Guide to the Las Vegas Professional Sports Teams Collection

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Historical Note

Several professional sports teams were established in Las Vegas, Nevada throughout the 1990s and early 2000s. In spite of the teams' winning records, these franchises struggled to survive. The Las Vegas Silver Streaks were a professional basketball team from 1988 to 1990. In 1988 they won the first World Basketball League championship. The Las Vegas Dustdevils were an indoor soccer team from 1994 to 1995 and made the Continental Indoor Soccer League (CISL) playoffs once. After losing this contest, the team disbanded and withdrew from the CISL.

Over the years there have been several local hockey teams. The Las Vegas Coyotes was an inline hockey team established in 1999. It participated in the Roller Hockey International (RHI), and dissolved at the end of 1999 when the RHI disbanded. The Las Vegas Flash was an inline hockey team that existed for one season from 1993 through 1994. The team was soon renamed and moved, becoming the Utah Sun Dogs. The Las Vegas Thunder was an independent ice hockey team that participated in the International Hockey League. Formed in 1993, the Thunder achieved success in the 1995 and 1996 season when they finished in first place. The Thunder survived for three more seasons and disbanded in 1999. In 2003 the Las Vegas Wranglers was formed in Las Vegas as an expansion franchise of the East Coast Hockey League (minor league professional ice hockey). As of May 2014 the Wranglers had the highest winning percentage in ECHL history, but had suspended operations in search of a new ice arena in Las Vegas.
Administrative Information

Revision Description
The finding aid was revised by Ian M. Baldwin to bring it into compliance with DACS. July, 2014

Related Materials

For additional information on Las Vegas professional sports teams see: Ortiz Family Collection on the Las Vegas Stars baseball team MS-00267, 1983-1990. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Names and Subjects

- Nevada sports
- History -- Las Vegas -- Nevada