

# Kia Shooting Stars

Saturday, February 14, 2026

Los Angeles, California, USA

## Jalen Johnson

Press Conference



### Q. How was it?

JALEN JOHNSON: It was fun. I had fun doing it. I was outside my box for that, so it was cool.

### Q. Did you have a strategy coming in?

JALEN JOHNSON: I just hoped I didn't airball. That was priority number one. Basketball is really no different.

### Q. What do you think about the current All-Star format of U.S. versus the World tomorrow?

JALEN JOHNSON: I think it's cool. I think it's something that I'm looking forward to. Obviously it's the first year, so I'm excited to see it. To happen in a city like L.A., I think it'll be good.

### Q. There's been some stuff going on recently where a couple G Leaguers have tried to go back to college. Do you think they should be able to do that?

JALEN JOHNSON: Personally, I don't really think so. If you declare for the draft, I think that's your way of saying, I'm ready to be a pro. I also feel like it kind of takes away opportunity for other kids who are looking to get discovered and other kids who are looking for a chance.

I mean, everybody has their own path, and I'm not one to judge.

### Q. These are obviously bigger picture questions, but do you have an idea or do you have a thought on who the current best player in the league is?

JALEN JOHNSON: Probably you've got to say Nikola Jokic. He's been dominant for so long, and what he does on a nightly basis is pretty impressive.

### Q. Do you remember watching All-Star Weekend?

JALEN JOHNSON: Yeah, I mean, it was just always fun watching with my family. The Dunk Contest, always looking forward to turning it on and watching it on TV with my family.

### Q. How do you reflect upon that childhood watching to now actually playing?

JALEN JOHNSON: Yeah, I'm just going to live in the moment. In a couple years I'm going to look back and really reminisce, like, I was here. It's kind of cool.

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