

Oklahoma City Thunder Media Conference

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Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, USA

Paul Watson Jr. Press Conference



Q. We were just actually talking to Aaron about two-way deals and how the Thunder has found a lot of success with guys on two-way deals. How much does that -- it's obviously you'd rather have the full NBA contract, but how much of a benefit is that to know their history in that way?

PAUL WATSON JR.: You know, I try not to look at it being a two-way perspective or anything like that. I just look at it as another opportunity, another shot in this league, and doing what I can to make the most of it. Being prepared for any and every opportunity, and I just look forward to what's ahead.

Q. The different G-League teams have different setups, but obviously the Blue will be here. Geographically does that ease your mind that you can go to practice, go to games, be in both worlds really no matter what your assignment is?

PAUL WATSON JR.: I think so. I think it makes transition a lot easier, especially with the facilities being so close to each other. Wherever I need to be, whatever day it may be, it just makes life a lot easier. More gyms, so staying in the gym.

Q. What was your experience like last year in Toronto? You got to play quite a bit. What did that do for your confidence?

PAUL WATSON JR.: I feel like it did a lot. I played around a great group of guys, great veteran in Kyle Lowry, a guy who really helped me since I got into the league was Norman Powell, took me under his wing, and I learned a lot from those guys. Like you said, playing a lot, experiencing this league is very valuable.

Yeah, just being out there, being able to play, play through mistakes, learning the game, those things are valuable.

Q. I know it's still a small sample, but for your career you're at 45 percent as a three-point shooter. How have you gotten to that point, and how much do you

believe in yourself as far as your consistency from three and what you can do from there?

PAUL WATSON JR.: Definitely. I feel that it's one of the biggest things that's gotten me into this league. That confidence just comes from repetition, constantly shooting, shooting, just staying focused, staying consistent to the craft and trusting the work, and when game time comes, just being ready to take those shots, see it go in.

Q. Just going back a little bit, what was the off-season like for you as far as not knowing where you were going to end up and trying to find an NBA contract, and how did this relationship start with the Thunder and them reaching out to you?

PAUL WATSON JR.: The off-season for me was just like any other, staying in the gym, getting my body right, getting healthy, and letting my agent worry about those things outside of it. I try not to concern myself with that. He'll let me know what's going on, when it needs to be done, wherever. An opportunity presented itself here. They brought me in, worked out with the guys, got to play quite a bit, learned the environment, and getting to know everybody, I've really enjoyed it, and we were able to get something done.

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