



## SINGAPORE SLINGERS

**Founded:** 2006  
**Head coach:** Neo Beng Siang

They have lost Justin Howard and Wong Wei Long, and Leon Kwek is doing his to national service. But the Slingers are boosted by the return of Xavier Alexander and Mitchell Folkoff and they will hope imports Ryan Wright and AJ Mandani can fit right into their defence-first system as the back-to-back finalists aim to go one better.



**HONG KONG EASTERN**  
**Founded:** 1932  
**Head coach:** Eduard Torres

After winning the championship in their debut season, Eastern have retained Coach of the Year Eduard Torres, World Import MVP Marcus Elliott and Asean Heritage MVP Tyler Lamb. Filipino-German Christian Standhardinger, who was part of a SEA Games gold-winning side, is another to look out for.



**WESTPORTS MALAYSIA DRAGONS**  
**Founded:** 2009  
**Head coach:** Chris Thomas

The 2015/16 champions gave their locals more playing time last season to prepare for the SEA Games. But, with that out of the way, the Dragons have signed a full complement of four imports, including centre Solomon Jones, who has played for six NBA teams, and the returning Patrick Cabahug, Dragons' swingman from 2010 to 2013.



**SAIGON HEAT**  
**Founded:** 2011  
**Head coach:** Kyle Julius

While basketball is not the No. 1 sport in Vietnam, the Heat's formation has gone some way to lift standards in the football-mad country, and they have done well to make the play-offs in the past three seasons. Morgan Moses is leaner and fitter after sitting out a season, and 1.93m Vietnamese-Swedish Stefan Nguyen will be useful in defence.



**MONO VAMPIRE BASKETBALL CLUB**  
**Founded:** 2014  
**Head coach:** Douglas Marty

The Thai side are back after sitting out the previous season, and are the only team in the league to own their arena — the Stadium 29 in Bangkok. Besides talented locals such as Kannut Samerjai, Mono have added big centre Reggie Johnson and pass master Jason Brickman, both of who won the title with the Dragons in 2015/16.



**CLS KNIGHTS INDONESIA**  
**Founded:** 1946  
**Head coach:** Koko Heru Setyo Nugroho

The Knights are the first Indonesian team in the ABL since 2014 and they will have solid home support with courtside seats sold out online within three hours. On court, they have charismatic veteran and 2010/11 Local MVP Mario Wuysang. Thai-American Freddie Goldstein also has something to prove after being cut by the Dragons last season.



**TANDUAY ALAB PILIPINAS**  
**Founded:** 2016  
**Head coach:** Jimmy Alapag

Coached by Phillipine favourite Jimmy Alapag, Alab look like making a serious push for the championship in their sophomore season, stacking their roster with the likes of Philippines international and reigning Local MVP Bobby Ray Parks Jr, and the highly-combustible former NBA player Ivan Johnson, who has featured for the Atlanta Hawks.



**FORMOSA DREAMERS**  
**Founded:** 2017  
**Head coach:** Hsu Hao Cheng

The Taiwanese team will be eager to show they are the real deal after Kaohsiung Truth folded with the wooden spoon after just one season. The Changhua-based Dreamers are founded by a quintet with diverse backgrounds, including celebrity Blackie Chen. On court, they have poached Lenny Daniel from Saigon Heat for his power and ABL experience.



**NANHAI KUNG FU**  
**Founded:** 2017  
**Head coach:** Charles Dube-Brais

They may be a little-known side, with Chinese Basketball Association youth team dropouts, college players, and young CBA players, but Nanhai have had some encouraging pre-season results after beating Eastern and some CBA teams. The signing of Justin Howard from the Slingers will add some vital experience.  
— DAVID LEE



## THE ROSTER