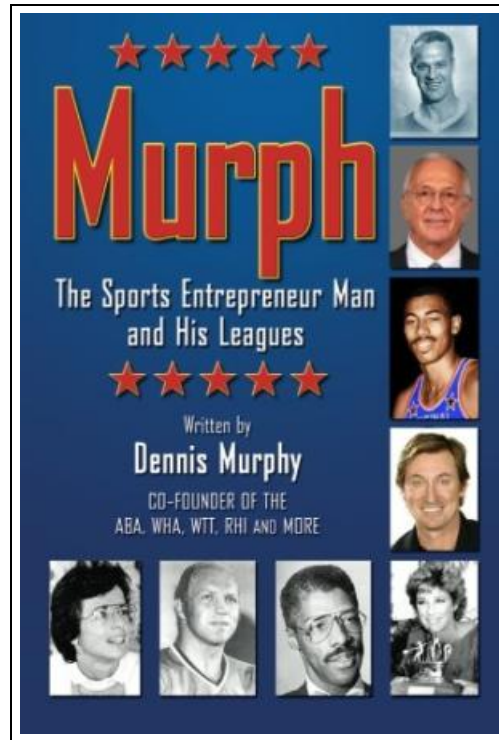


## Murph: The Sports Entrepreneur Man and His Leagues



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## MURPH: THE SPORTS ENTREPRENEUR MAN AND HIS LEAGUES



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Inline Hockey Central, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 228 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Murph, the Sports Entrepreneur Man and His Leagues, is the captivating autobiography of Dennis Arthur Murphy, Sr., the energetic sports promoter who helped to found such professional leagues as the World Hockey Association, the American Basketball Association, World Team Tennis and Roller Hockey International. Jeanie Buss, the vice president of the Los Angeles Lakers, said that Dennis Murphy has connections so strong he can gather the top 10 sports moguls in a room with a single phone call. Murphy used those connections to build leagues that competed head to head with the entrenched National Hockey League and National Basketball Association. Murphy and his cohorts enticed Bobby Hull to flee the NHL to the WHA with an unprecedented \$1 million contract and Mr. Hockey, Gordie Howe, soon followed. The list of people Murphy reminisces about in Murph reads like a Who's Who of Sports in the 20th century and into the 21st - Billie Jean King, Chris Evert, Rod Laver, John Newcombe, Scotty Bowman, Frank Mahovlich, Wayne Gretzky, George Mikan, Julius Erving, Wilt Chamberlain, Rick Barry, George Gervin, Larry Brown and Bill Sharman. Murphy also hobnobbed with politicians and other celebrities. In 1967, Murphy and attorney Gary Davidson created the American Basketball Association, a league that eventually merged several teams into the NBA. Under Murphy's watch, the ABA became famous for its red, white and blue basketball, sideline cheerleaders, the 3-point shot and the slam dunk. The World Hockey Association debuted in 1972 and gave the more established National Hockey League fits by cannibalizing NHL rosters, placing teams in major cities that didn't host NHL teams, and successfully challenging the reserve clause that bound...



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