

Two-person Doubles Curling

Overview

Two-person doubles curling is a variation of traditional curling designed for **smaller teams and quicker games**. The game is played on standard curling ice, and no special equipment is required beyond regular curling stones and brooms. All genders are welcome to play.

Gameplay and Rules

- **Number of Stones:** Each team plays with **six stones per end**, compared to eight in traditional four-person curling.
- **Positioned Stones:** At the start of each end, **two stones are pre-positioned** one in the house and one as a guard. The placement is agreed upon by both teams and remains the same throughout the game
- **Stone Delivery:** Players alternate delivering stones. The first player delivers the first stone also delivers the last stone of the end, while the teammate delivers the middle stones (2, 3, & 4)
- **Ends:** Competitive games are usually **eight ends**, though club games may be shortened to 5–6 ends for faster play
- **Sweeping:** Sweeping rules are similar to traditional curling, but in some variations, sweeping is restricted to certain areas of the sheet

Scoring

Scoring follows the **same rules as traditional curling**, with points awarded for stones closest to the center of the house at the conclusion of each end
Positioned stones are eligible to count in the scoring.

Strategy and Features

- **Fast-Paced:** With fewer stones and players, games are quicker and often more dynamic, with more stones in play per end
- **Power Play Option:** Teams can use a "power play" to reposition the pre-placed stones strategically, often to maximize scoring opportunities
- **Accessibility:** The format allows **curlers of all skill levels** to participate, making it popular for clubs and international competitions .

Summary

Two-person doubles curling is a **dynamic, accessible, and strategic version of curling** that emphasizes speed, teamwork, and tactical stone placement. It retains the core elements of traditional curling while offering a unique and engaging experience for both recreational and competitive players