

Bayern Munich has a long basketball tradition. Besides its most successful years in the 1950s and 1960s ([German Championships](#) in 1954, 1955, and [German Cup](#) in 1968), the club enjoyed remarkable popularity in 1956, when it even drew 40,000 fans to an open-air test game against [Lancia Bolzano](#), once a top basketball club from Italy. Later, in 1966, the club was a founding member of the [Basketball Bundesliga](#).^[1]

In the following years, the club slowly, but surely, faded into obscurity, and in 1974, was even relegated to the [German 2nd Division](#). For a long time after that, the club never completely recovered, and only had a few successful years (Bayern moved up to the Basketball Bundesliga in 1987, and stayed there until 1989).^[1]

In 2008, the declared goal of the team was to return to the club's former glory, and return to the top [German League](#), which it eventually did. In the near future, the club seeks to become a major force in European basketball, so that Bayern Munich will not only be well known for its [football](#) (soccer) operations, but also for its basketball operations as well.^[2] In the [2012–13 season](#) the club reached the semifinals, where it lost 3–2 against the reigning champions [Brose Baskets](#).

Thanks to a wild card,^[3] Bayern Munich played in the [EuroLeague](#) in the [2013–14 season](#). This was its first appearance in the top European championship, and it reached the Top 16 stage. On 18 June 2014, Bayern won its third national title when it beat [Alba Berlin](#) 3–1 in the Finals. It was the first title for the team since 1955; 59 years before. Star player of the team was [Malcolm Delaney](#), who won both the [MVP](#) and [Finals MVP](#).

In the [2014–15 season](#), Bayern failed to win a title. In the [BBL Finals](#) they were defeated by [Brose Baskets](#), 3–2. The team had to wait until 2018 for its next championship, as they beat [Alba Berlin](#) 3–2 in the Finals that year. By winning the BBL, Bayern also qualified for the [following EuroLeague season](#).