

19th June 2008

OPALS TO MATCH UP AGAINST OLYMPIC OPPONENTS IN AUSTRALIA

Basketball Australia have announced that the Opals will play a two match series against Brazil in July as their final preparation for the Olympic campaign.

Brazil currently ranked fourth in the world are in Group A at the Olympic games, along with Australia, Belarus, Latvia, Korea and Russia, after they clinched the last Olympic Games berth at the weekend. First time Olympic qualifiers Belarus were a surprise winner over Brazil in the quarter-finals, forcing the South Americans to playoff with Angola and Cuba to gain their Olympic berth.

Brazil will travel to Australia in July to take on a full strength Opals squad with Lauren Jackson, Penny Taylor, Kristi Harrower and Belinda Snell to join team. It will be the first time that a full strength Opals side has played in Australia since 2000 and the first time that Jackson and Taylor have appeared together for the Opals on home soil.

The first game will be played at the Wollongong Entertainment Centre on Monday 28th July. With the second game at the Sydney Entertainment Centre on Wednesday July 30th.

Tickets go on sale on Friday 20th June.

The Opals kick off their Olympic campaign on 11th August against Brazil, followed by Korea on 13th August and Latvia on 15th August with their final pool game against Russia on August 17th.

BASKETBALL NSW PRESS RELEASE

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