FRIENDS OF NIGERIAN BASKETBALL

THE ROAD TO 2027 AND LOS ANGELES 2028



ONE GAME. | ONE NAIJA. | ONE FUTURE.

FRIENDS OF NIGERIAN BASKETBALL

WHY NIGERIA, WHY NOW

THE WINDOW IS OPEN NOW

Three things are true at the same time. They will not all be true again.

THE BELIEF IS ALREADY BUILT

Nigeria's women turned basketball into a national story. Nobody needs convincing that this country wins at this sport.

THE TALENT IS CHOOSING NIGERIA

A generation with NBA pedigree is electing to wear the green. That choice is being made right now, and it will not be offered forever.

LOS ANGELES IS A HOME GAME

2028 puts the Olympics in front of one of the largest Nigerian diasporas anywhere. The stage and the crowd arrive in the same country, once.







Nigeria 90, USA 87. Exhibition, Las Vegas, July 2021.

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THE VISION

GET THERE. THEN STAY THERE.

Qualification is a deadline, not a destination. One good cycle is luck. A program is what keeps Nigeria in this conversation long after Los Angeles.

01 **THE TEAM**

The senior side, pointed at the 2027 World Cup and Los Angeles 2028.

02 **THE PIPELINE**

Coaches, youth and grassroots underneath it, so the next roster is developed rather than discovered.

03 **THE HOME**

An arena and sports district in Lagos, so Nigerian basketball finally has an address of its own.



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THE PLAYERS

WE ARE THE CONDUIT

The talent already exists. What the program needs now is the logistics to recruit, maintain and expand Nigeria's NBA and NCAA players, and that runs through us.

THE NBA CORE

OG ANUNOBY
New York Knicks

DESMOND BANE
Orlando Magic

PRECIOUS ACHIUWA
Sacramento Kings

JOSH OKOGIE
Utah Jazz

GABE VINCENT
NBA guard

EBUKA OKORIE
Detroit Pistons

NEXT UP

RUEBEN CHINYELU
Florida Gators, NCAA

LEWIS UVWO
Providence commit, class of 2027

RECRUIT

First contact with players and agents, with passports and FIBA eligibility handled well before a window.

MAINTAIN

Flights, hotels, visas and club releases run to an NBA standard, so players keep saying yes.

EXPAND

Track the NCAA and overseas pool year round, so the next class is known before it is needed.

Teams as of November 2026. Players shown are in the program's recruiting pool and are not confirmed commitments.

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THE COACH

THE FIZ EFFECT

David Fizdale, formerly of the Miami Heat, Memphis and the New York Knicks. Credibility that opens doors before a call is returned.

INSTANT CREDIBILITY

Players, agents and front offices already take his call.

A REASON TO COMMIT

His résumé helps diaspora players say yes to the green.

ATTENTION AND CONFIDENCE

Media coverage and sponsor confidence come with his name.

DAILY STANDARDS

Professionalism, culture and accountability, every single day.







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THE PIPELINE

A TEAM IS TWELVE PEOPLE. A PROGRAM IS NOT.

What sits beneath the national team decides whether any of this lasts. It is also where the program reaches the people who will never wear the jersey.

Coaching clinics

Raise one coach and you raise every player they will ever teach. The highest-leverage work in the whole program.

Youth development

Structured pathways from first touch to real prospect, with standards that travel to any level above.

Grassroots access

Courts, balls and somewhere to play. The base that everything else is standing on.

NBA Africa-style programming

Camps, exposure and real competition that plug Nigerian players into the global game early.





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THE HOME

PARTNERS ON THE GROUND

Two partnerships in Nigeria that put the program somewhere people can see it, from a national arena to a court for kids who have never had one.



01

ARENA X DISTRICT

WITH MISAN PARTNERS

A world class arena and mixed use sports district taking shape in Lagos. When it opens, Nigerian basketball stops borrowing venues and has somewhere to train, host and grow.

A permanent home for the culture

02

ORPHANED STARFISH FOUNDATION

OSF.ORG

A US nonprofit that helps orphans and at risk youth through education and job training. Together we plan to build a basketball court at an orphanage in Nigeria.

A court where kids live

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THE ROAD

VISION 2026 TO 2028

2026

Building the foundation

- Ran two qualifying windows, Luanda in July and Radès in August
- Built the operation: travel, security, passports and player communication
- Built and track a pool of 78 Nigerian eligible players
- Started coaching clinics in Nigeria with Fiz

2027

Win February, then take the right road

- Win the final qualifying window, 25 to 28 February
- Pathway A: camp, exhibitions and the World Cup in Qatar, 27 August to 12 September
- Pathway B: Olympic pre-qualifier, with the core group and staff kept together

2028

Compete for a medal

- Olympic Qualifying Tournament if needed, 26 June to 2 July
- Full Olympic training camp and exhibitions
- Compete to medal in Los Angeles

The goal is not just qualification. It is a medal standard platform for Nigerian basketball.



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FEBRUARY 2027

THE LAST QUALIFYING WINDOW

Three games, 25 to 28 February. FIBA has not named the venue yet. Nigeria needs three wins, by margins big enough to take the head to heads with Cameroon and South Sudan. NBA players cannot leave mid season, so the roster comes from pros whose clubs release them.

CLUB PERMISSIONS

A written release from every player's club. FIBA registration filed before the roster deadline. Insurance in place for any club that requires it.

ROSTER

Pool set and players committed early, with a backup at every position in case a release falls through.

STAFF

Window staff confirmed before the roster is announced, so everyone knows their job on day one.

LOGISTICS

Flights, visas, hotel, practice court, gear and per diem booked early. Players arrive with time to practice together.

DECEMBER

Pool set. First calls to players, agents and clubs.

JANUARY

Commitments and club releases locked. Paperwork filed. Travel booked.

FEBRUARY

Team meets in the host city before game one.

25 TO 28 FEBRUARY

Three games. About $135,000, based on what the August window cost.

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AFTER FEBRUARY

TWO PATHWAYS TO LA 2028

February decides which road we take. The plan is ready for both, and both end in Los Angeles.

PATHWAY A

QUALIFY FOR THE WORLD CUP

Show up prepared and competitive, and treat the World Cup as the first step toward Los Angeles.

- Training camp built around the NBA offseason, so the players we want can be there
- Exhibition games against quality opponents
- World Cup in Qatar, 27 August to 12 September 2027
- The top African team qualifies straight for LA 2028. Other World Cup teams get a second shot at the June 2028 qualifying tournaments

PATHWAY B

MISS THE WORLD CUP

A harder road with less room for error, so 2027 has to be used well.

- Keep the core group engaged and the staff in place through 2027
- African Olympic Pre-Qualifying Tournament, 17 to 22 August 2027
- Win it to reach the Olympic Qualifying Tournament, 26 June to 2 July 2028. Only the four winners go to the Games
- A camp and exhibitions before each tournament
- A budget planned across two years, not one summer

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YOUR GIFT

WHERE YOUR DONATION GOES

NOW TO DECEMBER 2026: $35,000

$25,000	Operations staff, November and December
$10,000	Recruiting travel, player meetings and passports

THE ROAD TO LOS ANGELES: $1,639,000

$135,000	February qualifying window: flights, per diem, staff, security
$160,000	Two week training camp, August 2027
$100,000	Exhibition games before the summer tournament
$130,000	Summer 2027 tournament: World Cup in Qatar or Olympic pre-qualifier
$135,000	Olympic Qualifying Tournament reserve, June 2028
$60,000	Player insurance for club releases
$400,000	Coaching staff, estimate
$150,000	Year round operations staff
$20,000	Recruiting travel, eligibility and passports
$60,000	Youth and grassroots clinics in Nigeria
$100,000	Basketball court at an orphanage in Nigeria
$40,000	Administration, legal and annual audit
$149,000	Contingency reserve, 10%

Total program: $1,674,000

Planning estimates, built from what the 2026 windows actually cost. Updated as costs are confirmed.

YOUR TAX BENEFITS

Friends of Nigerian Basketball is a US 501(c)(3). Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

IF YOU ITEMIZE

Cash gifts are deductible up to 60% of adjusted gross income. From 2026 the first 0.5% of AGI is not deductible.

IF YOU DO NOT ITEMIZE

From 2026, deduct up to $1,000 in cash gifts, or $2,000 filing jointly.

GIVE APPRECIATED STOCK

Stock held more than a year is generally deductible at full market value, with no capital gains tax on the gain.

FOR YOUR RECORDS

Every gift receives a written acknowledgment.

General information, not tax advice. Please confirm with your own tax advisor.

All funds are managed by Friends of Nigerian Basketball and independently audited each year by an external CPA. Financial statements available to any supporter on request.

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JOIN US

BUILD IT WITH US, STARTING NOW.

The team, the players and the home only work if they rise together. Whoever helps build them now becomes part of what Nigerian basketball turns into.

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