3 COMPLETED TRADES · 14 ASSETS · 4 FUTURE PICKS

THE MARKET IS OPEN

The league's first official deals redraw three competitive windows before opening night. Anthony Edwards moves to Brooklyn, Indiana accelerates around Donovan Mitchell, and the Clippers begin converting veteran production into younger players and picks.



The first trade week arrives while the NBA warms up. Original AI-generated editorial illustration created for Issue No. 4.

Brooklyn buys the star

Edwards is the centerpiece. Orlando takes two prospects and two 2027 picks, choosing breadth over certainty.

Indiana presses forward

Mitchell and Holiday add 73.78 historical FP/G. The price is Reaves, Williams and two future picks.

Preseason sends signals

Haliburton's return, Anthony Edwards' shotmaking and a wave of rookie flashes begin to clarify roles.

The first week of trading did more than move players. It forced four franchises to declare what time it is.

THREE DEALS. THREE DIFFERENT CLOCKS.

The Fantrax transaction export confirms every asset below. Historical FP/G is included only as a picture of last season's production; future picks remain deliberately unpriced.

OCT 7 · MEMPHIS ↔ LA CLIPPERS

MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES RECEIVES

- Kyrie Irving

39.68 FP/G 2025–26 INCOMING PLAYER RATE

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS RECEIVES

- Maxime Raynaud

25.59 FP/G 2025–26 INCOMING PLAYER RATE

OCT 8 · BROOKLYN ↔ ORLANDO

BROOKLYN NETS RECEIVES

- Anthony Edwards
- Thomas Sorber

47.50 FP/G 2025–26 INCOMING PLAYER RATE

ORLANDO MAGIC RECEIVES

- Kon Knueppel
- Morez Johnson
- Brooklyn 2027 Round 1 pick
- Brooklyn 2027 Round 2 pick

46.73 FP/G 2025–26 INCOMING PLAYER RATE

OCT 9 · INDIANA ↔ LA CLIPPERS

INDIANA PACERS RECEIVES

- Donovan Mitchell
- Jrue Holiday

73.78 FP/G 2025–26 INCOMING PLAYER RATE

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS RECEIVES

- Austin Reaves
- Robert Williams
- Indiana 2027 Round 1 pick
- Indiana 2027 Round 2 pick

55.72 FP/G 2025–26 INCOMING PLAYER RATE

HOW TO READ THE NUMBERS

They compare only the players acquired, using the supplied 2025–26 league export. They do not price age, health, role changes, roster slots or draft picks. A trade can lose this narrow comparison and still improve a franchise's long-term position.

BROOKLYN BUYS THE CERTAINTY

Anthony Edwards is the first established franchise player to change IDL teams. Brooklyn consolidated two prospects and two picks into one elite anchor; Orlando turned one star into four separate long-term bets.



Anthony Edwards is now Brooklyn's centerpiece. Photo: CCS Pictures / Wikimedia Commons / CC BY-SA 2.0.

THE PRESENT-TENSE CASE

A top line, finally

Edwards produced 42.39 FP/G in the supplied 2025–26 export. Brooklyn also receives Thomas Sorber, whose 5.11 FP/G came in a very small early sample. Together, the incoming players total 47.50 historical FP/G.

That is only 0.77 above Knueppel and Morez Johnson's combined 46.73. The point of the deal is therefore concentration: one proven high-volume star is easier to build around than two developing pieces.

BROOKLYN'S BET

Ceiling over optionality

Edwards changes the quality of Brooklyn's first lineup immediately and fits a long horizon at age 25. The bill is meaningful: Knueppel, Morez and both 2027 picks reduce the number of future paths available if the surrounding young core stalls.

ORLANDO'S BET

Four chances to beat one

Knueppel already carries a 27.78 historical rate; Morez adds a young frontcourt development path. The two picks restore flexibility. Orlando loses the safest asset in the deal, so its return now depends on development and future draft execution.

EDITORIAL READ Brooklyn raises its star ceiling. Orlando raises its portfolio depth. The trade has no honest winner yet—and the teams meet in Week 1.

INDIANA MOVES THE WINDOW FORWARD

Donovan Mitchell and Jrue Holiday add 73.78 historical FP/G to a roster already built around Tyrese Haliburton. No opening-week trade made a clearer claim on the present.

WHAT INDIANA GAINED

Another primary creator

Mitchell's 43.93 FP/G would have been Indiana's second-highest supplied rate behind Haliburton. Holiday adds 29.85 and defensive-event upside. The pair reduces Indiana's dependence on one organizer.

The 18.06 FP/G edge over the outgoing Reaves–Williams rates is real historical production. It is not a projection: Holiday is 36, and both incoming players narrow the timeline.



Donovan Mitchell gives Indiana a second elite creator. Photo: Erik Drost / Wikimedia Commons / CC BY 2.0.

73.78	55.72	+18.06	2
Indiana incoming FP/G	Clippers incoming FP/G	Immediate rate difference	2027 picks to LA

INDIANA'S RISK

The margin must become wins

Reaves is 28 with a stable 33.93 rate, while the future picks were the roster's cleanest flexibility. Indiana has exchanged optionality for a stronger opening lineup.

CLIPPERS' RETURN

Younger production plus picks

Reaves should remain immediately usable, while Robert Williams adds a high-value block and rebound profile when available. The picks matter because they keep the reset from being a simple talent downgrade.

MEMPHIS CHASES ANOTHER CEILING

Kyrie Irving joins a roster already carrying substantial health variance. Maxime Raynaud gives the Clippers a younger big and completes a week in which Los Angeles changed the shape of its entire portfolio.

MEMPHIS RECEIVES KYRIE IRVING

39.68 FP/G, availability pending

Irving's supplied 2025–26 rate is 14.09 points above Raynaud's. That would be a major upgrade if it reaches the lineup. Until his return is clear, Memphis has purchased ceiling rather than banked opening-week production.

The move matches the existing build: Anthony Davis, Joel Embiid and Kristaps Porzingis already offer championship-level peaks with concentrated medical risk.

THE CLIPPERS RECEIVE MAXIME RAYNAUD

A younger frontcourt path

Raynaud is 23 and posted 25.59 FP/G in the supplied season. He is less proven than Irving, but his timeline now fits Reaves, Robert Williams, Keaton Wagler and the two incoming 2027 picks more cleanly.

LOS ANGELES, ACROSS BOTH TRADES

113.46 FP/G out · 81.31 FP/G in · two picks added

The raw loss is 32.15 historical FP/G: Mitchell, Holiday and Irving leave; Reaves, Williams and Raynaud arrive. That is the cost of making the roster younger and recovering future assets. It also makes Los Angeles one of the league's hardest teams to judge before roles and health settle.

FORECAST Memphis gains the larger theoretical ceiling. Los Angeles gains the cleaner age curve. The first few weeks will favor whichever side turns uncertainty into actual active games.

THE SECOND MARKET IS ALREADY MOVING

Eleven claims and three drops followed the draft. Most winning bids stayed at the one-dollar minimum, suggesting managers are still testing depth rather than chasing one obvious breakout.

CONFIRMED CLAIMS
Fantrax transaction history through October 10

Team	Player	Bid
Atlanta Hawks	Landry Shamet	$5
Detroit Pistons	Moritz Wagner	$1
Detroit Pistons	Tyrese Proctor	$1
Detroit Pistons	Henri Veesaar	$1
Orlando Magic	Jabari Walker	$1
Orlando Magic	Sion James	$1
Los Angeles Lakers	Liam McNeeley	$1
LA Clippers	Moussa Cisse	$1
LA Clippers	Simone Fontecchio	$1
Memphis Grizzlies	Tyus Jones	$1
Memphis Grizzlies	Kyle Anderson	$1

HIGHEST BID

Atlanta puts $5 on Landry Shamet

It was the only bid above the minimum. Shamet's 18.77 historical FP/G is modest, but Atlanta paid for a plausible rotation role and guard depth rather than waiting for opening-week scarcity.

BUSIEST TEAM

Detroit adds three

Moritz Wagner, Tyrese Proctor and Henri Veesaar create three different depth bets. None should be treated as a locked starter; the value is in cheap optionality.

DROPPED

Hukporti, Bronny, Peterson

Ariel Hukporti entered the waiver process; Bronny James and Drew Peterson were listed as free agents in the supplied player export.

MARKET READ

Orlando and Los Angeles both used waivers after major trades, a logical response to the extra roster uncertainty. Memphis added Tyus Jones and Kyle Anderson before acquiring Irving, strengthening the floor around a volatile top end.

THE SCORE IS NOISE. THE ROLE IS SIGNAL.

Preseason box scores reward attention and punish certainty. The useful information is usually who starts, who handles the ball, who looks physically ready and which young players receive real rotation experiments.

01
Role

Dylan Harper starting beside established guards matters more than one shooting percentage. It tells us the coaching staff is testing a path to heavy minutes.

02
Health

Tyrese Haliburton logging 16 minutes after a long absence is actionable. A veteran sitting one exhibition game usually is not.

03
Repeatable skills

Assists, rebounds, steals and blocks translate more reliably than a single hot night. This league magnifies assists and defensive events.

04
Context

Opposition quality, minutes and lineup combinations matter. A 20-point line against deep reserves cannot be read like a regular-season game.

IDL SCORING REWARDS CREATION AND EVENTS: 2× AST · 4× STL · 4× BLK · −2× TO

WHAT WE CAN SAY

Readiness is becoming visible

Haliburton moved, passed and protected the rim. Anthony Edwards created threes. Several rookies earned minutes with established players. Those are legitimate early signals.

WHAT WE CANNOT SAY

No contender is crowned in October exhibitions

Minutes are restricted, rotations are experimental and stars often play one half. This edition treats every preseason line as evidence, never as a season projection.

THE STARS BEGIN TO SHOW THEIR HAND

Seven established players supplied useful early evidence. The lines below are conventional NBA box-score summaries, followed by their IDL meaning.

EARLY PRESEASON SIGNALS
Official NBA reports, October 5–9

Player · IDL team	Preseason line	Why it matters
Anthony Edwards BROOKLYN	**19 PTS · 4 3PM**	Shot creation looked ready; his trade immediately changes Brooklyn's top line.
Tyrese Haliburton INDIANA	**7 PTS · 6 AST · 2 BLK · 16 MIN**	The return itself is the headline. Assists and blocks fit this scoring system perfectly.
Deni Avdija MIAMI	**23 PTS**	A strong scoring night supports Miami's expectation of a stable multi-category role.
LaMelo Ball CLEVELAND	**14 PTS · 7 AST · 4 3PM**	Creation and perimeter volume matter more than the final score.
Shai Gilgeous-Alexander NEW YORK	**17 PTS · 5 AST · 5-5 FG**	Efficiency plus playmaking is the exact shape New York drafted first.
Giannis Antetokounmpo DALLAS	**9 PTS · 7 AST · 14 MIN**	Seven assists in a short stint reinforce his enormous fantasy floor.
Luka Doncic HOUSTON	**21 PTS · 3 AST · 2 STL**	He generated points and high-value steals before halftime.

MOST IMPORTANT RETURN

Haliburton is back on a court

Indiana's new trade makes more sense because its original engine has returned. Six assists and two blocks in 16 minutes do not prove full-season durability, but they materially reduce the uncertainty that defined Indiana on draft night.

BEST BRIDGE TO THE LEAGUE MARKET

Edwards immediately validates the headline

Nineteen points and four threes arrived the same week he changed IDL teams. The real-life role remains unchanged; what changed is who owns the production and how much Brooklyn paid to secure it.

Context: all lines come from official NBA Starting 5 reports. They are not converted into fantasy points because the short summaries do not always include every field-goal attempt, free-throw attempt or turnover required by the league formula.

EIGHT ROOKIES MAKE AN EARLY CASE

The first preseason week rewarded players who did more than score. Passing, rebounding, steals and visible rotation trust matter most in this league's format.

BROOKLYN

Cameron Boozer

13.5 PPG · 6.0 RPG · 4.0 APG through 2

The all-around line is more encouraging than any one scoring burst.

SACRAMENTO

Bennett Stirtz

20 PTS · 5 REB · 4 3PM

Scoring, rebounding and perimeter range produced one of the week's broadest rookie lines.

LA LAKERS

Darius Acuff

19 PTS · 4 AST

Seventeen points before halftime showed immediate on-ball confidence.

GOLDEN STATE

Kingston Flemings

15 PTS · 5 AST · 3 STL

Six-of-eight shooting plus three steals is the cleanest two-way rookie line.

MILWAUKEE

Aday Mara

22 PTS · 6 REB · 10-10 FG

Perfect finishing is unlikely to repeat; size and touch deserve attention.

LA CLIPPERS

Keaton Wagler

15 PTS · 9 in 4Q

A late go-ahead shot gave the Clippers' youth story an early highlight.

MILWAUKEE

Caleb Wilson

15 PTS

A composed first preseason showing supports a patient roster spot.

CLEVELAND

Yaxel Lendeborg

17 PTS · 9 REB

Rebounding offers the most portable path to early fantasy usefulness.

BEST EARLY FANTASY SHAPE

Kingston Flemings combined 15 points with five assists and three steals. At this scoring weight, those peripheral events are exactly how a modest scoring night becomes useful.

DO NOT REDRAFT THE ROOKIES

Boozer, Acuff and Wilson entered with substantial long-term expectations. Flemings, Stirtz, Mara, Wagler and Lendeborg have improved the information around their roles; one exhibition week has not erased prospect tiers.

THE RETURN LIST STARTS TO MOVE

Availability will decide more Week 1 matchups than preseason shooting. One major return produced real minutes; one useful Houston big is now on a short injury clock; several veteran situations still require patience.



Tyrese Haliburton logged 16 preseason minutes in his return. Photo: Chensiyuan / Wikimedia Commons / CC BY-SA 4.0.

THE WEEK'S CLEAREST DEVELOPMENT

Haliburton returns after 472 days

Seven points, six assists and two blocks in 16 minutes made the stat line secondary to the event itself. Indiana can now evaluate its Mitchell–Haliburton pairing with both players available on a court.

The next checkpoint is workload progression. Preseason confirms participation; it does not guarantee a full opening-week schedule.

HOUSTON

Isaiah Stewart: ankle sprain

The official NBA update said Stewart would be reevaluated two weeks after the October 5 injury. He is depth rather than Houston's entire plan, but the timing reaches directly into the season opener.

LA CLIPPERS

Damian Lillard logs 15 in 19

A live preseason shift is useful after a return-to-play offseason. Los Angeles still needs cumulative availability from Lillard, Williams and its reworked frontcourt.

MEMPHIS

Kyrie remains the swing piece

The trade raises Memphis' theoretical ceiling immediately. Its practical value begins only when Irving becomes an active lineup option.

ATLANTA

LeBron opens with 10–5–4

Ten points, five assists and four rebounds in 18 minutes were enough to show the playmaking floor Atlanta expects. The eight free throws were the strongest readiness detail.

TWO TRADES GO STRAIGHT TO COURT

Brooklyn faces Orlando and Indiana faces the Clippers in the opening period. The schedule immediately turns both major deals into head-to-head tests, even if dynasty value will take years to settle.

ORLANDO MAGIC *VS* **BROOKLYN NETS**

Brooklyn gains the safer star

Edwards gives Brooklyn the best current player in the matchup. Orlando has more future assets, but Knueppel and Morez must replace immediate star volume.

INDIANA PACERS *VS* **LA CLIPPERS**

Indiana's edge widens

Mitchell and Holiday move directly across the matchup. Reaves and Williams keep Los Angeles competitive, while the future picks cannot score in Week 1.

MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES *VS* **LA LAKERS**

Availability decides the upgrade

Kyrie raises Memphis' ceiling only if active. The Lakers' young roster can exploit any week in which Memphis' veteran stars remain unavailable.

HOUSTON ROCKETS *VS* **ATLANTA HAWKS**

One depth note changes

Houston remains the stronger present-tense roster, but Stewart's ankle removes one possible interior option. Atlanta's Shamet claim adds guard insurance, not a new centerpiece.

OCT 20	OCT 20–25	12
NBA regular season begins	IDL Period 1	opening matchups

EARLY LEAN, NOT A VERDICT

Brooklyn and Indiana improved their immediate top-end cases. Orlando and Los Angeles improved flexibility that Week 1 cannot measure. The first scoreboard will test current production, not settle the trades.

WHAT TO EXPECT BEFORE OPENING NIGHT

The market has moved from draft theory to lineup management. The next useful information will come from minutes, medical updates and the final fight for rotation roles.

01
More depth trades are plausible

Forecast: the first blockbusters exposed uneven benches. Contenders now have a reason to exchange surplus prospects or picks for stable active minutes.

02
Waiver prices should rise

Forecast: eleven claims averaged close to the minimum. Once roles become clearer, the first obvious 25-minute player should attract a more serious bid.

03
Rookie roles will separate

Flemings' two-way line, Stirtz's range and Mara's efficiency deserve another look. Repetition matters more than any single result.

04
Indiana becomes a weekly headline

Haliburton's workload and Mitchell's fit will shape both championship expectations and the value of the picks Indiana traded away.

05
Brooklyn's depth gets tested

Edwards solves the star problem. The next question is whether Brooklyn retained enough dependable production behind him after moving four assets.

06
The Clippers may keep listening

Forecast: after moving three veterans and adding two picks, Los Angeles has created a clearer youth bridge but still holds several players on different timelines.

THE EDITOR'S WATCHLIST

Haliburton's next workload · Kyrie Irving's return path · Anthony Edwards' preseason usage · Dylan Harper's starting status · Isaiah Stewart's reevaluation · the first waiver bid above $5

FACTS, CONTEXT AND LIMITS

Every league transaction is traceable to the supplied exports. Every preseason fact is tied to official NBA reporting. Forecasts are identified as editorial judgment.

LEAGUE EVIDENCE

Fantrax is the transaction authority

The player export establishes current ownership and supplied 2025–26 fantasy rates. The trade export confirms 14 moved assets across three completed deals. The claims-and-drops export confirms 11 claims and three drops through October 10.

The historical FP/G comparisons exclude future picks and do not adjust for current availability. They are descriptive, not trade grades. Brooklyn is evaluated under the same method and language as every other team.

The league scoring formula is: PTS + REB + 2 AST + 4 STL + 4 BLK + 3PTM + 2 FGM − FGA + FTM − FTA − 2 TO.

PRIMARY PUBLIC REPORTING

Official NBA sources

- NBA Starting 5 · October 5
- NBA Starting 5 · October 6
- NBA Starting 5 · October 7
- NBA Starting 5 · October 8
- NBA Starting 5 · October 9
- Dylan Harper role report
- LeBron James preseason debut
- Isaiah Stewart injury update
- Official NBA key dates
- Atlanta–San Antonio box score

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