



SANTA BARBARA COURT OF CHAMPIONS

BEN HOWLAND | 2014 INDUCTEE



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Benjamin Clark Howland (born May 28, 1957) is an American college basketball coach and former player. He served as the head men's basketball coach at Northern Arizona University from 1994 to 1999, the University of Pittsburgh from 1999 to 2003, and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) from 2003 to 2013. Howland became the first men's coach in college basketball history to be fired shortly after winning an outright power-conference title.

Howland is among a handful of NCAA Division I coaches to take three different teams to the NCAA tournament:

Northern Arizona, Pittsburgh, and UCLA. He is one of only three active coaches to compete in three consecutive Final Fours (with UCLA from 2006-2008).

- Two-time All-CIF and two-time Suburban League Most Valuable Player as a player at Cerritos High School.
- Led Santa Barbara City College to California State finals in 1978.
- Named WSC's defensive MVP both years and led Weber State College to consecutive Big Sky titles and NCAA Tournament appearances in 1979 and 1980.

- 1980: Played professionally in Bohemios First Division Uruguay, South America.
- As an assistant at UCSB, led the Gauchos to five post-season appearances between 1988 and 1994.
- Served as the head men's basketball coach at Northern Arizona University from 1994 to 1999, the University of Pittsburgh from 1999 to 2003, and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) from 2003 to 2013.
- Took all three teams to the NCAA Tournament. He is one of only three active coaches to compete in three consecutive Final Fours (with UCLA from 2006-2008).
- In 1997-98, he led the Lumberjacks to the Big Sky Tournament Championship, sending them to the NCAA tournament for the first time in school history.
- 89-40 (.690) with four consecutive post-season bids at Pitt
- On December 10, 2011, Howland passed Jim Harrick for second on UCLA's all-time wins list behind John Wooden.
- 1997 Big Sky Conference Coach of the Year, 2001-02 Big East Coach of the Year and National Coach of the Year. In 2005-06, Ben won Pac-10 Conference Coach of the Year.
- Players in NBA he coached include Trevor Ariza, Jordan Farmar, Arron Afflalo, Russell Westbrook, Kevin Love, and Jrue Holiday