



The Playbook: **Fenerbahce Beko Istanbul**

After finishing last year's Euroleague season ranked 12th and missing the playoffs with 10 wins/18 losses, Fenerbahçe Beko Istanbul (nicknamed "Fener") made game-changing adjustments this off-season, including:

- Hiring coach Dimitris Itoudis – 2x EL Winner w/CSKA ('16 & '19); 2x EL Coach of the Yr
- Signing Nick Calathes, Nemanja Bjelica (fresh off an NBA title with Golden State), Scottie Wilbekin, Jonathan Motley, and Nigel Hayes-Davis
 - Additionally, during the off-season, Euroleague legends Nando De Colo and Jan Vesely left after more than 12 combined years with the club
- Fener has started this Euroleague season winning 9 of the first 10 games, is currently 5th in the league (12-7), and is positioned for a deep playoff run

In **The Playbook**, we will explore the strategies and numbers related to Fener's early Euroleague success.

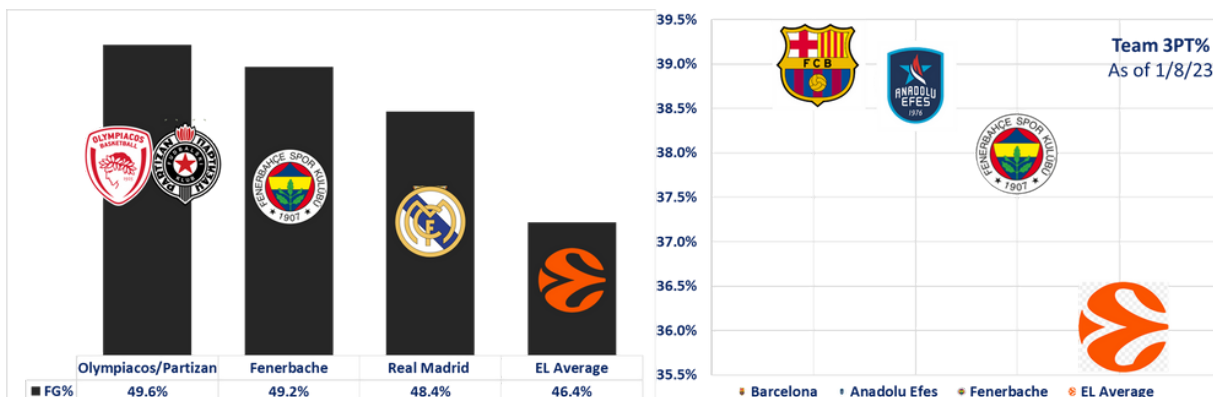
What works well

- **Complete Team** – Fener is great on both ends
 - 4th in Off Rtg: 116.9 PTS per 100 possessions; 5th in Def Rtg: 110.9 PTS allowed per 100 possessions
- **Offensive Efficiency** – 5th in the Euroleague in scoring (83.2 PPG); outstanding shooting numbers (see below)

What stands out

Scoring while in close proximity to the hoop

- Facilitated by dribble drives from Calathes, Guduric, Edwards and finishing from Motley, Jekiri, and Hayes-Davis



Prioritizing OREBs

- 11/game (6th in the EL) → creation of 2nd chance opportunities and PTS in the paint

Accurate 3pt shooting (see above)

- Fener does not attempt many shots beyond the arc: 9th in the EL; 25.4/game

Ball movement that improves shot selection

- 6th in the EL with team ASTs; 18.7/game: Calathes – 5.2; Guduric – 3.4

Solid, opportunistic defense

- 7.2 STL/game; 4th in the EL

The Playbook

Fener plays at a steady, controlled pace and is very good at getting to the basket

- They finish at a high rate, with an impressive % of shots around the rim (6th in 2PTA; 56.9% – 2nd in the EL)

Their veteran guards attack and break down defenses with ease

- A high percentage of open shots from 3PT
 - Constant "Drive + Kick", weakside assists in P&R situations, and 1v1 pull-ups

Although Fener still has turnover and shot-blocking issues (limited free-throw opportunities per game as well), the club has turned a hot start into a solid season, overcome a 5-game losing streak, and recently won 2 in a row

- When opponents score <80: 10-2; >80: 2-5
- When Fener scores >80: 9-2; <80: 3-5

The Spotlight: **Johnathan Motley**

A standout at Baylor University from 2013 to 2017, Jonathan Motley made his way to Istanbul via the NBA (46 career games – 4.9 PPG, 2.4 RPG), Lokomotiv Kuban in the Eurocup (21.2 PPG, 7 RPG), and the 6'8 big has been nothing short of spectacular this Euroleague season for Fener.

What do the numbers say?

- Motley averages 14.9 PTS (11th in Euroleague) and 6.5 REB/game
 - 1st in both categories for Fener
- Leads Fener in 2PTA(144) and 2PTM (91) while shooting 62.2%
 - He is excellent around the rim
 - Most of his output is through P&R/Post-ups
 - He is adept at sealing his man in quick catch-and-finish situations
- Ranks 3rd in the EL for OREB – 3.2/game; 4th in REB/game, 6.5
 - Motley creates consistent 2nd chance opportunities
 - He leads Fener in both offensive rebounds and rebounds per game
- Motley leads them with 75 attempts (2nd Guduric with 53) and makes 72%

Why he stands out

- On-court efficiency – he is performing at a high level while only playing 22:35 minutes per game: 5th on Fener; 64th overall in the EL

Despite the limited time, he is putting up great numbers (per 40):

- PTS/game: 2nd with 26.5
- 2PTM/game: 1st with 10.1
- OREB/game: 2nd with 5.6
- FTA/game: 4th with 8.3

If Motley were to play 30 MPG, he'd be a 20/10 player. 19.8 PTS, 8.6 REBs/game

Former Euroleague Player Comparisons

All stats per game



Maceo Baston: 3 seasons @Maccabi/70 games – 13.3 PTS/6.5 REB; 64.8% from 2

- Crazy athlete and a lob threat – Not much of an outside shooter who struggled more on the FT line, 63.1%

Tanoka Beard: 6 seasons @Zalgiris/73 games – 15.2 PTS/9.1 REB; 56.6% from 2

- Inside scorer, a force on the glass – better defensive rebounder

Victor Alexander: 3 seasons @Baskonia, CSKA/56 games – 12.9 PTS/5.6 REB; 54.6% from 2

- Very physical traditional post player, with *some* 3pt range

Marcus Goree: 6 seasons @Frankfurt, Maccabi, Benetton, CSKA /119 games – 11.3 PTS/6.1 REB; 49.3% from 2

- A good athlete; a much better shooter – 85 makes in 119 games from 3; 36.6%

Joseph Blair: 5 seasons @Paok, Scavolini, Ülker, Milano/65 games – 13.5 PTS/10 REB; 59.8% from 2

- Traditional Center, all-time great rebounder

