

## \*Press Release\* 3BL is hosting FIBA 3x3 Challenger in Samobor for the first time.

- Croatian Basketball Federation has granted exclusive recognition to '3x3 Professional Basketball League (3BL Croatia)', making it Croatia's only authorized professional 3x3 basketball league. "3BL Croatia" is the only Professional Basketball League in the Croatia to have exclusive rights from Croatian Basketball Federation (HKS).
- Samobor Challenger will take place on 16-17<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
- With its '#RoadToOlympics' tagline, 3BL Croatia aims to support HKS's vision of Croatian 3x3 National Teams qualifying to the 2024 Paris Olympics.
- 3BL Croatia will provide valuable income and international exposure to players, besides an opportunity to gain crucial FIBA 3x3 ranking points.
- There are 16 teams participating in Samobor Challenger. 3 of them are from Croatia. Teams such us, Ub Huishan NE SRB, Antwerp TOPdesk BEL, Liman Huishan NE SRB, Vienna AUT, Lausanne SUI, Utrecht NED, Marijampole Mantinga LTU, Ostrava Victoria CZE, Hannover GER, Zagreb 3BL CRO, Pirot SRB, Svilaja 3BL CRO, Calabasas USA, Sagamihara 3BL JPN, Gajnice CRO and Lidingö City Ultimate SWE.
- For more details, please visit: https://worldtour.fiba3x3.com/2023/challengers/samobor

**Samobor, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023:** It's official. Croatian Basketball Federation (HKS) and 3BL Croatia (3x3 Professional Basketball League) signed the exclusive contract to promote Professional 3x3 Basketball in Croatia. The dates for FIBA 3x3 Samobor Challenger will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Former NBA player, **Mr. Damjan Rudež** was announced as the League Commissioner and had this to say, "This is the first time Samobor will host FIBA 3x3 Challenger. This is an exelent opportunity for Croatian 3x3 Basketball baller to showcase their skill and aim to win the title in their home country. Winner of the Challenger will have a spot in FIBA 3x3 World Tour Wuxi Masters. There are 3 Croatian teams participating and I am very excited to see their performance in this Challenger."

Director and founder of 3BL Croatia, **Mr. Rohit Bakshi**, said: "We are extremely grateful for HKS to grant the exclusive rights to promote Professional 3x3 Basketball in Croatia. We have been sporting Croatian 3x3 Basketball players and Federation to play in U23 Nationals League this year. Players are also getting international opportunity in 3BL Thailand 3x3 Basketball league as well as in India and Japan this year. We are going to provide salary for Croatian 3x3 players and will generate more employment to support the Basketball ECO system of Croatia."



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## **About 3BL Croatia**

3BL Croatia is the exclusive rights holder for conducting professional 3x3 basketball league in Croatia officially approved and recognized by HKS, Croatian Basketball Federation. Founded by Mr. Rohit Bakshi in 2023, 3BL Croatia has a clear vision to grow and promote 3x3 culture and its potential throughout Croatia by organizing a Professional Circuit and Grassroots Programs.

3BL Croatia is the additional provider for an opportunity to compete at FIBA 3x3's international circuit such as Challengers and World Tours from Croatia directly.

More information at www.3blcroatia.com

Follow 3BL Croatia on social media:



## About 3x3 Basketball

3x3 (pronounced "three-ex-three" in English) is considered the number one urban team sport discipline. From the first official event at the 2010 Youth Olympics Games, FIBA has had an ambitious vision for the game. The strategy is designed and executed holistically by a 3x3-dedicated team in FIBA's headquarter since the inception of the business unit in 2010.

The business operations have been steadily growing year-on-year, including achievements like the inclusion of 3x3 in the Olympic Program as of 2020 and the official competitions being broadcast in over 100 countries.

FIBA 3x3 Video for more details: FIBA 3x3