



News Release

5465 Mark Dabbling Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80918-3842
<http://www.usabasketball.com>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / Feb. 27, 2017

For further information, contact Craig Miller, Caroline Williams, Jenny Johnston or Trenton Miller at USA Basketball (719)-590-4800 *This release is also available at www.usab.com

Eleven Gold Medalists Headline USA Basketball Men's Junior National Select Team For 20th Annual Nike Hoop Summit

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado (Feb. 27, 2017) – The USA Junior National Select Team for the 2017 Nike Hoop Summit will be led by 11 players who have won at least one gold medal in international competition and three athletes who have earned two international gold medals.

The 2017 USA Junior National Select Team, which features U.S. high school senior boys, will take on a World Select Team that is comprised of top international players who are 19 years old or younger in the 20th annual Nike Hoop Summit at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 7 at the Moda Center in Portland, Oregon.

Named to the USA Nike Hoop Summit Team were **Wendell Carter Jr.** (Pace Academy/Fairburn, Ga.), **Kevin Knox II** (Tampa Catholic H.S./Riverview, Fla.) and **Gary Trent Jr.** (Prolific Prep Academy, Calif./Burnsville, Minn.), who teamed up to capture gold medals at the 2015 FIBA Americas U16 Championship and the 2016 FIBA U17 World Championship.

Also selected to the team after collecting gold medals at the 2016 FIBA U17 World Championship were: **Troy Brown Jr.** (Centennial H.S./Las Vegas, Nev.), **Jaren Jackson Jr.** (La Lumiere School/Carmel, Ind.) and **Collin Sexton** (Pebblebrook H.S./Mableton, Ga.); while **Jarred Vanderbilt** (Victory Prep Academy/Houston, Texas) collected gold at the 2015 FIBA Americas U16 Championship.

Further rounding out the USA team and its gold medalists are **Mohamed Bamba** (Westtown School, Pa./New York, N.Y.), **Quade Green** (Neumann-Goretti H.S./Philadelphia, Pa.), **Michael Porter Jr.** (Nathan Hale H.S./Seattle, Wash.) and **M.J. Walker** (Jonesboro H.S./Riverdale, Ga.), who helped lead the USA to a first-place finish at the 2016 FIBA Americas U18 Championship and a berth into the 2017 FIBA U19 World Championship.

The 12-man roster is finalized with the selection of **Trevon Duval** (IMG Academy, Fla./New Castle, Del.), a three-time USA Basketball Men's Junior National Team October minicamp participant.

Tickets for the 2017 Nike Hoop Summit are now on sale. Lower bowl seating starts at just \$10, and courtside seats are \$50 and \$75. Applicable service charges apply. Tickets will be available at Ticketmaster.com, the Rose Quarter Box Office or by calling 800-745-3000.

“First of all, it’s a tremendous honor to be a part of USA Basketball,” said USA head coach **Miles Simon** (California Supreme AAU), who previously aided the USA to gold medals at the 2015 FIBA Americas U16 Championship and the 2016 FIBA U17 World Championship and was a court coach at the 2015 and 2016 October minicamps. “It is a continuation of my two-year journey with the

U16 and U17 teams and getting to continue that with this class of players. I'm looking forward to having a lot of fun and trying to make it the best experience possible for the players during their week in Portland.

"We have a lot of strengths," Simon said of the team. "We are very athletic. I think we are an unselfish group. We could be really good defensively. Scoring should not be a problem for this team with the amount of talent on the roster. I think this team will really enjoy being with each other and playing for each other."

Simon will be assisted by **Mike Jones** (DeMatha Catholic H.S., Md.), who was 1-1 as the head coach of the USA Junior National Select Team in 2013 and 2014 and was an assistant coach at the 2012 Nike Hoop Summit. Jones also helped lead USA teams to gold medals as an assistant for the 2012 and 2016 USA U17 World Championship Teams and the 2011 USA U16 National Team; he was a court coach at the 2014, 2015 and 2016 October minicamps; and he was an assistant for the East Team at the 2004 USA Basketball Youth Development Festival.

Trent earned MVP honors at the 2015 FIBA Americas U16 Championship, while Sexton was the MVP at the 2016 FIBA U17 World Championship and Carter joined him on the all-tournament team.

Seven of the 12 players have signed a National Letter of Intent for the 2017-18 NCAA season, including Brown (Oregon), Carter and Trent (Duke), Green (Kentucky), Jackson (Michigan State), Porter (Washington) and Sexton (Alabama). Additionally, Vanderbilt verbally committed to the University of Kentucky.

According to the 2017 ESPN 100, Porter is the No. 1 player in the class of 2017, followed by Carter (third), Duval (fourth), Bamba (fifth), Knox (seventh), Trent (eighth), Sexton (10th), Jackson (16th), Brown (17th), Walker (19th), Green (22nd) and Vanderbilt (23rd).

All 12 players were listed on the Naismith Trophy High School Boy's Preseason Watch List, while 11 made the Naismith High School Boys Midseason Team, including Bamba, Brown, Carter, Duval, Green, Jackson, Knox, Porter, Sexton, Trent and Walker. Named as 2017 Naismith High School Boys Player of the Year finalists were: Bamba, Carter, Duval and Porter.

Despite being an underclassman, Trent (Minnesota) earned 2016 Gatorade State Player of the Year recognition.

The 2017 USA Junior National Team was selected by the 2013-16 USA Basketball Men's Developmental National Team Committee, which includes committee chair **Sean Ford** (USA Basketball Men's National Team Director); AAU appointees **Rich Gray** (St. Louis Eagles AAU, Mo.) and **Boo Williams** (Boo Williams, Va.); NFHS appointees **Herman Harried** (Lake Clifton H.S., Md.) and **John Olive** (Torrey Pines H.S., Calif.); at large-representative **Evan Daniels** (Scout.com); and athlete representatives **Chauncey Billups** (2010 FIBA World Cup gold medalist and a member of three USA Basketball teams) and **Gerry McNamara** (2005 USA World University Games Team).

The 2017 World Select Team is expected to be announced in March.

USA Basketball teams have compiled a 13-6 overall advantage in the series and are 3-3 versus the World squad in the past six games. Most recently, the USA recorded the largest margin of victory in event history with a 101-67 win in 2016 that saw **Terrance Ferguson** finish as the USA's leading scorer with 21 points and a U.S. Nike Hoop Summit record seven 3-pointers made.

An incredible 199 former USA and World Select Team members have been drafted by NBA teams, including 11 players in the 2016 NBA Draft and 13 alumni in 2015. In fact, the past seven No. 1 picks have been former Hoop Summit participants.

2017 USA Basketball Men's Junior National Select Team

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	AGE	YOG	HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
Mohamed Bamba	C	6-11	210	19	2017	Westtown School, PA	New York, NY
Troy Brown Jr.	G	6-7	215	17	2017	Centennial H.S./*Oregon	Las Vegas, NV
Wendell Carter Jr.	F	6-9	255	17	2017	Pace Academy/*Duke	Atlanta, GA
Trevon Duval	G	6-3	180	18	2017	IMG Academy, FL	Wilmington, DE
Quade Green	G	6-1	170	18	2017	Neumann-Goretti H.S./*Kentucky	Philadelphia, PA
Jaren Jackson Jr.	F	6-11	225	17	2017	La Lumiere School/*Michigan State	Carmel, IN
Kevin Knox II	F	6-9	203	17	2017	Tampa Catholic H.S.	Riverview, FL
Michael Porter Jr.	G/F	6-10	212	18	2017	Nathan Hale H.S./*Washington	Seattle, WA
Collin Sexton	G	6-3	180	18	2017	Pebblebrook H.S./*Alabama	Mableton, GA
Gary Trent Jr.	G	6-6	205	18	2017	Prolific Prep Academy, CA/*Duke	Burnsville, MN
Jarred Vanderbilt	F	6-9	205	18	2017	Victory Prep Academy/#Kentucky	Houston, TX
M.J. Walker	G	6-5	210	19	2017	Jonesboro H.S.	Riverdale, GA

Head Coach: Miles Simon, California Supreme AAU

Assistant Coach: Mike Jones, DeMatha Catholic High School, Maryland

**National Letter of Intent.*

#Verbal commitment.

-Ages are as of April 7, 2017.