

NATIONAL TEAM OF FINLAND

EUROBASKET 2011



National Team of Finland, Eurobasket 2011

| # | First name | Family name | Height | Date of birth | Position | Club team |
|----|------------|-------------|--------|---------------|----------|--------------------------|
| 4 | Mikko | Koivisto | 194 | 18.4.1987 | G | Loimaa Bisons (FIN) |
| 5 | Antti | Nikkilä | 210 | 25.8.1978 | C | Tampereen Pyrintö (FIN) |
| 6 | Kimmo | Muurinen | 202 | 23.2.1981 | F | <i>free agent</i> |
| 7 | Shawn | Huff | 198 | 5.5.1984 | G/F | Forli (ITA) |
| 8 | Gerald jr. | Lee | 208 | 23.11.1987 | F/C | Prima Veroli (ITA) |
| 9 | Sasu | Salin | 191 | 11.6.1991 | G | Olimpija Ljubljana (SLO) |
| 10 | Tuukka | Kotti | 205 | 13.3.1981 | F | Aget Imola (ITA) |
| 11 | Petteri | Koponen | 194 | 13.4.1988 | G | Virtus Bologna (ITA) |
| 12 | Vesa | Mäkäläinen | 200 | 3.9.1986 | F | Kauhajoen Karhu (FIN) |
| 13 | Hanno | Möttölä | 209 | 9.9.1976 | F/C | <i>free agent</i> |
| 14 | Petri | Virtanen | 183 | 18.9.1980 | G | Joensuun Kataja (FIN) |
| 15 | Teemu | Rannikko | 189 | 9.9.1980 | G | Cimberio Varese (ITA) |

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------|-----------|---------------------------|-------|-------------|
| Head Coach | Henrik | Dettmann | Doctor | Alexi | Kallioniemi |
| Coach | Pekka | Salminen | Team Manager | Mikko | Pehkonen |
| Coach | Jukka | Toijala | Video coordinator | Lassi | Tuovi |
| Physiotherapist | Seppo | Pehkonen | Press Officer | Mika | Mäkelä |
| Physiotherapist | Vesa | Kuparinen | Head of Delegation | Vesa | Walldén |



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#4 Mikko Koivisto

Born: April 18th 1987 **Height:** 194 cm **Position:** SG/PG
Club (11/12): Loimaa Bisons (Finland Korisliiga) **Home club:** Vantaan Pussihukat
With Finnish National team: 51 games / 4,8 points a game

Koivisto had one of the most memorable debuts in Finnish national team history, scoring 17 points in his first game with Team Finland against Lithuania and Sarunas Jasikevicius. Young man who carries himself like a veteran. An excellent shooter, a valuable defensive player and can also play point guard with confidence when needed. Played NCAA basketball with UNC-Greensboro Spartans from 2006 to 2010.



#5 Antti Nikkilä

Born: August 25th 1978 **Height:** 210 cm **Position:** C
Club (11/12): Tampereen Pyrintö (Finland Korisliiga) **Home club:** Tampereen Pyrintö
With Finnish National team: 114 games / 5,8 points a game

An experienced old school center, quite possibly the strongest player in Finland's top level at the moment. Not afraid to play physically, excels in box-outs and setting picks. Played college ball with Valparaiso Crusaders from 1999 to 2003 and has played in Greece, Czech Republic, Spain and Italy ever since. Has won Finnish championship (2010), Greek cup (2004), French cup (2005), Czech league championship (2007) and Czech cup (2007).



#6 Kimmo Muurinen

Born: February 23rd 1981 **Height:** 202 cm **Position:** PF/SF
Club (11/12): Free agent **Home club:** Pantterit, Helsinki
With Finnish National team: 113 games / 6,6 points a game

Nicknamed "He-Man", Muurinen plays high energy basketball, takes a lot of hits and is willing to fight for every rebound and loose ball. A high class defensive player who is also able to score in bunches from second chance shots, dunks and three-pointers. Two-time Finnish champion (2007, 2008), who has also played NCAA basketball with Arkansas-Little Rock (2002-04). Started at power forward position with German Bundesliga team Frankfurt Skyliners in 2010/11.



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#7 Shawn Huff

Born: May 5th 1984 **Height:** 198 cm **Position:** SF/SG
Club (11/12): Fulgor Libertas Forli (Italy LegaDue) **Home club:** ToPo, Helsinki
With Finnish National team: 103 games / 8,5 points a game

“Plastic man” started playing basketball at the age of 14. A very physical, quick and high-jumping second generation basketball player: son of former U.S. national team player Leon Huff. Elite on-ball defensive player, fast break finisher and corner shooter. Played four years of college ball with Valparaiso Crusaders (2004-08) after winning two Finnish championships with Espoon Honka Playboys (2002, 2003) and has played in Greece in Italy so far.



#8 Gerald Lee Jr.

Born: November 23rd 1987 **Height:** 208 cm **Position:** PF/C
Club (11/12): Prima Veroli (Italy LegaDue) **Home club:** Uudenkaupungin Korihait
With Finnish national team: 40 games / 9,9 points a game

Son of Finnish Korisliiga all time scoring and steals leader Gerald Lee sr., “Junior Lee” played shooting guard and small forward positions before his height leap. Developed into a terrific, old-school low post scorer during his four NCAA years with Old Dominion Monarchs (2006-10). Lead his team to CAA conference championship in 2010 while being voted the Most Outstanding Player of the tournament. Will begin his second year in Italy in October 2011.



#9 Sasu Salin

Born: June 11th 1991 **Height:** 192 cm **Position:** SG/PG
Club (11/12): Union Olimpija Ljubljana (Slovenia Liga Telemach) **Home club:** MaSu-Basket, Helsinki
With Finnish national team: 21 games / 9,0 points a game

Was invited to Finnish national team in 2010 because of several key players’ injuries and took over the competition with his tremendous long range shooting. During his first professional year, Salin has developed into an elite defensive player as well. A crowd-pleaser, whose Dennis Rodman-type passion for loose balls has been noted by several professional coaches throughout Europe.



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#10 Tuukka Kotti

Born: March 18th 1981 **Height:** 205 cm **Position:** PF/C
Club (11/12): Aget Imola (Italy LegaDue) **Home club:** Forssan Koripojat
With Finnish national team: 133 games / 8,3 points a game

Started his career as a Toni Kukoc-type point forward and was molded into a center during his four NCAA years with Providence Friars (2001-05). A vital defensive player for Finnish team thanks to his athleticism and strength. Was bugged by injuries during his first three professional seasons in Italy and France, but stepped back to his old shape and won Finnish Korisliiga MVP in 2010. Spent last season in Italy as one of the best defensive players in LegaDue. Finnish cup champion (2009).



#11 Petteri Koponen

Born: April 13th 1988 **Height:** 194 cm **Position:** PG/SG
Club (11/12): Virtus Bologna (Italy Serie A) **Home club:** MaSu-Basket, Helsinki
With Finnish national team: 66 games / 12,0 points a game

Koponen became the starting point guard of Finnish Korisliiga club Espoon Honka Playboys in 2006 as an 18-year old. Two Finnish championships (2007, 2008), a terrific Nike Hoop Summit showing (2007) and 1st round NBA draft pick (2007, 30th pick) later, Koponen was brought to Italy by legendary club Virtus Bologna. In Bologna, Koponen has developed into probably the most polished offensive player of team Finland with his tremendous shooting, passing and driving skills. FIBA EuroChallenge champion (2009). NBA-rights currently owned by reigning champion Dallas Mavericks.



#12 Vesa Mäkäläinen

Born: September 3rd 1986 **Height:** 200 cm **Position:** PF/SF
Club (11/12): Kauhajoen Karhu (Finland Korisliiga) **Home club:** Lahden NMKY
With Finnish national team: 25 games / 1,6 points a game

A blue-collar workhorse who reads the game exceptionally well. Led his hometown club Namika Lahti to surprise 2009 Finnish championship while being named Finals MVP thanks to his brilliant defensive effort. Has driven NBA and Euroleague caliber opponents mad with his man-to-man defense and has also stepped up his offensive game in 2010/11.



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#13 Hanno Möttölä

Born: September 9th 1976 **Height:** 209 cm **Position:** PF/C
Club (11/12): Free agent **Home club:** Helsingin NMKY
With Finnish national team: 124 games / 13,3 points a game

The most storied player of Finnish basketball history. Has played in all the best series of the world: NCAA, NBA, Euroleague, ULEB Cup, Spanish ACB, Russian Superleague, Italian Serie A, Greek A1 Ethniki and BBL. NCAA-finalist (1998) and Euroleague finalist (2004), Lithuanian cup champion (2007), Lithuanian champion (2007) and ULEB EuroCup champion (2006). Retired from basketball in 2008, but came back a year later. A versatile veteran player with stunning basketball IQ who always brings his A game to national team level.



#14 Petri Virtanen

Born: September 18th 1980 **Height:** 183 cm **Position:** SG/PG
Club (11/12): Joensuu Kataja (Finland Korisliiga) **Home club:** Säynätsalon Riento
With Finnish national team: 127 games / 7,7 points a game

A sneaky streetball-type player who can hit the dagger from any spot on the court. Has been starring in key role in at least one major victory for Finnish national team each summer. One of the best long range shooters in Finnish history and two time Finnish League MVP (2003, 2006). Winner of Estonian cup (2003) and two-time Finnish cup champion (2007, 2010).



#15 Teemu Rannikko

















Born: September 9th 1980 **Height:** 189 cm **Position:** PG
Club (11/12): Cimberio Varese (Italy Serie A) **Home club:** Turun NMKY
With Finnish national team: 108 games / 11,0 points a game

Rannikko has been Finnish national team's starting point guard ever since 1998. Started his pro career as a 20-year old in 2000 and has a long and storied career behind him. A very classic point guard who reads the game brilliantly and can take over the game with his passing, but also a capable shooter and penetrator. Finnish cup champion (1999), Slovenian cup and league champion (2007), Russian cup champion (2008) and ULEB Cup runner-up (2009) starting his fifth Italian season in 2011.



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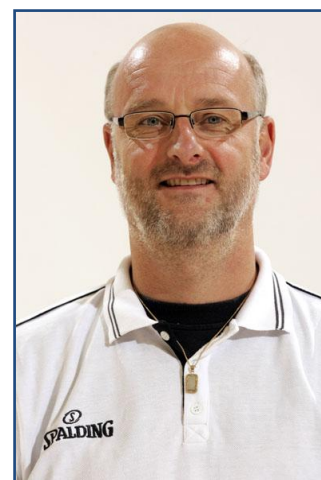
National Team experience of players

| Name | Games | Points (average) | Best game | Debut game |
|-----------------|-------|------------------|--|---|
| Tuukka Kotti | 133 | 1108 (8.3) | 23 vs  SWE 28.06.2003 | vs  DNK 01.08.2000 |
| Petri Virtanen | 127 | 980 (7.7) | 30 vs  BEL 05.08.2005 | vs  SWE 26.11.2001 |
| Hanno Möttölä | 124 | 1644 (13.3) | 42 vs  ISL 22.08.2001 | vs  GRC 26.05.1995 |
| Antti Nikkilä | 114 | 666 (5.8) | 21 vs  EST 29.06.2002 | vs  LVA 28.12.1997 |
| Kimmo Muurinen | 113 | 745 (6.6) | 21 vs  NOR 02.08.2000 | vs  DNK 01.08.2000 |
| Teemu Rannikko | 108 | 1186 (11.0) | 24 vs  ITA 13.09.2008 | vs  LVA 28.12.1997 |
| Shawn Huff | 103 | 880 (8.5) | 33 vs  RUS 23.07.2003 | vs  EST 27.12.2003 |
| Petteri Koponen | 66 | 789 (12.0) | 26 vs  BGR 10.09.2008 | vs  NOR 01.08.2006 |
| | | | 26 vs  ITA 20.08.2009 | |
| | | | 26 vs  HUN 25.07.2009 | |
| | | | 26 vs  PRT 24.08.2011 | |
| Tuomas Iisalo | 57 | 144 (2.5) | 12 vs  ISR 11.08.2010 | vs  EST 27.07.2006 |
| Mikko Koivisto | 51 | 246 (4.8) | 20 vs  UKR 08.08.2008 | vs  LTU 27.07.2008 |
| Gerald Lee Jr. | 40 | 394 (9.9) | 27 vs  SWE 26.07.2011 | vs  ISL 02.08.2006 |
| Vesa Mäkäläinen | 25 | 40 (1.6) | 7 vs  ISR 26.08.2010 | vs  EST 17.07.2007 |
| Sasu Salin | 21 | 189 (9.0) | 16 vs  ITA 23.08.2010 | vs  ISR 11.08.2010 |

Head Coach Henrik Dettmann

Born: April 5th 1958 **With Finnish national team:** 187 games, 97 wins, 90 losses (1992-97, 2004-) **With German national team:** 112 games, 66 wins, 46 losses (1997-2003)

One of the most experienced national team coaches in the continent. Has been leading a senior national team continuously from 1992. Coming into Eurobasket 2011 he already has combined 294 national team games at senior level. Led Germany to bronze-medals in World Championships 2002. Eurobasket 2011 is the fifth European Championships at senior level for coach Dettmann. Guided Finland in 1995 and Germany in 1999 (7th), 2001 (4th) and 2003 (9th). In addition he has been the head coach for Finland in European Youth Championships for Men U18 teams in 1984 and 1986 and for Men U16 team in 1985. Known for calling talented youngsters to senior team likes of Dirk Nowitzki of Germany as well as Hanno Möttölä and Petteri Koponen of Finland.



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Finland in Eurobasket

Games: 104 **Wins:** 41 **Losses:** 63 **Points scored:** 6191 (59.5) **Opponent points:** 6959 (66.9)

| Year | Status | Wins/losses (%) | Points scored/opponent points (average) |
|------|-------------|-----------------|---|
| 1939 | Place: 8 | 0/7 (0%) | 70/538 (10/76.9) |
| 1951 | Place: 9 | 7/2 (78%) | 500/407 (55.6/45.2) |
| 1953 | Place: 12 | 4/6 (40%) | 490/512 (49/51.2) |
| 1955 | Place: 10 | 5/4 (56%) | 565/587 (62.8/65.2) |
| 1957 | Place: 11 | 6/4 (60%) | 686/642 (68.6/64.2) |
| 1959 | Place: 13 | 2/5 (29%) | 388/426 (55.4/60.9) |
| 1961 | Place: 14 | 3/4 (43%) | 462/483 (66/69) |
| 1963 | Place: 14 | 2/7 (22%) | 520/621 (57.8/69) |
| 1965 | Place: 12 | 3/6 (33%) | 494/578 (54.9/64.2) |
| 1967 | Place: 6 | 6/3 (67%) | 616/580 (68.4/64.4) |
| 1977 | Place: 10 | 1/6 (14%) | 570/645 (81.4/92.1) |
| 1995 | Place: 14 | 0/6 (0%) | 457/574 (76.2/95.7) |
| 2011 | Now playing | 2/3 (40%) | 373/366 (74.6/73.2) |















Finland vs. Russia all-time (Thursday 8th of September at 18:00)

Games: 6 **Wins:** 2 **Losses:** 4 **Points scored:** 506 (84.3) **Opponent points:** 620 (103.3)

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------|---|----------|
| 06.08.2003 | Friendly games | Finland  | 85:91 |  Russia | Tampere |
| 23.07.2003 | Friendly games | Finland  | 97:81 |  Russia | Helsinki |
| 30.05.1999 | Friendly games | Finland  | 63:97 |  Russia | Helsinki |
| 21.06.1995 | European Championships | Finland  | 74:126 |  Russia | Athens |
| 09.11.1994 | European Championships Qualifiers | Russia  | 129:89 |  Finland | Moscow |
| 10.11.1993 | European Championships Qualifiers | Finland  | 98:96 |  Russia | Helsinki |

Finland vs. Georgia all-time (Saturday 10th of September at 15:30)

Games: 7 **Wins:** 2 **Losses:** 5 **Points scored:** 568 (81.1) **Opponent points:** 601 (85.9)

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------|---|----------|
| 02.09.2007 | European Championships Qualifiers | Georgia  | 77:76 |  Finland | Tbilisi |
| 13.09.2006 | European Championships Qualifiers | Finland  | 91:81 |  Georgia | Helsinki |
| 03.09.2005 | European Championships Qualifiers | Finland  | 87:79 |  Georgia | Helsinki |
| 11.09.2004 | European Championships Qualifiers | Georgia  | 85:78 |  Finland | Tbilisi |
| 28.08.1983 | Friendly games | Georgia  | 110:93 |  Finland | Tbilisi |
| 30.07.1972 | Friendly games | Georgia  | 90:76 |  Finland | Tbilisi |
| 07.05.1968 | Friendly games | Finland  | 67:79 |  Georgia | Tallinn |

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Finland vs. Slovenia all-time (Monday 12th of September at 15:30)

Games: 5 Wins: 0 Losses: 5 Points scored: 309 (61.8) Opponent points: 434 (86.8)

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------|-------------|------------|
| 20.08.2005 | Friendly games | Slovenia 🇸🇮 | 72:56 | 🇫🇮 Finland | Radovljica |
| 18.08.2005 | Friendly games | Slovenia 🇸🇮 | 88:43 | 🇫🇮 Finland | Radovljica |
| 29.01.1997 | European Championships Qualifiers | Finland 🇫🇮 | 77:90 | 🇸🇮 Slovenia | Helsinki |
| 15.11.1995 | European Championships Qualifiers | Slovenia 🇸🇮 | 90:61 | 🇫🇮 Finland | Tri Lilije |
| 28.06.1995 | European Championships | Finland 🇫🇮 | 72:94 | 🇸🇮 Slovenia | Athens |

Team Finland & media

Press officer of Team Finland is Mika Mäkelä, +358 562 6626, mika@basket.fi. All interview-request, questions, wishes are to be directed to him.

Team Finland will do its best to accommodate the needs of media. However, there are a few practical "media rules" established by the team that are listed below.

- All practices of Team Finland are closed sessions, if it's not otherwise announced. This does not apply to last 10 minutes, which are always open for cameramen and photographers in accordance with the rules of FIBA Europe.
- Mixed zone -activities:
 - After game 1-2 players, chosen by press officer, will stop at the mixed zone for giving quick comments to media. There are no 1-on-1-interviews at this point. After giving these comments players attend to brief team-meeting in locker room. Meanwhile requests for interviews are collected by press officer, who will bring back requested players for interviews within reasonable requests.
 - After practice, 1-2 players and, chosen by press officer, will stop at mixed zone for giving comments to media. Due to limited amount of time no 1-on-1-interviews can be conducted.
- Head coach of Finland with one player will always attend official press conference in accordance with the rules of FIBA Europe. Press conference starts 15 minutes after the game.

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