



Season Champions Team Hoop Dreams



The Florida Chinese Business Association Team



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# Hoop Dreams for the B-ball Player in You

*An interview with Tony Khuu, Founder of the Asian Basketball League "Hoop Dreams"*

■ By Ricky Ly <http://tidetheory.blogspot.com>

**Q: What inspired you to begin Hoop Dreams Online and the Asian Basketball League?**

**A:** What's inspired me to begin Hoop Dreams Online was first **the desire to be apart of something that I love to do**, which is play basketball. No matter what's goes on in my life I can always find **peace** on the basketball court with an exception to arguments over calls and my competitive spirit to always be the best, LOL. I wanted to start a community for basketball players where they can build fellowship and continue to play after their high school/college/professional careers, but attempt to keep the **competitive spirit and DREAMS alive!**

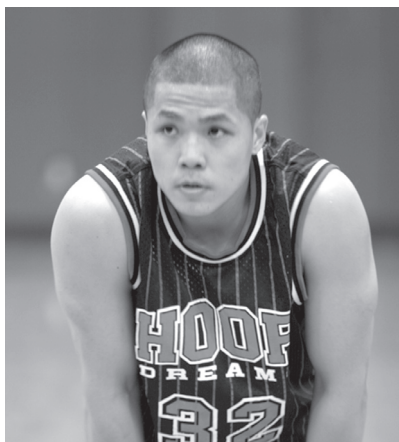
We all wish we can play in the NBA, but that will always be a DREAM for the guys who never made it, so I wanted to bring that **DREAM** and atmosphere to my network of friends. We have talent, but the majority may not be able to keep up with most guys that play ball on a daily basis. And majority of the time our community avoid those courts and attempt to play amongst the same competition level so its fun and we're not getting our butts whooped.

So I decided to start the **Asian Basketball League** because it brings our community together and allows us to play organized basketball on a consistent basis. The Fili-

pino Basketball League is what inspired me to start it because they had their own thing going and I decided to do it for my community as well.

**Q: What were some obstacles you faced and how did you overcome those obstacles?**

**A:** The main obstacle I had to overcome was doing what most people told me that **it couldn't be done**. People told me that by bringing so many Asian ethnicities together it can cause **fights** and riots because they assumed that everyone will have so much pride or whatever the case in their own ethnicity that it will cause them to fight. To this



Founder And Commissioner Tony Khuu Gets Ready To Defend Their Championship

day God forbid, we have not had any fights, but at the same time fights can happen with any race regardless. What it has actually done is bring the community closer together and gives us the chance to strive to be more **open-minded** and learn more about other cultures. We have teams with a mix of Vietnamese, Chinese, Jordanians, to Koreans, Indians, to Laotians, Filipinos to Middle-Eastern all playing on the same team, overcoming that stereotype that when a large amount of Asians get together in a hostile environment.

**Q: When do you meet and how do people join and find out more info?**

**A:** As of now we meet every Sunday at **1400 Gaston Foster Rd** at the **Dover Shores Community Center**. First game is about 3pm and the last game is about 6pm. We currently have 9 teams, live music, and the community. The championship game is scheduled for June 21st, 2009 and you can see the schedule on [www.hoopdreamsonline.com](http://www.hoopdreamsonline.com). If anyone is interested in the summer Asian Basketball League they can email me at [hoopdreamsonline@gmail.com](mailto:hoopdreamsonline@gmail.com) subject line ABL.

I would like to pay homage to **Elvin Valmores of the Filipino Basketball League** and **Bo Nung of Asianballers.net** for all the inspiration.