

# NBA LIVE 08



**⚠ WARNING: PHOTSENSITIVITY/EPILEPSY/SEIZURES**

**READ BEFORE USING YOUR PLAYSTATION®2 COMPUTER ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM.**

A very small percentage of individuals may experience epileptic seizures or blackouts when exposed to certain light patterns or flashing lights. Exposure to certain patterns or backgrounds on a television screen or when playing video games may trigger epileptic seizures or blackouts in these individuals. These conditions may trigger previously undetected epileptic symptoms or seizures in persons who have no history of prior seizures or epilepsy. If you, or anyone in your family, has an epileptic condition or has had seizures of any kind, consult your physician before playing. IMMEDIATELY DISCONTINUE use and consult your physician before resuming gameplay if you or your child experience any of the following health problems or symptoms:

- dizziness
- altered vision
- eye or muscle twitches
- loss of awareness
- disorientation
- seizures
- any involuntary movement or convulsion

**RESUME GAMEPLAY ONLY ON APPROVAL OF YOUR PHYSICIAN.**

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**Use and handling of video games to reduce the likelihood of a seizure**

- Use in a well-lit area and keep as far away as possible from the television screen.
  - Avoid large screen televisions. Use the smallest television screen available.
  - Avoid prolonged use of the PlayStation 2 system.  
Take a 15-minute break during each hour of play.
  - Avoid playing when you are tired or need sleep.
- 

Stop using the system immediately if you experience any of the following symptoms: lightheadedness, nausea, or a sensation similar to motion sickness; discomfort or pain in the eyes, ears, hands, arms, or any other part of the body. If the condition persists, consult a doctor.

**WARNING TO OWNERS OF PROJECTION TELEVISIONS:**

Do not connect your PlayStation 2 system to a projection TV without first consulting the user manual for your projection TV, unless it is of the LCD type. Otherwise, it may permanently damage your TV screen.

**HANDLING YOUR PLAYSTATION 2 FORMAT DISC:**

- This disc is intended for use only with PlayStation 2 consoles with the NTSC U/C designation.
- Do not bend it, crush it or submerge it in liquids.
- Do not leave it in direct sunlight or near a radiator or other source of heat.
- Be sure to take an occasional rest break during extended play.
- Keep this compact disc clean. Always hold the disc by the edges and keep it in its protective case when not in use. Clean the disc with a lint-free, soft, dry cloth, wiping in straight lines from center to outer edge. Never use solvents or abrasive cleaners.

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This product has been rated by the Entertainment Software Rating Board. For information about the ESRB rating please visit [www.esrb.org](http://www.esrb.org).

## BASIC CONTROLS

### GENERAL

Move player	left analog stick
Quick Plays (see p. 6)	D-button
Playcalling	D-button (double-tap)
Turbo	<b>R1</b> button
Pause game	START button

### OFFENSE

EA SPORTS™ Freestyle Control (see p. 5)	right analog stick
Shoot	⊙ button (press and hold to jump then release to shoot; tap to pump fake)
Pass (direction of the left analog stick chooses receiver)	⊗ button (press and hold for lob pass and tap for normal pass)
Lay-up/Dunk	Ⓜ button

### DEFENSE

Switch player (direction of the left analog stick chooses defender)	⊗ button
Steal/Intercept/Hard foul	Ⓜ button (press repeatedly to commit hard foul)
Take charge	⊙ button
Block/Rebound	△ button

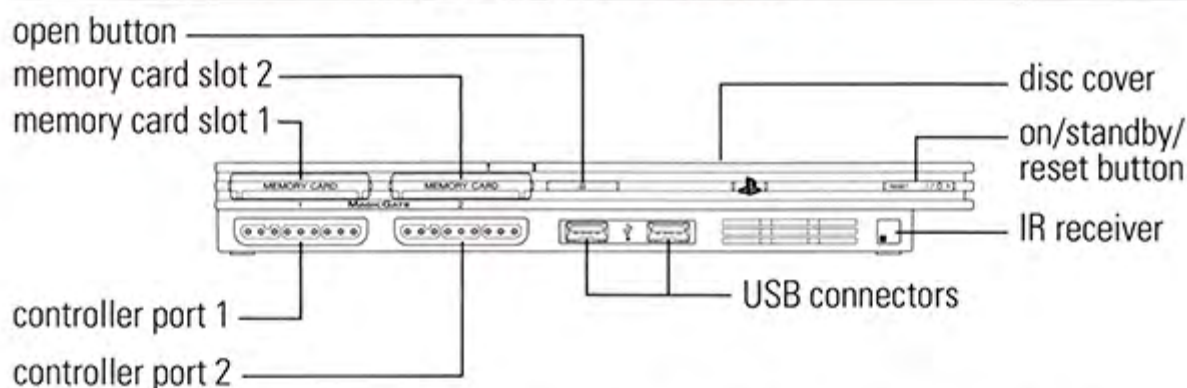


[WWW.EASPORTS.COM](http://WWW.EASPORTS.COM)



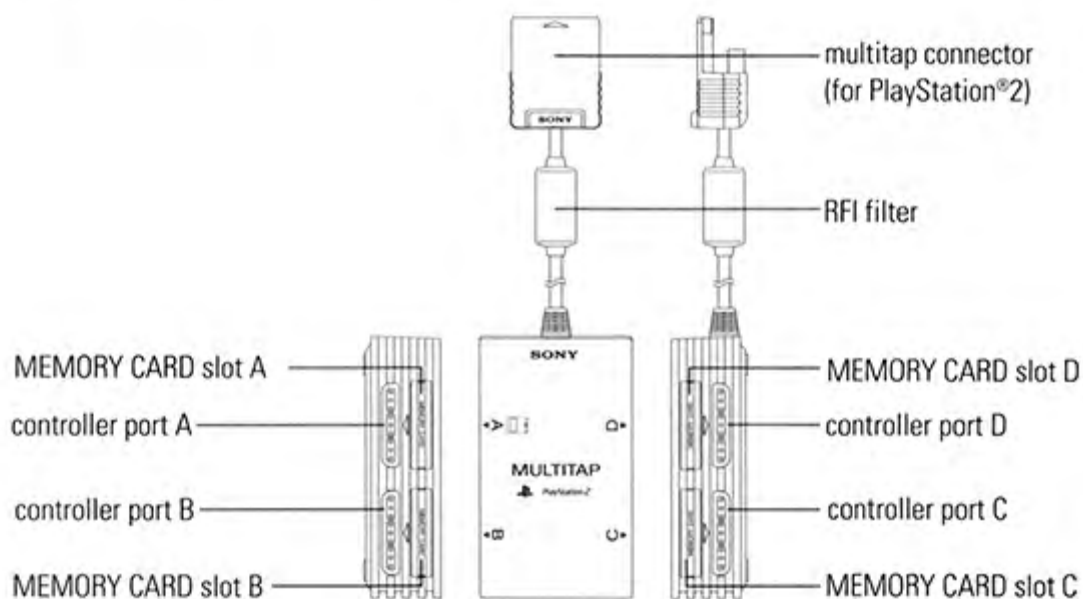
You Played the Game. Now Play the Music.  
**EA Soundtracks and Ringtones**  
Available at [www.ea.com/eatrax/](http://www.ea.com/eatrax/)

# GETTING STARTED



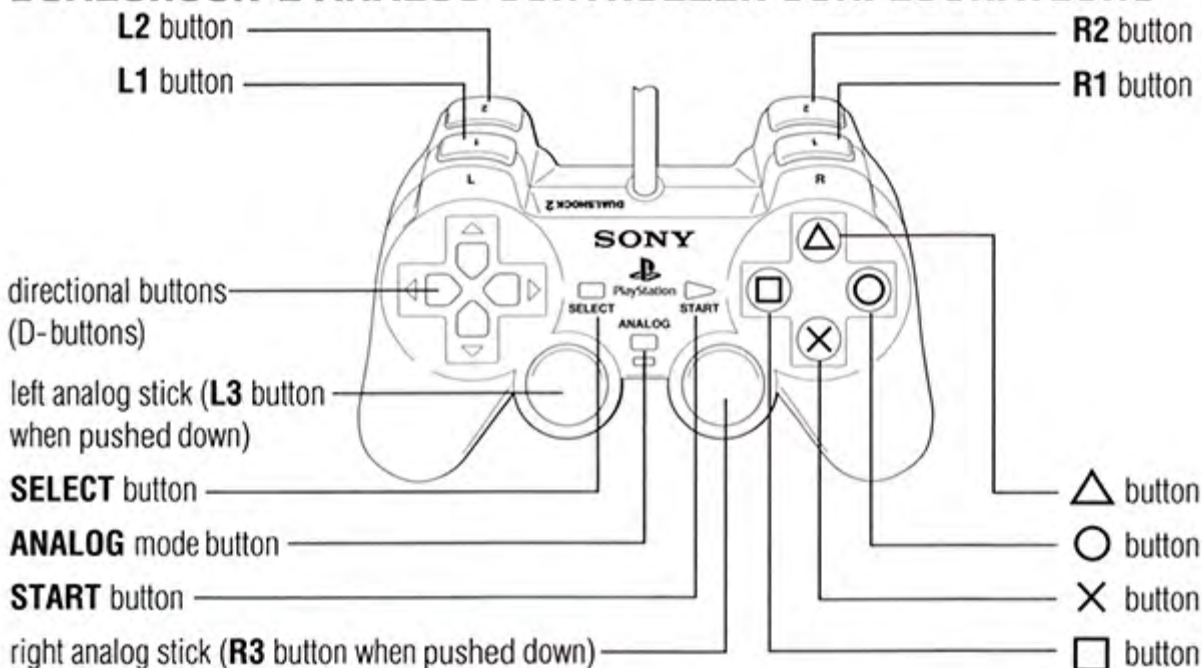
1. Set up your PlayStation®2 computer entertainment system according to the instructions supplied with your system.
2. Check that the system is turned on (the on/standby indicator is green).
3. Insert the *NBA LIVE 08* disc in the system with the label side facing up.
4. Attach game controllers and other peripherals as appropriate.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions and refer to this manual for information on using the software.

**NOTE:** When using the multitap (for PlayStation®2), a controller must be connected to controller port 1-A.



# STARTING UP

## DUALSHOCK®2 ANALOG CONTROLLER CONFIGURATIONS



## ADDITIONAL CONTROLS

### NEW HOT SPOTS

Activate Hot Spots (see p. 5)

**L3** button (hold)

Deactivate Hot Spots

**L3** button

### OFFENSE

Touch pass

**X** button (while ball is still in air) + left analog stick (in the direction that you want the pass to go)

Pro-hop/Power dribble

**△** button

**NOTE:** Players will execute a power dribble when stationary.

**NOTE:** Press the left analog stick in the direction that you want your player to pro-hop.

Back down

**L1** button

Alley-oop pass (when teammate has a clear lane to the basket)

**R2** button (press the left analog stick to control direction of the pass)

Direct pass

**L2** button + **□** button, **X** button, **○** button, or **△** button (tap to pass to closest man to basket)

Off-ball Switch™

**R3** button + **□** button, **X** button, **○** button, or **△** button

### MID-AIR REBOUNDS, TIPS, AND DUNKS

Mid-air rebounds

**△** button

Tip-slam

**□** button (when close to the basket)

Tip-in

**○** button

## INBOUNDING

Call for screen	<b>L1</b> button (hold)
Swim move	right analog stick ↑/↓

## CALL-FOR-PASS INBOUNDING

Move pass receiver	left analog stick
Call for pass	<b>X</b> button
Inbound plays	D-button (tap)

## LOW POST MOVES

Slam dunk	left analog stick (toward basket) + <b>□</b> button (when close to the basket)
Fade-away jump shot	left analog stick (away from basket) + <b>○</b> button

## FREE THROWS

When shooting free throws, press the right analog stick ↓ to begin the shooting motion. Once the player pulls the ball up (near his forehead), press the right analog stick ↑ to release the ball.

The 'up and down' motion on the right analog stick should result in a smooth, clean shot when timed properly. Pressing and holding it too long results in the loss of strength (the shot will miss short) while pressing it too quickly results in too much power (you will back-rim the shot). Also, be sure to press the right analog stick straight ↓ then straight ↑. Pressing it up and to the left (or right) pushes the ball to the left (or right) and may result in a missed shot.

**NOTE:** Pressing the **○** button allows you to simulate the free throw (based on the shooter's free throw ability).

**NOTE:** Your margin for error depends on the player's free throw ability as well as the game's skill level.

## DEFENSE

Direct player switch	<b>L2</b> button + <b>□</b> button, <b>X</b> button, <b>○</b> button, or <b>△</b> button
Last man back	<b>L2</b> button (tap)
Defensive stance/Box out	right analog stick ↓
Intentional foul	<b>SELECT</b> button

## **NEW** EA SPORTS™ DEFENSIVE ASSIST

Activate EA SPORTS Defensive Assist (see p. 6)	<b>L1</b> button
Draw a charge	<b>○</b> button
Steal attempt	<b>□</b> button/right analog stick ←/→

## NBA ALL-STAR WEEKEND

### 3 POINT SHOOTOUT

Switch camera view	<b>L1</b> button
Pick up ball	<b>R1</b> button
Jump/Shoot	<b>□</b> button, <b>X</b> button, <b>○</b> button, or <b>△</b> button (press to jump, release to shoot)

### SLAM DUNK CONTEST (ON GROUND)

1 Foot Gather	<b>□</b> button
2 Foot Gather	<b>○</b> button
1 Foot 180 Gather	<b>△</b> button
2 Foot 180 Gather	<b>X</b> button
Ball toss	right analog stick
Move player	left analog stick
Dunk/Toss modifiers	<b>L1</b> button/ <b>R1</b> button

### SLAM DUNK CONTEST (IN AIR)

Windmill	△ button
Tomahawk	□ button
Pump	○ button
Clutch	× button
Rotate player (on 180 Gatherers)	left analog stick
Dunk modifiers	L1 button/ R1 button

## PLAYING THE GAME

### SELECT TEAM/SELECT JERSEY SCREEN

After selecting an NBA franchise, All-Star team (includes Decades and National teams), or Team adidas for the upcoming game, you have the option to change your team's jersey. Choose from an assortment of Home, Away, Alternate, Classics, or Practice.

### USER PROFILES

Keep a record of your personal stats and accomplishments with a User Profile. An active User Profile saves career achievements in various game modes to your memory card (8MB)(for PlayStation®2). You can save and load your Settings (where your User Profile is located) in the Save/Load screen (via the Options menu).

### HEAD-TO-HEAD TRACKER

Wins and losses are the bottom line for every NBA franchise. For single and multiplayer games, keep track of your bottom line by using the Head-to-Head Tracker. Check your overall record as well as any winning streak you may have ongoing and see how your team measures up.

### STARTING LINEUPS/SETTINGS SCREEN

Storm the court with your starting five or adjust your lineup by substituting players off the bench. Gain an extra edge by studying your players' Hot Spots (see below) and Freestyle moves to unleash on your opponent.

Once the lineup is set, select the skill level for the next game, along with quarter length, arena location, and camera view. You can also adjust the rules, preferences, gameplay settings, and in-game settings from the Settings screen.

### **NEW** HOT SPOTS

Find where on the hardwood your players can knock down bucket after bucket with Hot Spots, the new feature that displays where players have the best chance at hitting their shot attempts. Red areas on the floor indicate a player's optimum spot to shoot while blue areas show where a player tends to be ice cold. Check your Starting Lineup to see where your shotmakers can get hot in a hurry. Hot Spots are an offensive feature only.

### **NEW** DOMINATE WITH YOUR GO-TO MOVE

Take command of the game by mastering the signature moves of the NBA's elite. Your favorite signature shooting techniques have been re-created. See what your star players can do and unveil your most dominating Go-To Move when you need it most.

### EA SPORTS™ FREESTYLE CONTROL

Express yourself with EA SPORTS Freestyle Control. While dribbling, press the right analog stick in any direction to break out a Freestyle move. Making the same shape on the right analog stick results in the same move every time. You can also create combinations of Freestyle moves, so be sure to use Individual Practice mode to help perfect these moves. Remember not all players are built the same, so do not expect Gilbert Arenas and Tim Duncan to mirror each other's Freestyle moves. Find your superstar's highlight-worthy shots and attack!

## **NEW EA SPORTS™ DEFENSIVE ASSIST**

Transform your defense into a meat grinder with the EA SPORTS Defensive Assist. Smother opponents with an aggressive style of defense and create turnovers that lead to easy baskets.

When defending a ball-handler trigger the EA SPORTS Defensive Assist by pressing the **L1** button (press the left analog stick to stay in front of your man). Once your opponent is trapped, you can force him into a turnover situation or put him in a position for an easy double-team. In addition, press the **○** button to draw a charge, or press the **□** button or press the right analog stick **←/→** for a steal attempt.

## **INTENSITY METER**

Feel the emotional ebb and flow of the game with the Intensity Meter. Colors on the Intensity Meter change from blue (low intensity situations) to flashing red (high intensity situations). See how your players respond in both free-flowing and pressure packed points in the game. It's in tense moments when a good player can become great.

## **MOMENTUM**

Get a read on your team's momentum. A Momentum Meter appears when your team has generated a significant amount of momentum through scoring runs, defensive stops, and more.

## **TOUCH PASSING**

Turn a no-look pass into an art form with the touch passing system. When a pass is in mid-air, call for a second touch pass by pressing the pass button and pressing the left analog stick in the direction you want the pass to go.

## **QUICK PLAYS**

Direct traffic on both ends of the court by calling a Quick Play. On offense, you can run Isolation, Post Up, Pick-and-Roll, or Pick and Pop plays. On defense, the 3-2 Zone, Double Team, Full Court Man-to-Man, and Half Court Man to Man defensive options are available. You can change your Quick Play settings on your controller via the Playbook screen.

## **PLAYBOOK**

Adjust to your opponent's playing style mid-game. You have the option to adjust your defensive matchups, defensive playbook, offensive playbook, and team strategies. The Playbook menu is accessible through the Pause menu during a game.

## **SAVING AND LOADING**

Before exiting a game mode (or a menu where changes have been made), be sure to save your progress to a memory card in MEMORY CARD slot 1. All unsaved information will be lost otherwise. You can also save or load manually by accessing the LOAD/SAVE screen.

- To save or load a file, highlight the file you wish to load (or create a new file name when saving for the first time). Once the file is selected and/or named, the game data is either loaded or saved.

## **PLAY ONLINE**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED TO ACCESS ONLINE FEATURES. TERMS & CONDITIONS AND FEATURE UPDATES ARE FOUND AT [www.ea.com](http://www.ea.com). YOU MUST BE 13+ TO REGISTER ONLINE.**

**EA MAY RETIRE ONLINE FEATURES AFTER 30 DAYS NOTICE POSTED ON [www.ea.com](http://www.ea.com) OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE LAST DAY OF THE 2007-2008 NBA SEASON.**

A network adaptor (Ethernet/modem) (for PlayStation®2) and a memory card (8MB)(for PlayStation®2) with Your Network Configuration file inserted into MEMORY CARD slot 1 are required to play *NBA LIVE 08* online. *NBA LIVE 08* is compatible with Your Network Configuration files created from other PlayStation®2 online games. You can use the Network Adaptor Start-Up Disc that came with your network adaptor (Ethernet/modem) (for PlayStation®2) or the Network Configuration GUI in this game to create a network configuration. Your Network Configuration file requires 94KB of free space on the memory card (8MB)(for PlayStation®2).

## **PLAYING ONLINE**

In order to play *NBA LIVE 08* online, you must create a Your Network Configuration file and a new EA Account by following the on-screen instructions. If you already have an EA Account and a Network Configuration saved on a memory card, they appear automatically.

## **PLAYING BEHIND A FIREWALL**

We recommend that you do not play behind a firewall. However, if you do wish to play behind a firewall, you must open the following ports: **3658** (peer-to-peer connection); **6000** (VOIP).

## **WELCOME TO NBA LIVE 08 ONLINE**

Take on the best ballers in the nation as you climb your way to the top of the online leaderboard. The action begins from the Online lobby, your main resource for connecting to players from coast to coast.

**NOTE:** To mute your online opponent, pause the game and press the **L3** button.



<b>Play Now</b>	Find the next available public session waiting to play online.
<b>Session Match</b>	Select your favorite settings and search to find a match that suits your style.
<b>Lobby</b>	Locate players and/or visit chat rooms from the Lobby.
<b>Leaderboard</b>	View the Leaderboard and see who is dominating <i>NBA LIVE 08</i> online.
<b>My NBA LIVE</b>	Alter your online settings and change your Quick Messages.
<b>My Career</b>	View the final results of your most Recent Games and track your stats in the Stats Book to see how you compare with other players.
<b>View Career</b>	Scout potential opponents and view their stats to see who you best match up against.

## ESPN EVERYWHERE

Bring the ESPN experience with you everywhere you go. You'll have full access to ESPN Radio, the ESPN Ticker, and ESPNEWS. Now you can get the latest scores and updates from the worldwide leader in sports without having to leave the Main menu.

**NOTE:** ESPNEWS is an Online mode feature only.

**NOTE:** To access ESPN directly, choose Options then ESPN Settings and select whether or not you wish to automatically log-in. The first time you play *NBA LIVE 08* you must successfully establish an online connection with the network (see *Play Online* on p. 6). When ON, you're automatically connected to ESPN Everywhere.

## SEASON

Play a 29-, 58-, or 82-game season and make your run for the championship. Select any team using current NBA rosters, or assemble your squad through a Fantasy Draft. You can even customize your league by switching up the teams in your division.

## DYNASTY MODE™

Dynasty Mode™ operates on a year-round NBA calendar so be prepared to handle the duties on and off the court for multiple seasons. After choosing a team and selecting your settings, Season One begins. Build your team from the ground up by hiring your coaching staff and conducting the draft. Before you start making key decisions, check your Message Center (press the **L3** button) for messages from the league, team owner, and more that can help determine the success of your franchise.

### NBA DRAFT

You have the option to begin your tenure as GM by managing your team's draft day selections during the annual rookie draft. After evaluating your team roster, draft lottery, and mock draft, decide which positions are in dire need of an upgrade, then do what it takes to select the players you want most on draft day.

## DURING THE SEASON

### SCHEDULE/GM'S DESK/ROSTER MANAGEMENT

Play or simulate games by selecting your next opponent via the Schedule screen. From the Dynasty Central menu you will find the GM's Desk, Roster Management screen, and more. For off the court news, view the list of free agents, and more from the GM's desk. From the Roster Management screen you can sign, release, and trade players.

### **NEW** DYNASTY SCENARIOS

To expedite your season, you may choose to simulate games. Occasionally events occur during a simulated game that requires your immediate attention. When a Simulation Alert is delivered, you will have the option to interrupt the simulation rather than leaving the game's outcome to the AI.

### TEAM CHEMISTRY

Attempt to meet the needs of every player on your squad and help improve the overall team chemistry. When chemistry is at its highest, your team gels and performs to its highest potential. Without a high level of team chemistry your chances to make a championship run decrease. By managing playing time, off-day events, and other trials of a full NBA season, it's up to you to create a harmonious locker room.

A player's satisfaction is determined by eight categories unique to each player. You have direct control over some factors, like roster position, and event scheduling. Factors such as winning percentage, roster quality, and locker room harmony are somewhat in your control, while other factors such as team market size are out of your hands. When bringing in new players, adjusting lineups, and making a roster adjustment, be sure it's best for the team. Every move you make will stir a reaction from all 15 players, both positive and negative—and sometimes both depending on the move.

You can see how a player feels about his current situation from the Player Info screen, or see his "individual chemistry" with another player via the Player Chemistry screen. Pay attention to these factors before making a key roster move, including trades and alterations to the lineup.

## PLAYER FATIGUE

The season is grueling so be sure to keep an eye out for player fatigue throughout the year. Games and practices are only part of what affects the fatigue level. Days off, back-to-back games, total games played, and team event scheduling can also contribute to Player Fatigue, along with road trips based on distance traveled.

Some players may tire quicker than others (based on individual stamina rating). Factors such as a player's age, stamina rating, and the average number of minutes per game all contribute to Player Fatigue.

With so much at stake, be sure to plan off-day events accordingly, or make other smart moves that keep your players fresh for the next game.

## OFF-SEASON

After the playoffs, it's time for all GMs to evaluate their respective teams for the upcoming season. Be sure to use valuable information from your team scouts to help evaluate talent. Listen to their advice and study up on the incoming class before draft day. Making a wrong pick could set your franchise back a few years.

After the Rookie Draft is complete, you have the chance to bid on and offer contracts to free agents. Financial security is the main selling point to many of the players, but don't break the bank to sign them. Be sure to keep enough money in the budget in order to sign the key role players as well.

To manage your roster, you can also re-sign and release players from the lineup. After the free agent period ends and your roster is set, the new season begins.

## PLAYOFFS

It's the time of year where winning isn't everything—it's the only thing. The NBA Playoffs are here and your team is one of the few left standing. Take part in the most grueling and exciting point of the season as your opponent tries to send you home with nothing but next season to look forward to. Participate in a traditional format or customize a tournament—with or without a Fantasy Draft. Advance all the way to the Finals and hoist the Larry O'Brien NBA Championship Trophy.

## NEW FIBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Enter the world's stage and take on players representing their respective nations in the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) World Championship. Eight national teams comprising FIBA are ready for you to take to the final round. You also have the option to choose any NBA franchise to compete in this hotly contested championship. Tweak the settings and you are ready to play or simulate tension-filled games where the world is there for the taking.

## NBA ALL-STAR WEEKEND

It's the NBA All-Star Weekend Big Easy style as the league's elite convene in New Orleans, LA. Pit rising stars against each other with the rookies taking on sophomore players in the Rookie Challenge. See who can hit from downtown the most in 60 seconds during the 3-Point Shootout. Slam and jam with your best Freestyle moves on your way to winning the Slam Dunk Contest. Finally, run alongside the best players in the league by taking part in the NBA All-Star Game. It's East vs. West in this action-packed, winner-take-all game set in New Orleans Arena.

## OTHER GAME MODES

### Freestyle Challenge

Playing split-screen against an opponent, fly high above the rim in the Slam Dunk Showdown, or knock down 3's from beyond the arc in the 3-Point Showdown. Reach the set point total and win the competition. Money Balls are worth more so be sure to capitalize on the bonus opportunity.

### 1 on 1

It's you versus him in this 1 on 1 showdown. Take on any of the NBA's elite for ultimate bragging rights.

## Individual Practice

Before you hit the court, work on your Freestyle moves in Individual Practice mode. The entire court is yours with no crowd or clock. Once you've mastered your dunks, crossovers, and jump shots, turn them loose against live competition or wow the crowd during the NBA All-Star Weekend.

## Slam Dunk School

In Slam Dunk School, progress through the ranks of Beginner, Alley-Oop, or Advanced Practice. Once you perfect your moves, you're ready to compete in the Slam Dunk Showdown.

# LIMITED 90-DAY WARRANTY

## Electronic Arts Limited Warranty

Electronic Arts warrants to the original purchaser of this product that the recording medium on which the software program(s) are recorded (the "Recording Medium") and the documentation that is included with this product (the "Manual") are free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of 90 days from the date of purchase. If the Recording Medium or the Manual is found to be defective within 90 days from the date of purchase, Electronic Arts agrees to replace the Recording Medium or Manual free of charge upon receipt of the Recording Medium or Manual at its service center, postage paid, with proof of purchase. This warranty is limited to the Recording Medium containing the software program and the Manual that were originally provided by Electronic Arts. This warranty shall not be applicable and shall be void if, in the judgment of Electronic Arts, the defect has arisen through abuse, mistreatment or neglect.

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## RETURNS WITHIN THE 90-DAY WARRANTY PERIOD

Please return the product along with (1) a copy of the original sales receipt showing the date of purchase, (2) a brief description of the difficulty you are experiencing, and (3) your name, address and phone number to the address below and Electronic Arts will mail a replacement Recording Medium and/or Manual to you. If the product was damaged through misuse or accident, this 90-day warranty is rendered void and you will need to follow the instructions for returns after the 90-day warranty period. We strongly recommend that you send your products using a traceable delivery method. Electronic Arts is not responsible for products not in its possession.

## EA Warranty Information

If the defect in the Recording Medium or Manual resulted from abuse, mistreatment or neglect, or if the Recording Medium or Manual is found to be defective after 90 days from the date of purchase, choose one of the following options to receive our replacement instructions:

Online: <http://warrantyinfo.ea.com>

Automated Warranty Information: You can contact our automated phone system 24 hours a day for any and all warranty questions:

US 1 (650) 628-1001

## EA Warranty Mailing Address

Electronic Arts Customer Warranty  
P.O. Box 9025  
Redwood City, CA 94063-9025

## Package Cover Photography: Getty Images

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