

Curling's Double Dating



In the lexicon of curling this might be a bit of a stretch, however, it does serve as an introduction to the exciting and sometimes tension filled world of doubles curling

In a nutshell, 2 teams, 6 rocks each, 6 ends, 75 minutes.

Sounds simple enough....hold on to your hat (or preferably helmet)

1. First off, there are only two curlers on each team, so:

Option 1 - Pick an imaginary target broom and have your partner sweep while you, as the backseat driver call line on your delivered rock

Option 2 - Have your partner hold the broom at the far end and after your delivery, stand up (gracefully) and sweep your own rock. (Check with your insurance agent first before you choose this slightly more challenging alternative)

Option 3 - Both curlers sweep the delivered rock.

BTW: Shot selection is a collaborative effort as there is no skip per se.

2. Your team's rock selection:

Option 1 - Throw 1st and 5th rock

Option 2 - Throw 2nd , 3rd & 4th rock

NB: You can change your rock selection for each end played

Ok, so for the observant few who haven't fallen asleep yet, you're wondering what about rock # 6?

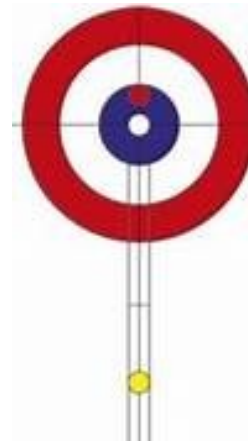
Great question!

3. At the beginning of each end, the team that **did not** score in the previous end will have choice of stationary rock positions. They can place, their **6th** rock in one of two positions. By default, the opponent's "parked" rock will be placed in the remaining position as illustrated below:

Option 1- See red rock position
(in the house, back 4)



(as a centre guard)



Option 2 - See yellow rock position

The team whose stationary stone is the guard, throws the first stone for that end.



Whew..... time for a coffee break



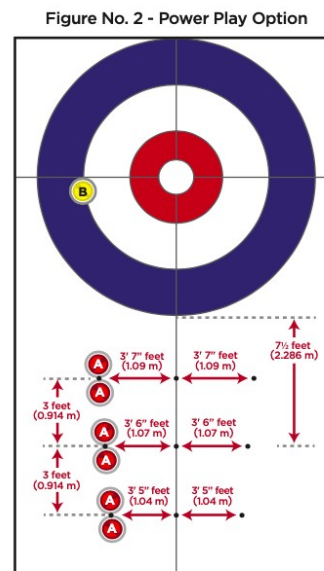
Welcome back, ok, here's the Glenn & Russ Howard part of the game (ie inventors of the free guard zone): No stone, including those in the house, can be removed from play prior to the delivery of the fourth stone of an end (ie. until after the third delivered stone). Almost done!

Power Play:

This strategic option can only be used once by each team per game. It cannot be used in extra ends.

Stationary stones (A & B) are positioned as illustrated. The image illustrates different options for placement of rock A.

The team with the guard will throw first rock.



So that's the Coles Notes version of Doubles Curling. See you on the ice!

From the warm side of the glass Denis Faubert