

Chess on ice

Curling is a game of precision, subtle strategy; good delivery of curling stone is essential.

Curling basics

Objective Get stones as close as possible to scoring area center; keep opposing team's stones from scoring area

Stone 42 lb. (19 kg); made of granite

Ice Pebbled surface helps stone move sideways



Delivering stone

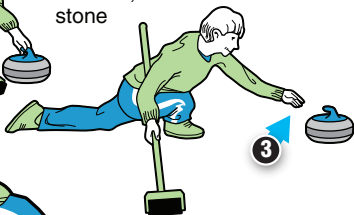
Stone's momentum, rotation (curl) controlled by curler's slide



2 Move forward and down; transfer weight to sliding front foot



3 Rotate stone slightly as arm extends; release stone



Stone



1 Place foot on starting block (hack); draw body, stone back

Sweeping

Players sweep in front of stone to melt ice slightly; stone curls less, can move up to 15 ft. (4.6 m) farther



Source: U.S. Curling Association, Canadian Curling Association, CurlTech, "Rules of the Game," "Sports: The Complete Visual Reference"

Graphic: Paul Trap, Judy Treible

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