

KEY DATES

IN CEBL HISTORY



CEBL

2017

OCTOBER 25, 2017

CONCEPT FOR CEBL IS BORN

The concept of the Canadian Elite Basketball League is reported; a national league running during the spring and summer months with FIBA rules.



MAY 2, 2018

CEBL EXECUTIVE TEAM HIRED; MORREALE NAMED COMMISSIONER & CEO

Original group of executives, including outside expert consultants, had extensive experience across the sports industry and related fields.

NOVEMBER 9, 2018

LANDMARK LEAGUE-WIDE TICKETMASTER PARTNERSHIP ESTABLISHED

The CEBL announces that season tickets for the 2019 inaugural season will go on sale in each market through Ticketmaster on November 15.

ticketmaster®



NOVEMBER 21, 2018

CHANTAL VALLEE BECOMES FIRST WOMAN TO BE NAMED HEAD COACH & GM OF PRO MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

The CEBL's Hamilton Honey Badgers named Vallée head coach and general manager, a trailblazing move that received global media attention.

DECEMBER 4, 2018

NEW ERA AGREEMENT ANNOUNCED

The CEBL announces agreement with New Era Cap Co Inc to be the Official On-Court Partner, providing on-court apparel and product for its member clubs.



DECEMBER 6, 2018

CANADA BASKETBALL PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCED

At a news conference in Hamilton, the CEBL announced a partnership with Canada Basketball whereby the CEBL became the "Official First Division Professional League Partner" of Canada's national sport governing body for basketball.



JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

2018

JANUARY 15, 2019

SPALDING NAMED OFFICIAL BASKETBALL SUPPLIER OF CEBL

Spalding, the largest basketball equipment supplier in the world, becomes partner to provide each of the league's teams with basketballs for practices and games, as well as non-competition balls for community events.



NOVEMBER 19, 2019

FIRST EXPANSION FRANCHISE GRANTED TO OTTAWA

The Ottawa BlackJacks, playing out of TD Place Arena, are announced as the first expansion team and seventh CEBL franchise in league history.

FEBRUARY 12, 2019

U SPORTS PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCED

The CEBL and U SPORTS, the national governing body for university sports in Canada, announce a partnership that provides competitive developmental opportunities for Canadian university men's basketball players.



MAY 9, 2019

FIRST CEBL GAME

Niagara defeated Saskatchewan, 99-97, in Saskatoon in the first CEBL regular season game. Negus Webster-Chan's three-pointer for the Rattlers to open the game were the first points scored in league history.

AUGUST 24-25, 2019

FIRST CEBL CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND & FIRST CEBL CHAMPION

The CEBL's first Championship Weekend took place August 24-25, 2019 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan at SaskTel Centre. Four teams (Niagara, Edmonton, Saskatchewan, Hamilton) competed for the league's inaugural title. The host team, Saskatchewan Rattlers, defeated the Hamilton Honey Badgers 94-83 to win the first CEBL Championship.

NOVEMBER 26, 2019

3-YEAR BROADCAST PARTNERSHIP WITH CBC ANNOUNCED

CBC Sports becomes premier media partner of CEBL, live streaming all regular season and playoff contests, and seven nationally broadcasted games, including CEBL Championship Weekend.



JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

2019



JULY 6, 2020

TARGET SCORE ENDING ADOPTED

The CEBL announces it will become the first basketball league in the world to use the 'Elam Ending' in FIBA competition for all 26 games of the CEBL Summer Series.

JULY 25, 2020

CEBL BECOMES FIRST PRO LEAGUE IN CANADA TO RETURN TO PLAY AFTER COVID-19 SHUTDOWN WITH 2020 SUMMER SERIES

The CEBL becomes the first league to return from the pandemic, hosting the first live pro sports event in Canada since the on-set of Covid-19. Niagara defeated Hamilton and Guelph topped Ottawa to open the 2020 CEBL Summer Series in front of a nationally televised audience on CBC.

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

2020

JUNE 14, 2021

CEBL LAUNCHES CEBL+ STREAMING PLATFORM

In collaboration with StreamAMG, the CEBL launched a new international OTT Service branded CEBL+, home to every CEBL game live and on demand.



JULY, 2021

CEBL BECOMES FIRST LEAGUE IN CANADA TO WELCOME BACK FANS AT ALL VENUES

In July 2021, the CEBL became the first full Canadian pro sports league to welcome back fans into their venues across Canada. Government Covid-19 restrictions were relaxed and moved into Phase 3 in mid-July, and all seven CEBL venues opened back up in various capacities for the remainder of the season.



AUGUST 16, 2021

SECOND EXPANSION FRANCHISE GRANTED TO SCARBOROUGH

Sam Ibrahim, Niko Carino, Lo Falcioni become first outside investors of CEBL and owners of Scarborough Shooting Stars franchise.



SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

THE FRASER VALLEY BANDITS ANNOUNCED THAT LANGLEY EVENTS CENTRE WOULD BECOME THE TEAM'S NEW HOME VENUE BEGINNING IN 2022.

The Bandits had previously played out of Abbotsford Centre since the CEBL's inaugural season in 2019.



NOVEMBER 26, 2021

FOURTH EXPANSION FRANCHISE GRANTED TO NEWFOUNDLAND

The Newfoundland Growlers, playing out of Memorial University Field House, are announced as the fourth expansion team and 10th CEBL franchise in league history.



OCTOBER 27, 2021

THIRD EXPANSION FRANCHISE GRANTED TO MONTRÉAL

The Montreal Alliance, playing out of Verdun Auditorium, are announced as the third expansion team and ninth CEBL franchise in league history.

DECEMBER 13, 2021

CEBL TEAM PLAYS FIRST GAME IN BCLA

CEBL's Edmonton Stingers become the first team to represent Canada in BCL Americas competition, winning 84-81 over Real Esteli Basket in Polideportivo Alexis Arguello, Managua, Nicaragua.

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

2021



MAY 24, 2022

J COLE SIGNS WITH SHOOTING STARS

Significant global media attention, record social media reach and league-wide sellouts as a result of the J Cole signing.

FALL, 2022

STRATEGIC REALIGNMENT OF FRANCHISES

- Guelph relocates to Calgary, becoming the Calgary Surge and playing out of WinSport Event Centre.
- Hamilton relocates to Brampton, retains Honey Badgers name and playing out of CAA Centre.
- Newfoundland suspends operations.



SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

VANCOUVER BANDITS SOLD TO PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

CEBL sells franchise to Kevin Dhaliwal and Bryan Slusarchuk; Team renamed to Vancouver Bandits from Fraser Valley Bandits.



OCTOBER 19, 2022

CALGARY SURGE SOLD TO PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

Usman Jutt and Jason Ribeiro introduced as owners of Calgary Surge, playing out of WinSport Event Centre.



NOVEMBER 30, 2022

FIFTH EXPANSION FRANCHISE GRANTED TO WINNIPEG

David Asper introduced as owner of Winnipeg Sea Bears, playing out of Canada Life Centre.

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

2022

JANUARY 24, 2023

NEW CEBL CONFERENCE FORMAT & PLAYOFF FORMAT

The CEBL announces a conference model of competition for its fifth season, dividing its 10 teams into an Eastern and Western Conference for the first time in league history.



FEBRUARY 23, 2023

EDMONTON STINGERS SOLD TO PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

CEBL sells Edmonton Stingers to Jamie Burns and Taranvir Vander.

MARCH 16, 2023

MULTI-YEAR BROADCAST PARTNERSHIP WITH TSN ANNOUNCED

TSN, Canada's Sports Leader, and the CEBL announced TSN+ will showcase all 107 CEBL games in 2023, including the CEBL postseason and Championship Weekend 2023. TSN will also provide live national broadcast coverage of the CEBL Game of the Week and the CEBL playoffs.



JUNE 29, 2023

CEBL IMPLEMENTS INSTANT REPLAY SYSTEM

The CEBL adopted and implemented a slightly modified version of FIBA's instant replay system and coach's challenge rules for all games moving forward.



AUGUST 26, 2023

THE CEBL CLASH IN QUEBEC CITY

The CEBL Clash was the first showcase event of its kind serving a primary objective of exposing the CEBL brand to the Quebec City market where over 7,000 fans were in attendance at Videotron Centre.



OCTOBER 2, 2023

CEBL BUSINESS AWARDS

In October 2023, the CEBL announced a new annual business awards format, consisting of four awards given in recognition of accomplishments at both the team and executive level.

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

2023