



ANN MEYERS DRYSDALE

Vice President, Phoenix Mercury

Vice President, Phoenix Suns

One of the true pioneers in women's basketball, Hall of Famer and award-winning broadcaster Ann Meyers Drysdale enters her third season as Vice President of both the Phoenix Mercury and the Phoenix Suns. The role follows five successful seasons as General Manager for the Mercury where she constructed the franchise's first two WNBA championship teams in 2007 and 2009. As Vice President of the Mercury in 2014, she saw the team win the third WNBA title in franchise history. She recently completed her third season as a television broadcaster for the Mercury and is in her third season on the Suns

television broadcast team alongside Steve Albert.

Enshrined in the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass., as a player in 1993, Meyers Drysdale's basketball resume enters its fifth decade, which she documented in her autobiography "You Let Some Girl Beat You?" released in conjunction with the 40th anniversary of Title IX in the summer of 2012.

Meyers Drysdale's storied basketball life began when she became the first-ever high school player to make a United States National Team in 1974 and later was the first woman to receive a full athletic scholarship from UCLA. The UCLA basketball legend was a four-time Kodak All-American, the first male or female to achieve that honor. Upon graduation, she held 12 of 13 school records and led the Bruins to a national championship in 1978. Meyers Drysdale became the first female to be named in the school's athletics Hall of Fame and had her jersey No. 15 retired. In addition to her basketball accomplishments, Meyers Drysdale competed in volleyball and won a national championship title in track in 1975.

As a standout player, the 5-9, 140-pound guard represented the United States in the 1976 Olympics, 1975 and '79 Pan American Games, and the 1975 and '79 World Championships. As part of the first women's US Olympic Basketball team, Meyers Drysdale earned a silver medal at the Montreal Games in 1976.

Meyers Drysdale remains the only female to sign a free-agent contract with an NBA team when she signed with the Indiana Pacers in 1979. After being released by the Pacers, she served as a color commentator for the Pacers broadcasts and was the first woman to broadcast an NBA game.

In 1978 she became the first player drafted in the Women's Professional Basketball League (WBL) and resumed her playing career with the New Jersey Gems, where she was named MVP after leading the league in steals and averaging 22.2 points. She also took home the title as one of only two women to win the ABC Sports Superstars competition three years in a row from 1981-1983 and was the only woman to participate in the men's competition.

Meyers Drysdale has established herself as an expert analyst on ESPN, NBC, ABC, FOX Sports, and CBS and has done commentary for men's and women's basketball, softball, tennis, volleyball, and baseball since 1979. Her illustrious broadcasting resume includes the 1984, 2000, 2004, 2008 and 2012 Summer Olympics. She will also handle broadcasting duties for the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. She also had a stint as a broadcaster for the 1988-89 Loyola Marymount men's basketball team, coached by former Mercury Head Coach Paul Westhead and featuring current Mercury General Manager and Head Coach Corey Gaines, a guard on the team.

In June of 2014, Meyers Drysdale was awarded the Dick Enberg Award by the College Sports Information Directors of America. The Dick Enberg Award, named for the world renowned and legendary Hall of Fame broadcaster, is presented annually to a person whose actions and commitment have furthered the meaning and reach of the Academic All-America Teams Program and/or the student-athlete while promoting the values of education and academics.

The U.S. Basketball Writers Association renamed its Women's National Player of the Year Award, the Ann Meyers Drysdale National Player of the Year Award in 2012 to honor her impact in the sport. Current Mercury center Brittney Griner won the award in 2013.

In 2006, her incredible sports journalism contributions were honored as the winner of the United States Sports Academy's (USSA) Ronald Reagan Media Award, joining an elite group of winners that includes Howard Cosell, Bob Costas, Keith Jackson, Frank Deford and Rupert Murdoch.

The NCAA Honors Committee honored her in 2003 with the NCAA Silver Anniversary award. The Silver Anniversary Award recognizes former student-athletes who have distinguished themselves since completing their college athletics careers 25 years ago.

Meyers Drysdale was a member of the inaugural class of inductees into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 1999 and she became the first American woman to be inducted into the FIBA (International Basketball Association) Hall of Fame when she was enshrined in 2007.

Meyers Drysdale has five sisters and five brothers, including brother Dave Meyers, who played college basketball at UCLA under legendary coach John Wooden and won two NCAA Championships with teammate Bill Walton. He played five seasons (1975-80) for the Milwaukee Bucks after being one of four players traded from the Los Angeles Lakers for Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in 1975.

In 1986, Annie married former Los Angeles Dodgers Hall of Famer pitcher Don Drysdale and took the name Ann Meyers Drysdale. It was the first time that a married couple was members of their respective sports' Hall of Fame. The Southern California native and Drysdale, who passed away in 1993, have three children together: sons Don Jr. (D.J.) and Darren, and daughter Drew.

UCLA

1975-78 - First four-time Kodak All-American (Male or Female)
 1978 - NCAA National Champion
 1978 - UCLA Athlete of the Year and Outstanding Basketball Player
 1978 - Broderick Award for Outstanding Collegiate Basketball Player
 1978 - Broderick Cup Award for Outstanding Female Athlete
 Competed in Volleyball (1977-78), Track and Field (1975, 1979); 1975 National Champions

AAU

1977-79 - Three-time MU and National Champions for Anna's Bananas - MVP 1978
 1972-74 - National General West

INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

1974 - First high school player to make the USA National team, toured US vs. Soviets
 1975, 1979 - World Championship Games (Columbia - 8th place, Korea - Gold Medal, captain)
 1975, 1979 - Pan Am Games (Mexico City - Gold Medal, Puerto Rico - Silver Medal, captain; first woman to carry flag for USA 1979)
 1975, 1979 - Jones Cup (Taiwan - two Gold Medals, captain in 1979)
 1976 - Olympic Games (Montreal - Silver Medal; first time for Women's Basketball in the Olympics)
 1977 - World University Games (Bulgaria Silver Medal)
 1979 - Spatikade Games (Russia - Silver Medal, captain)

PROFESSIONAL

1978 - Number one player drafted in the WBL (first women's professional basketball league)
 1979 - Signed as a free-agent with the Indiana Pacers of the NBA; first and only woman to do so
 1979-80 - Signed with the New Jersey Gems of the WBL; MVP of the League

WOMEN'S SUPERSTARS

1979 - Fourth-place finish
 1980, '81, '82 - First-place finish
 1981 - World Superstars, first and only woman to compete

INDUCTIONS

1985 - Orange County Sports Hall of Fame
 1986 - Cincinnati Sports HOF
 1987 - UCLA Sports Hall of Fame; first woman inducted
 1987 - Women's Sports Hall of Fame; first team athlete inducted
 1990 - California High School Sports Hall of Fame
 1993 - National Basketball HOF
 1995 - National High School HOF
 1996 - Catholic Youth Organization Hall of Fame
 1999 - First class, Women's Basketball Hall of Fame
 2007 - First class, FIBA HOF
 2016 - Named to the PAC-12 Women's Basketball All-Century Team

SPEAKING

Has made presentations to athletic and corporate groups, including:
 • AAU National Basketball Tournament
 • Nike Women's Sports Conference
 • US Bank
 • Merrill Lynch
 • New York Athletic Club
 • University of Nebraska

BROADCASTING

Worked both Men's and Women's basketball, softball, tennis, volleyball and soccer in her career that began in 1979.
 1979-80 (12 games) - Indian Pacers, color commentator; first woman on an NBA broadcast
 1980-81 - University of Hawaii Men's Basketball; color commentator
 1982 - Versatile Video; commentator
 1983 - Parade Magazine; co-host
 1983 - Metro Sports on ESPN, UCLA Men's Basketball; color commentator
 1983-84, 87-89 - ESPN, Women's Softball Nationals; color commentator
 1984 - ABC, Olympics, Los Angeles
 1984 - CBS, Men's Basketball and Women's NCM Basketball Finals, color commentator and features
 1984 - ESPN, Women's Regional Basketball Finals, semifinals for the NCAA Final; color commentator
 1984 - WTTV Indiana, Pre-game for Men's US Olympic Basketball vs. the NBA Pros; co-host
 1984 - ABC, Women's Olympic Basketball
 1985 - Sportstime, Big 8 Women's Basketball Finals
 1985-89 - ESPN, Women's West Regional Basketball Finals
 1985-87 - Sportsvision, No. 1 color commentator for Chicago-area college sports
 1985-95 - Prime Ticket, Women's collegiate basketball and softball
 1986, '90, '94 - WTBS, Goodwill Games
 1988-89 - SportsChannel, Loyola Marymount Univ. Men's Basketball
 1989-1990 - KMPC Radio and UCLA Men's Basketball
 1992-97 - CBS TV - Men's and Women's NCAA Basketball
 1992-94 - Creative Sports, Men's and Women's NCAA Basketball
 1994 - CBS TV Women's NCAA Volleyball
 1994-96 - ABC-TV, NCAA Women's Basketball
 1994-96 - NBC-TV, Hoop-It-Up
 1996-Present - ESPN, Women's NCAA Basketball, Regionals, Finals
 1997-2003 - NBC-TV, NBA, WNBA
 2000, 2004, 2008 - NBC-TV, Olympics

PERSONAL
 • Ann Elizabeth Meyers Drysdale
 • Graduate of Sonora High School
 • Graduate of UCLA.
 • Sons: Don, Jr., Darren
 • Daughter: Drew
 • Born: March 26, 1955
 • Height: 5 feet, 9 inches
 • Married in 1986 to the late Baseball Hall of Famer Don Drysdale