

Study on three-point shots scored by teams ranked in the 1st-4th places in the Women Olympic Basketball Tournament, Beijing, 2008

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Abstract

Background. By carrying out such a research a database can be formed, that will lead, after processing and analysis, to a better knowledge of the game, its various specific aspects and trends in modern basketball.

Aims. The author aimed to analyse the long distance shots realized by the players of the first 4 teams at the Women Olympic Basketball Tournament, Beijing, 2008.

Methods. We analysed the three-point shots (180 attempts) of the team-members (48 players) of the first 4 ranked teams (USA, Australia, Russia and China) in the quarter-finals, semi-finals, bronze-medal game and in the final. The study of the specialized literature related to this theme provided information about the concerns, the novelties and the results related to long-distance shots.

Results. We presented and analysed the total number of three-point attempts, the success ratio, the contribution of the long-distance shots to the total team result, the distribution of the three-point shots over the stages of the competition, the general achievements of the teams and the individual achievements of the players.

Conclusions. The success percentage is low, although the teams have concentrated on three-point shots as a method of gaining an advantage over the opposing defence. The success ratio is especially low in the high stakes games: 7.1% Russia, 22.72% Australia in the semifinals and 25.00% USA in the final. In each of the teams there was at least one player with a high number of three-point shots and also a better success percentage. But still we cannot conclude that there is a tendency to specialize several players in these kind of shots.

Keywords: basketball, women, three points shot, Olympics.