

Comparative Analysis of Attack and Defense Technical Indexes Between Chinese Men's Basketball Team and Japanese Team In 2025 Asian Cup Qualifier

Xin Dou¹, Binbin Liu^{2,*}

¹Jiangxi Vocational & Technical college of Information Application, Nanchang, Jiangxi, China

²Nanchang Normal University, Nanchang, Jiangxi, China

*Corresponding Author

Abstract: Comparative analysis of the offensive and defensive technical indicators between the Chinese men's basketball team and the Japanese team in the 2025 Asian Cup qualifiers was conducted through research methods such as literature review, mathematical statistics, and video observation. the results show that the Chinese men's basketball team has weak long-range shooting ability, insufficient adaptability and reading ability in high-intensity games, and a high number of fouls and mistakes. **Suggestion:** Firstly, pay attention to the learning of player knowledge and strengthen the reading level of the game; Secondly, enhance the training intensity of team members and enhance the level of domestic leagues; Thirdly, extensive international exchanges should be carried out to enhance the teaching level of local coaches.

Keywords: Asian Cup Qualifiers; Chinese Men's Basketball Team; Attack and Defense Technical Indicators; Comparative Analysis

In February 2024, the 2025 Mens Basketball Asian Cup Qualifiers (hereinafter referred to as the Asian Qualifiers) proceeded as scheduled, with 24 teams participating in this edition of the Asian Qualifiers divided into 6 groups. Teams grouped with Chinese mens basketball team in Group C are Mongolia, Japan, and Guam. the Asian Qualifiers will be conducted over three windows through a home-and-away format, with the top two teams from each group advancing to the main tournament. Chinese mens basketball team faced Mongolia (home game) and Japan (Japan) in their first window matches. On the evening of February 25, Chinese mens basketball team played a

four-quarter match against Japanese mens basketball team at the Tokyo Yumen Stadium, ultimately losing to Japan by a narrow margin of 73-76. This marked the end of Chinese mens basketball teams unbeaten streak against Japan in 16 matches at the Asian Cup. Therefore, this article will analyze the game process through video observation and statistical methods to deeply examine the Chinese mens basketball teams offensive and defensive technical application capabilities against their opponents, exploring the key factors leading to the loss to Japan, thereby providing reference for the future development and progress of Chinese mens basketball team.

1. Basic Information Comparison and Analysis of Chinese and Japanese Mens Basketball Players

The head coach of the Chinese Mens Basketball Team is Alexander Djordjevic, a Serbian coach (hereinafter referred to as Coach Djordjevic). This legendary coach, who led the Serbian national team to a silver medal at the 2016 Olympics, was appointed by the Chinese Mens Basketball Team in November 2022. He has subsequently participated in the 2023 FIBA Basketball World Cup Qualifiers and the Hangzhou Asian Games. the roster for this Asian Cup Qualifier has been adjusted compared to the World Cup qualifiers and the Asian Games, with all 12 players selected by Coach Djordjevic through training camps [1].

As can be seen from **Table 1**, the average height of the players in this Chinese mens basketball team is 200.3cm, which gives them a certain advantage over Japanese mens basketball teams. Considering Coach Qiaos coaching experience and philosophy, he hopes to shape the Chinese mens basketball team into a team similar to Serbia, one that can play with

good coordination and versatile playing styles. Therefore, in player selection, interior players are required not only to excel in defensive

positioning and rebounding but also to possess high-level playmaking and screening abilities [2].

Table 1. Comparison of Basic Information Between Chinese and Japanese Mens Basketball Players

China				Japan			
surname and personal name	age	stature cm	position	surname and personal name	age	stature cm	position
Zhao Jiwei	28	183	G	Hiroshima Shin	33	190	G
Hu Mingxuan	26	193	G	Fu Jianyongshu	30	167	G
Jade Hsu	24	179	G	Yoshikawa Koji	22	172	G
Cheng Shuai Peng	25	191	G	Tafos-Sea	25	188	G
Wang Ruize	28	197	F	Kiyotaka Imamura	28	191	G
Du Runwang	25	205	F	Masahiro Maeda	28	195	F
Abdusalam	27	203	F	Yuta Suda	32	187	F
Zhu Junlong	24	201	F	Toshiichiro Inoue	24	201	F
Choi Yong-hee	19	199	F	Jin Jilian	20	196	F
Hu Jinqiu	26	211	C	Kawajima is sailing	18	200	F
Yang Hansen	18	218	C	Harelson	35	208	C
Yu Jiahao	21	223	C	Kawaguchi Masahiro	25	202	C
average value	24.3	200.3			26.7	191.4	

According to the development characteristics of special competitive ability, 26-31 years old is the best stage for basketball [3]. At this stage, athletes have accumulated a certain amount of competition experience, possess strong technical and tactical abilities, and have relatively stable psychological qualities. the average age of this Chinese mens basketball team is 24.3 years old, which is relatively young, with some players having less experience in national team competitions, such as Yang Hansen and Wang Zerui, who are making their first appearance in the national team. In contrast, the Japanese mens basketball team has largely retained the same core players from last years World Cup qualifiers. Comparing the position structures of both teams, the Chinese mens basketball team consists of four guards, five forwards, and three centers. the Japanese mens basketball team is composed of five guards, five forwards, and two centers. Compared to Japan, China has more flexibility in selecting interior players, while Japan focuses more on rotating its perimeter players, a decision influenced by the teams overall playing style and tactical approach. For instance, during the 2023 World Cup qualifying group stage, it was the outstanding performances of perimeter players like Jiang Dao Shen and He Murakami Eiho that helped Japan defeat the strong European team Finland and secure a spot in the Paris Olympics. Therefore, the Japanese mens basketball team has largely maintained its core roster from the World Cup qualifiers, with players demonstrating good chemistry, which

is one of the key factors in their victory in this competition.

2. Comparison and Analysis of Scoring Data Between China and Japan

The results of this match presented the smallest point difference in the head-to-head encounters between the two teams over the past decade. Throughout the game, the scores alternated with China leading at one point and Japan leading at another, resulting in 5 ties. As shown in Table 2, the largest lead for China was 11 points, while the largest lead for Japan was 9 points.

The game started with China leading 12:3, after adjustments and substitutions, Japan aggressively countered with an 8:0 run. the score then alternated, ending the first quarter at 20:19. In the second quarter, Hu Mingxuan of the Chinese mens basketball team performed exceptionally well, scoring 9 points. Japan primarily scored through mid-range shooting and free throws, leading to a 38:38 halftime tie. In the third quarter, Chinese shooting dipped, scoring only 13 points, while Japan capitalized on cuts and perimeter plays to score 17 points, entering the fourth quarter with a 4-point lead. Japan maintained good perimeter shooting throughout the final period, and despite trailing by 3 points, China still had 6.6 seconds left to narrow the gap, unfortunately missing a crucial shot by Zhu Junlong, resulting in Chinese disappointing defeat by 3 points.

China team had two players scoring in double digits throughout the game, specifically Hu Jinqiu with 23 points and Hu Mingxuan with

20 points; Japanese players, including Yuta Maeda, Yuuhiro Kawamura, and Jin Sen Ho, scored over 10 points each. Comparing the two teams shooting, Chinese team attempted 8 more shots than Japanese and had a slightly higher shooting percentage. In terms of three-point scoring, Japan outperformed China in both the number of shots taken and shooting

accuracy. On free throws, Chinese mens basketball team maintained a high level of accuracy, while Japan had a significant advantage in the number of free throws attempted. Leveraging free throws, Japan scored 21 points, accounting for one-third of their total score, which became a key factor in Japanese victory in this game.

Table 2. Comparison of China and Japan Scoring Per Quarter

team	first quarter	Section II	the third segment	fourth quarter	final	The biggest lead
China	20	18	13	22	73	11
Japan	19	19	17	21	76	9

Table 3. Comparison of Scoring Accuracy Between China and Japan

team	shoot		three-point shot		penalty shot		Total score
	China/Investment	hit rate	China/Investment	hit rate	China/Investment	hit rate	
China	26/66	39.3%	8/29	27.6%	13/15	86.7%	73
Japan	22/58	37.9%	11/31	35.5%	21/27	77.8%	76

3. China team and Japan Team Rebound, Block, Assist and Steal Data Comparison Analysis

Comparing the number of rebounds between the two teams, China had a total of 44 rebounds throughout the game, surpassing Japanese 11 rebounds. Especially in terms of frontcourt rebounds, China led by 7 rebounds, indicating that the Chinese mens basketball team relied on their height advantage in the paint to gain more opportunities for secondary attacks. Unfortunately, throughout the game, due to turnovers and a lower shooting percentage, the players failed to convert these secondary attacks directly into scores. In terms

of backcourt rebounds, China had an additional 4 rebounds, which are crucial for securing rebounds after the opponent misses a shot, demonstrating successful defensive play [4]. As shown in **Table 4**, China mens basketball team has an advantage of four rebounds in defensive rebounds, indicating that the players have effectively protected the ball through better defense, which lays the foundation for transition offense or the restart of attacks. In terms of assists, China is superior by 2. However, in terms of steals, Japanese has an advantage of 4 due to their high-pressure defense from the perimeter. In terms of blocks, both teams are evenly matched.

Table 4. Comparison of Rebound, Assist, Steal and Block Data Between China and Japan

team	rebound		holding attack	NBA\'steal\	close over
	offensive rebound	Backcourt rebounds			
China	15	29	15	1	3
Japan	8	25	13	5	2

4. Comparison and Analysis of China and Japanese Data on Fouls and Mistakes

During the game, fouls are usually caused by defensive mismatches or over-defending. Inappropriate or excessive fouls not only affect the coachs personnel arrangements and normal player rotations but also lead to direct free throws for the opposing team. As shown in **Table 5**, Chinese mens basketball team has 6 more fouls than their opponent, and it is precisely because of these additional fouls that Japanese total number of free throws exceeds 12 times.

possession and affecting the teams morale. Throughout the game, the Chinese mens basketball team committed 4 more turnovers than their opponents. Especially in the final minute of the game, when China was trailing by 5 points and striving to catch up, the players made excessive passes, leading to a situation where no one was open for an attack, ultimately resulting in a 24-second violation. This critical mistake had an extremely adverse impact on the subsequent development of Chinese mens basketball team.

Table 5. Comparison of China and Japan Fouls and Errors

team	break the rules	fault
China	24	11
Japan	18	7

In the heat of competition, details often determine success or failure, and a mistake at a critical moment can directly result in losing

4. Conclusion and Suggestions

4.1 Conclusion

The Chinese mens basketball team has a certain advantage in height, but the players are relatively young and some lack experience playing for the national team. In terms of positioning: the interior players leverage their height advantage to better protect the basket, securing more rebounds and coordinating with the perimeter players for screens, creating shooting opportunities, which aligns with the head coaches coaching philosophy and selection criteria. The Japanese team largely retains its core players from the World Cup qualifiers, giving them an edge in game experience. Moreover, the enhanced perimeter players are quick on the move, effectively delaying and double-teaming when defending against Chinese screens, not only disrupting Chinese tactical coordination but also leading to several turnovers in passing and receiving.

Chinese team has a higher number of shots taken and an overall higher shooting percentage compared to Japanese team but in terms of three-point shooting Japanese mens basketball team demonstrates a higher level of athletic performance. As world basketball continues to evolve it requires players to have more comprehensive offensive skills with perimeter shooting gradually becoming the key factor dominating the game [5] and in recent years, Chinese mens basketball team has often been criticized by fans for their poor three-point shooting when facing high-intensity defense. In this game, the Chinese mens basketball team attempted 29 three-point shots, but the shooting percentage was less than 30%, which does not align with the current trends in basketball development and has gradually widened the gap with world-class teams.

The Chinese mens basketball team frequently changed their defensive formations in this game, showing insufficient adaptability and failing to effectively manage the timing and space of the game, leading to numerous mistakes; additionally, their poor reading of game situations resulted in them not adapting well to the referees' decisions, frequently committing fouls, which gave the Japanese mens basketball team 12 additional free throws.

4.2 Suggestions

Focus on players knowledge learning and strengthen their game reading level. The knowledge here refers to sports knowledge, one of the dominant factors of competitive ability [6]. Players training generally focuses on physical fitness, skills and psychology, while the cultivation of professional ability such as knowledge literacy such as rules and refereeing methods, tactical response and response is often ignored.

Increase the training intensity of players to improve the level of domestic leagues. The league is the cradle for nurturing athletes, and the quality of the league determines the level of participation in international competitions. Currently, as the top league in Chinese basketball, the CBA has issues with lower intensity of competition and slower offensive and defensive rates. Therefore, during regular training, the principle of "three from one large" should be implemented to help players gradually adapt to the intensity changes in international games.

Widely carry out international exchanges and improve the coaching level of local coaches. Increase exchanges and matches with world-class teams to strengthen the training of domestic coaches. This not only helps enhance team competitiveness but also allows for in-depth learning and problem identification. Consequently, this feedback can be fed back into the training process, gradually adapting to the development direction of world basketball.

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