Article published on January 6th 2012 | Sports

As the Toronto Raptors season is now 5 games in we can start to look at some statistical trends for the team and can see areas that the team needs to improve in to be successful. The main area that the Toronto Raptors management group attempted to address in the offseason was the defensive side of the game by hiring Coach Dwane Casey. The most notable increase for the team has been in their defensive rebounding numbers as they have gone from the bottom quarter of the league last season to the top third this season, through 5 games. Averaging 32 defensive boards the Toronto Raptors are much improved. The commitment to protecting their basket can also be seen as they top the league in total team personal fouls per game with 25.4. While at times that can show an undisciplined style of basketball, the effort to disrupt opponentâ€™s shots is still there. The negative however, is that the team ranks last in the league in offensive boards averaging only 7, showing a commitment on the defensive end but not on their overall rebounding game. Though contributed to a lack of size upfront with star player Andrea Bargnani being a perimeter player at times, the Toronto Raptors will need to improve on the offensive glass as the season goes along contributing to more second chance points. The Toronto Raptors rest in the lower half of the league in steals per game at 6.8, blocker per game at 4.4 and points per game at 92.2.

Where the Toronto Raptors have excelled this season is in the offensive sharing of the ball. They average a league high 24 assists per game a mark only matched by the league powerhouse Miami Heat (who also average 24 per assists per game). This can be attributed to the ball sharing skills of starting point guard Jose Calderon who is averaging 9.8 assists on the season putting him third in the NBA behind Houston Rockets point guard Kyle Lowry and Boston Celtics point guard Rajon Rondo. Calderon also averages the least turnovers of the three leaving him with the best assist to turnover ratio in the NBA, a sign that the Toronto Raptors offense is being run very well under the veteran Calderon.

Jose Calderonâ€™s strong play for the Raptors has lead to great statistical starts for Andrea Bargnani (averaging 22.6 points per game) and DeMar DeRozan (averaging 17.2 points per game). These two combined are making up for a large majority of the Toronto Raptors game scoring. The Raptors receive some supplemental scoring from Leandro Barbosa off the bench (12 points per game) and Jose Calderon (also 12 points per game). If the Raptors are hoping to have continued success this season they will need players such as James Johnson, Amir Johnson and second year player Ed Davis to start contributing on the offensive end.

If you are interested in coming out to any Toronto Raptors game this season, consider Pickfun.com as we have all the best deals on Raptors home games this season. With tickets all over the Air Canada Centre, Pickfun.com offers all information on Toronto Raptors game schedule, tickets and updates on each game Raptors play.

Article Source:
http://www.articleside.com/sports-articles/latest-statistical-trends-of-toronto-raptors-nba-team.htm - Article Side

Pickfun - About Author:
About Pickfun:

Pickfun is an online ticket site, offering the best deals and discounts on sports and event tickets at 20% off the box office and no service charges. Pickfun offers Toronto Raptors tickets for sale and Toronto Raptors game schedule details. Pickfun sets itself apart from their competition by offering Toronto Raptors tickets below box office prices in addition to having zero service charges.

Article Keywords:
toronto raptors, raptors game, toronto raptors schedule, toronto raptors tickets, toronto raptor schedule, raptors tickets

You can find more free articles on Article Side. Sign up today and share your knowledge to the community! It is completely FREE!