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CONTACT: Trask Frost, Media Director (503) 810-1563

VANCOUVER'S NEW IBL SQUAD ANNOUNCES 'NAME THE TEAM CONTEST'

Vancouver, British Columbia— The International Basketball League is excited to announce that the Vancouver, British Columbia team has launched a "Name The Team Contest" today. The contest is open for fans to nominate a team name from now until March 9, 2008.

Fans can enter the contest by going to www.basketball.bc.ca and submitting their name nomination. On March 10, 2008 the Top 10 nominations shall be chosen and posted for a week long online vote to choose the winner. The person who originally suggested the successful name will receive 2 courtside season tickets (\$2,000 value) for the first season of the Vancouver IBL schedule (if more than 1 person suggested the name there will be a draw for it between them).

As announced in September of 2007, Vancouver will join the IBL for the 2009 season. The team is owned by Vancouver resident Jonathan Mara. Mara has been a member of the Basketball BC Board of Directors for the past four years and Assistant Coach of the White Rock Christian Warriors senior boys' high school basketball team for the past five years.

"We are excited to have the involvement of the local basketball community in helping to name the Vancouver team," said Mara. "This team will truly be community based team, as the majority of players will be former standout BC high school players who have now finished their collegiate careers and are looking to take the next step as professionals."

Mara believes the people of Vancouver will embrace the IBL and the up-tempo style that has become the league's hallmark. "The games are entertaining for even casual fans of the sport because the pace and scoring are so consistently high," said Mara.

In three seasons, IBL teams have averaged over 126 points per contest in games that last about two hours. For more information about the IBL, or for pictures and video of teams and players, visit www.iblhoopsonline.com.

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