is an initiative of the Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance, established to further, protect and advance the rights, interests and welfare of Australian basketball players.

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