

Tips for Taking Game Stats by Kyle Kopp, Assistant Coach, Women's National Team

After the World Championships, I was asked a number of times what are the statistics we are keeping during the game. We record some basic information regarding ourselves and our opponent that can be beneficial during the game and will provide immediate information at the conclusion of the game. Our stat sheet has the following information.

1. Attempts and Goals for both teams

We record specifically record the player and the type of attempt that is being taken by that player; Our attempts and goals categories are; Center, Counter Attack, Perimeter, 6x5, Penalty, Transition Counter Attack and Drive. We want to know exactly what type of shots were taken and scored and by who. In addition, the attempts and goals are recorded by quarter.

2. Majors for both teams

The following are used to only track our team

- 3. Bad Pass and Offensive Foul Turnovers**
- 4. Lost Possession Turnovers**
- 5. Field Player Shot Blocks**
- 6. Missed Defensive Responsibilities**

We also have a section that is titled notes and I will write down important information that I will tell Guy during the game or we will talk about after the game. For example; I will track if a team has been scoring goals on their next possession after we have scored. This will be mentioned during the game and at the breaks in the game. We establish key themes for the game and I usually write them down in the note section and see if we are following our game plan.

At the end of the game I will total the attempts and goals for each team. We will know ours and our opponents 6x5 and penalty shot totals. Also the number of turnovers, lost possessions, shot blocks and missed responsibilities for our team will be totaled. Shortly after the end of the game I will give Guy the stat sheet and he will have immediate information that he can use as a quick analysis of the game. Our immediate focus is usually the 6x5 totals and our turnover/lost possessions to attempts ratio.

Statistics are by no means the only way to analyze a game and/or team. However, the statistics we use can provide the necessary information to give immediate feedback to the team and if we are in a position of not be able to use video to analyze the team then we can use the game statistics to determine specifically what we should be working on in practice leading up to the next game.