



Glossary of Curling Terms

TERM	Standardized definition
Alternate	A registered, non-playing member of the team who is eligible to substitute for one of the competing players.
Away End	The end of the sheet to which the first stone of a game is delivered.
Back Board / Bumper	Material (e.g. foam or wood) placed at the end (perimeter) of each sheet of ice.
Back House Weight	The speed given to a stone at delivery so that it will just reach the back of the house.
Back Line	A line at the back of the house, extending across the width of the sheet, which is parallel to and located 1.829 m. (6 ft.) from each tee line.
Back of the House	The area within the house that lies between the tee line and the back line.
Biter	A stone that just touches the outer edge of the outside circle of the house.
Blank End	An end resulting in no score for either team.
Bonspiel	A curling competition or tournament.
Brush (Broom)	A device used by players to sweep/clean the ice in front of a moving stone.
Button	The small circle at the centre of the house.
Burned Stone	A stone in motion touched by a player or any part of a player's equipment.
Centre Line	The line dividing the playing surface down the middle. It joins the midpoints of the tee lines and extends 3.658 m. (12 ft.) beyond the centre of each tee line.
Circles	See definition: House.
Competition	Any number of teams playing games to determine a winner.
Come Around	A shot that curls behind another stone.
Counter	Any stone in or touching the house and is considered a potential point.
Courtesy Line	A line indicating where the sweepers from the non-delivering team are allowed to stand in order to ensure that an umpire can view the hog line and to prevent distraction of a delivering player.
Curl	The curved path of a stone as it travels down the sheet of ice.
Delivering End	The end of the sheet from which the stones are being delivered.
Delivering Team	The team that is currently in control of the playing area, and scheduled to deliver the next stone.
Delivery	The motion a player makes when playing a curling stone.

Delivery Stick	A device which attaches to the handle of the stone and acts as an extension of the arm/hand during the delivery process.
Displaced Stone	A stationary stone that has been moved to a new location.
Divider	Material (e.g. foam or wood) used to separate the sheets of curling ice.
Double Takeout	A stone that removes two of the opponent's stones from play.
Draw	A stone which stops inside or in front of the house.
Draw Shot Challenge (DSC)	The calculation made by taking the average distance of the Last Stone Draws (LSD), excluding the least favourable LSD, and used, if required, to assist in the determination of ranking after a round robin.
Draw Weight	The momentum required for a delivered stone to reach the house at the playing end.
Electronic Hog Line Device	A device that indicated if a stone was released by a player before the stone reached the hog line at the delivering end.
End	A portion of a curling game that is completed when each team has thrown eight stones and/or the score has been decided.
Equipment	Anything that is worn or carried by a player.
Extra End	An additional end played to break a tie at the end of regulation play.
External Force	An occurrence not caused by either team.
First Player	The first curler on a team to deliver two stones in each end.
Fourth Player	The fourth curler on a team to deliver two stones in each end.
Free Guard Zone (FGZ)	The area at the playing end, between the hog line and the tee line, but excluding the house.
Freeze	A form of a draw shot that stops directly up against another stone.
Front House Weight	The momentum required for a delivered stone to reach the front part of the house at the playing end.
Game	Two teams playing a specified number of ends to determine a winner.
Guard	A stone that is placed in a position so that it may protect another stone.
Hack	The foot-hold at each end of the ice which is used by a player to start the delivery of a curling stone.
Hack Line	A small line 0.457 m. (1 ft. 6 in.) parallel to the tee line, at each end of the centre line.
Hack Weight	The momentum required for a delivered stone to reach the hack at the playing end.
Handle	The part of a curling stone that a player grips in order to deliver.
Hammer	A term used to describe the stone which will be the last stone delivered in that end.
Heavy	A stone delivered with a greater speed than necessary.
Hit	A take-out. Removal of a stone from the playing area by hitting it with another stone.
Hit and Roll	A stone that knocks an opponent's stone out of play, and then rolls to another position in play.
Hog Line	A line extending across the width of the sheet that is parallel to and located 6.40 m. (21 ft.) from each tee line.
Hog Line Violation	A stone that is removed from play for the end, because it was not released before it reached the hog line at the delivering end.
Hogged Stone	A stone that is removed from play for the end, because after being delivered, it did not come to rest completely beyond the inside edge of the hog line at the playing end.
Home End	The end of the sheet from which the first stone of a game is delivered.

House	The area within the concentric circles at each end of the sheet.
Hurry	A command which instructs players to sweep harder.
Ice Surface	The complete ice area that is within the perimeters of the curling sheet.
In the Process of Delivery	The sequence of play that begins when the delivering player is positioned in the hack and concludes when the stone is released.
In-turn	The rotation applied to the handle of a stone by a right handed curler which causes the stone to rotate in a clockwise manner.
Last Stone Draw (LSD)	A contest conducted at the conclusion of a team's pre-game practice in which each team delivers a single stone to the tee at the home end. The resulting distance is measured and used to determine which team has the choice of delivering the first or second stone in the first end.
Lead	The first player on a team to deliver two stones in each end.
Mathematically Eliminated	The status of a team that has a combined total of stones left to be delivered and/or remaining in play that is less than the number needed to produce either a tie or a win.
Measuring Device	An instrument that determines which stone is closer to the centre of the house (Tee), or whether a stone is in the house.
Moving Stone	A stone in motion either from a delivery or from being struck by another stone.
Original Position of a Stone	The location on the ice where a stone rested prior to its being displaced.
Out-of-play Position	The location of a stone that is not in play (e.g. one which has touched a side line, or crossed the back line).
Out-turn	The rotation applied to the handle of a stone by a right handed curler which causes the stone to rotate in a counter-clockwise manner.
Pebble	The water droplets applied to a sheet of ice before commencing play. These droplets freeze, which then reduces the friction between the ice and the stones.
Peel	A shot designed to remove a guard.
Playing End	The end of the sheet to which the stones are being delivered.
Point	At the completion of an end, one is awarded to a team for each of its own stones located in or touching the house that is closer to the tee than any stone of the opposition.
Port	An opening, or gap, between stones.
Positioned Stones	In Mixed Doubles games, the two stones that are placed in designated positions prior to the start of each end.
Raise	A type of draw which bumps forward another stone.
Raise Takeout	A delivered stone hits a stationary stone, which then starts to move and it hits a third stone out of play.
Rings	See definition: House.
Rock	See definition: Stone.
Roll	The sideways movement of a curling stone after it has struck a stationary stone.
Round Robin	A competition in which each team plays all the other teams.
Score	The number of points received by a team in an end.
Scoring	A team scores one point for each of its stones that is within the house and closer to the tee than

	any stone of the opposing team.
Second Player	The second curler on a team to deliver two stones in each end.
Sheet	The specific ice surface upon which a curling game is played.
Shot (stone or rock)	At any time during an end, the stone closest to the tee.
Side Line	A line placed at the side (perimeter) of each sheet of ice.
Skip	The player who directs play for the team.
Slider	Slippery material placed on the sole of the sliding shoe, which makes it easier to slide on the ice.
Spare	See definition: Alternate.
Stationary Stone	A stone in play which is not in motion.
Stone	Also known as a rock, a curling stone is made of granite and is delivered by the players in a curling game.
Stone Set in Motion	A stationary stone hit by another stone which causes it to move.
Sweeping	The action of moving a broom or brush back and forth in front of the path of a moving stone to clean or polish the ice surface.
Swingy Ice	The condition of the ice or stones causing the stones to have excessive curl.
Takeout	Removal of a stone from the playing area by hitting it with another stone.
Team	Four players competing together. A team may include a fifth player (to act as an alternate) and a coach. Mixed Doubles have one male and one female player, and may include a coach.
Tee	The exact centre of the house.
Tee Line	A line extending across the width of the sheet that passes through the centre of the house parallel to the hog line and backline.
Third Player	The third curler on a team to deliver two stones in each end.
Time-Out	Stoppage of play called by a team or umpire.
Top of the House	The area within the house that lies between the hog line and the tee line.
Umpire	The person(s) responsible for the conduct of the game in accordance with the rules.
Vice-Skip (Mate or Acting Skip)	The player who directs play for the team when it is the Skip's turn to deliver,
Weight	The amount of force/speed given to the stone during the delivery.
Wheelchair Lines	Two lines that run from the hog line to the outermost edge of the nearest circle of the house. Wheelchair curlers are allowed to start their delivery with the stone placed between these lines.