



A quick intro to CURLING

Here's a "quick & dirty"
version of the rules to
get you started.

TEAM...Each team is composed of 4 members who usually throw in the following order; Lead, Second, Vice (-Skip) & Skip.

END...A division of a game or match in which each team member delivers 2 stones, alternating with their counterpart on the opposing team. (*Think of an inning in baseball.*) Therefore, a total of 16 stones will be delivered in each end.

SCORING...Once all 16 stones of an END have come to rest, the score for that END is determined. A team scores one point for each of their stones in or touching the HOUSE, as long as no stone from the opposing team lays closer to the BUTTON. Hence, only one team can score in any given END. The team that scores in one END will deliver the first stone in the next END.

GAME...A game or match usually consists of 8 ENDS. The winner is the team that

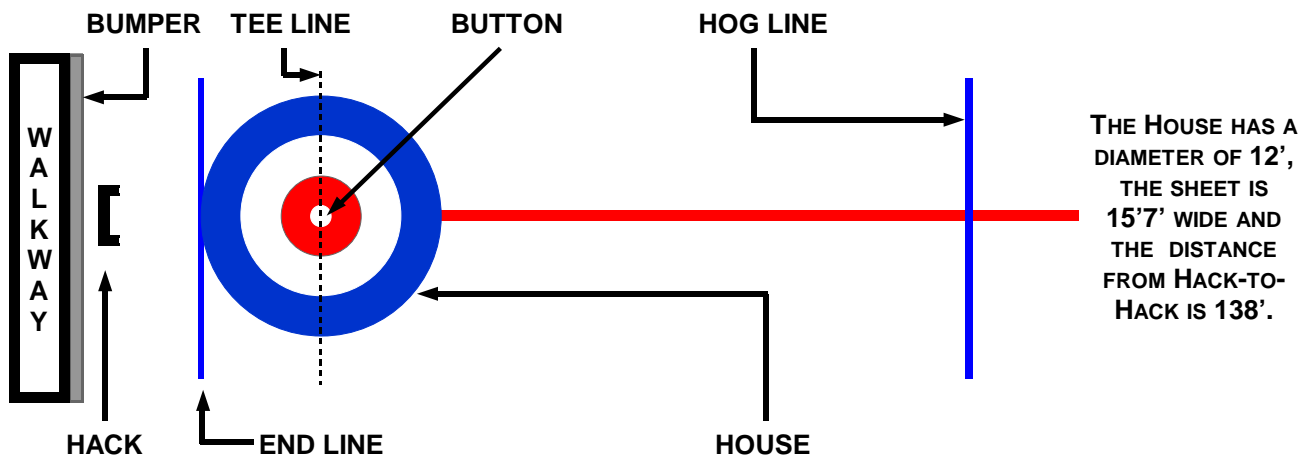
scores the higher cumulative total of points (stones) over these ends.

DELIVERY...Starting in the hack, a player must clearly release the stone before it crosses the near HOG LINE. Each stone is delivered with a clockwise or counter-clockwise spin (called a "Turn" or "Handle"), which causes it to curve or "curl" as it travels down the ice. For a stone to be "in play", it must come to rest having crossed the far HOG LINE, without going over the END LINE or having touched either of the Side Lines. Any stone that does not come to rest "in play" is removed from the ice.

SWEEPING...Between the TEE LINES, any team member may sweep any of their team's stones that are in motion. The sweeping motion must be perpendicular to the path of the stone. Behind the far TEE LINE, only one team member may sweep any of the team's stones at one time.

Between the TEE LINES, you are not allowed to sweep any of the opponent's stones. Once an opponent's stone crosses the far TEE LINE, the team member in

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charge of the HOUSE may sweep that stone if they wish.

Should the sweepers “burn the stone” (in

any way touch it with their brooms, feet, clothing, etc.), it will be taken out of play. Should it hit other stones before this can be done, they will be reset to their original position by the opposing Skip.

A FEW BASIC CURLING TERMS...

WEIGHT...An indication of how far down the ice the stone is expected to travel. For example, “Hack Weight” reaches the far Hack; “Bumper Weight” reaches the far Bumper and “Tee Weight” would reach the far Tee Line.

LIGHT...The stone has less WEIGHT than asked for and will not travel as far down the ice as desired.

HEAVY...The stone has more WEIGHT than asked for and will travel farther down the ice than desired.

TAKEOUT...The stone is delivered with a sufficient WEIGHT that when it hits another stone, it will knock it out of play.

PEEL...A TAKEOUT aimed so that it will hit the targeted stone at an angle, resulting in both the targeted stone and shooting stone getting knocked out of play or coming to rest at the side of the sheet.

DRAW...The stone is delivered with a WEIGHT that will allow it to come to rest within the HOUSE.

TAP UP...Similar to a TAKEOUT, but the goal here is to only move the hit stone a few feet. You would TAP UP one of your team’s stones into the HOUSE or closer to the BUTTON (this is called a PROMOTE) or an opponent’s stone further to the back of the HOUSE.

GUARD...A stone that comes to rest in a position to protect or “GUARD” an earlier stone.

FREEZE...A stone that will come to rest just touching another stone, without actually moving it.

HAMMER...The 16th and last stone delivered in an end.

STEAL (AN END OR A POINT)...Scoring in an end in which your team does not have the HAMMER.

FREE GUARD ZONE...If one team’s Lead delivers a stone that comes to rest in play, but not in the House or in back of the Tee Line, then the other team’s Lead stones cannot take it out of play. If that happens, then the second team’s stone is taken out of play and the first team’s stone is put back on the ice in the position it was in before the offending stone hit it. (The Free Guard Zone ends once the Seconds start delivering their stones.)

FRONT END...The Second & Lead of a team.

BACK END...The Skip & Vice of a team.



Ardsley Curling Club

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