



● In Memorium

Remembering Joe McCracken by Grant Marshall,
President GMCA

What an honour and privilege to be asked to remember
Joseph David McCracken.

Joe and I go back more years than I like to remember, and
to a city we both tried to forget: Regina, Saskatchewan—a
great place to be brought up in back in the 50's and 60's
when we first met. In fact, it is really due to Joe's sister Moira
[the same class at Davin School, at Central Collegiate in
Regina] that I got to know him. Joe was a couple of years
behind us.

After completing school, Joe joined the Royal Bank and
began a long and amazing career working in highlight towns of
Saskatchewan such as: Elbow, Moose Jaw, Indian Head and then
Cadillac. Wow, Joe was on a roll!! These were not really the towns he
worked in, but he did start in small town Saskatchewan. He told me about
living in boarding houses in many towns, but always had a positive outlook
not to mention the hours he volunteered in these various towns helping the
church or the curling rink or whatever the cause may be Joe was there to
help

Joe's career eventually took him to Vancouver where he and his wife raised
a family and finished his career with the Royal Bank after serving them for
38 years. Let's not forget not only did he have a job, but he raised his 3
children and always had time to volunteer at the church or the curling rink or
a club he belonged to. That was Joe.

His plan, after retirement, was to take just enough contract work from the
Bank to keep him busy, but still allow him time for the things he really
enjoyed—golfing, curling, travelling and of course time to help those who
needed his help.

It was a crushing blow, just one short week after retirement that a
cancerous tumour was found in Joe's head that would require radiation
and long term treatment. The outlook wasn't bright. The medical
suggestion? Get your life in order! Joe, being Joe, took the high road,
remained positive, relied on his faith, defied the medical establishment and
lived on for another 9 years.

It was time to move to a more relaxed community so he and Martha chose
Sidney. However, again, Joe being Joe, he went looking for places to put
his skills and knowledge to work and help those who needed help. Lucky
groups like the
Presbyterian Church, Probus, Glen Meadows Golf and Glen Meadows
Curling Clubs all benefited from Joe's desire to help **cont next page**



[in

Remembering Marsh

by Joan Beattie

If any of you were a curling member of Glen
Meadows in the early years, you would remember
the smiling face of Marsh Nicholson. She joined the
GM curling leagues starting with the Wednesday
Night Mixed curlers in 1978 and continued with
them until 1999. Those were the days when the
Wednesday Night Curlers closed the bar after
midnight and after any celebratory events, would
sometimes crash at Percy's. During those years,
while curling with the Bodnar rink, Marsh
celebrated an eight-ender on November 1, 1989
and had the certificate and pin to prove it. She also
had a seven-ender during her illustrious curling
career.

Marsh also curled with the Day Ladies, skipping
most of those years, as well as being their President
for one year. She stopped curling in 2006 but never
missed an opportunity to volunteer to help for Inter
Club, spare for the Tuesday night ladies where she
was an "honorary fifth" for the Donison rink, on
hand to cheer at the club bonspiels and act as a
champion seller of 50/50 tickets.

Prior to moving to North Saanich, Marsh and her
husband lived in several cities (with curling rinks)
In 1974, her team won the Grand Aggregate while
curling at the Canadian Forces Base Ladies Curling
Club. She was on the winning rink when her team
from CFB Club winning a 48 rinks bonspiel at the



March 2012 issue

Glen Meadows Curling Club

Rock
Talk

In Memorium (con't)

where he could. We can't thank him enough for all the contributions he has

made, and we all will have to work very hard to fill those shoes. After our retirement we too moved to the Island in 2005. Like Joe, my wife also worked for the Royal Bank and though she didn't work with him, she did know of him. and while attending an RBC retirement function, low and behold who was there but Joe and his wife, Martha. Thus, our friendship was rekindled.

Occasionally Joe and I would go for coffee in Sidney and talk about his health, although he didn't like to dwell on that, so we would then solve all the world problems, but as always end up talking about the Curling Club and what we could do to make it better. Joe curled in almost every League we had to offer—Mixed, Men's, Masters and the Senior Competitive, even the stick League. While he liked to win, the social aspect of being with the other players—sharing a coffee after the game—was far more important to him.

He was very active in the Club filling various position. Most recently, he was on the Executive of the Glen Meadows Curling Association and would have become President for the 2012-13 season—something he looked forward to.

I will sorely miss Joe: his work ethic, willingness to pitch in and help where he could. He was not looking for personal recognition, but rather looking to help the Club or whatever organization he was volunteering for. An amazing man. I am glad I could call him my friend. Joe is survived by wife Martha, sisters Moira, Winni and Anna, his children Craig, Joanna and Jennifer.

Grafton Curling Club in North Dakota. You could always depend on Marsh to volunteer for any big event in Victoria. In 1984, she volunteered for the Victoria Brier, as well, the Ford Men's Worlds in 2005, working the lounges and referred to herself as "a lounge lizard" then again at the 1994 Victoria Commonwealth Games.

In 1997, Marsh went over to Vancouver with some friends to watch the Scotties insisting everyone wearing big curling hats. Sandra Schmirler curled, and won Scotties that year. Marsh was thrilled to have her picture taken with Sandra (see preceding page). She never failed to cheer for a team from Saskatchewan, since her home town was Turtleford. Ever hear of it???

In 2000, she and three friends flew off to Scotland to see The Worlds in Glasgow. Kelly Law and Grant McAulay represented Canada, and both teams won—a double whamee from B.C.

Marsh's life wasn't just at the curling rink. She was Secretary for Branch 37 of the Royal Canadian Legion for many years. She loved to sing the old tunes around the piano on November 11th and once in awhile—reluctantly—marched in the annual Remembrance Day parade. She loved to golf and for the last few years was a member of Ardmore Golf Club.

Marsh passed away in May of last year and for all of you that knew her, we miss her smiling face and her willingness to always lend a helping hand whenever asked. When you pass the GM Trophy Case, stop... go over to see the new display featuring all of Marsh's ribbons, pins and curling memorabilia donated to GMCA.

In this issue

• YOU VOTED:

- Who's your favourite at the Brier & Scotties?
- Most over- & under-rated teams on the circuit?
- Best curling tips
- GMCA 7-ender & triple double take-out in same game
- How to Reduce Real Life Curling Failure
- HurlBert the Unready's 5 Question Quiz
- 2012 Provincial Stick Curling Bonspiel
- Umpire Says: "It's in the Rules!"
- How are Curling Stats scored at Brier and Scotties?

& more

Visit our website often to keep up with changes and updates

www.glenmeadowscurling.ca / gmca.com Page 2 of 11





March 2012 issue

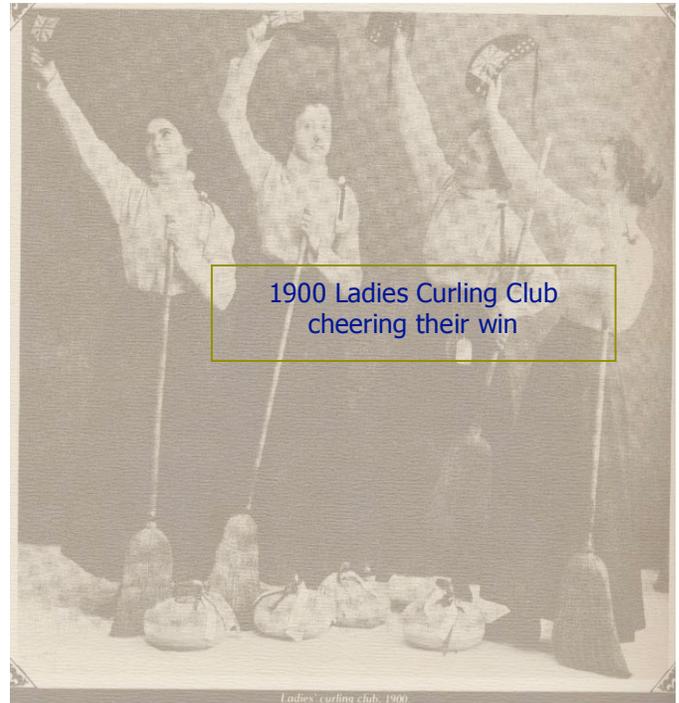
Glen Meadows Curling Club

Rock
Talk

HurlBert the Unready's Curling Quiz

Here's one way to wrap the 2011-2012 curling season: see if you get all 5 correct. Never fear. If you don't get this one, we have other ways in this issue for you to wind up the season and prepare for next season. Ready?? See next page for the answers.

- 1 • What is the shape of a curling stone called?
(A) oblate (B) ovoid (C) oval (D) oblong
- 2 • What is the bottom of the curling stone called?
(A) the bottom ring (B) lower side (C) annulus (D) underside pelt (E) the undercut
- 3 • The granite for curling stones comes
(a) Canadian Shield and Scotland
(b) Scotland and Wales
(c) China and Scotland
(d) Scotland, USA and Russia
- 4 • Which is NOT a type of granite used for curling stones?
(a) Trefor granite (b) Blue-Hone granite (c) Ailsa Craig Common Green granite (d) Keanie Granite
- 5 • How many different ways are there to 'clock time' delivery of your curling stones?
(A) only two (B) three (C) six (D) twelve



Your best curling tip?

contributed by Wednesday morning ladies and Wed. evening mixed teams

- "KISS" - keep it simple, (no over-complicated shots) - Connie M.
- it's all in the Norwegian pants - anon.
- Hit the broom! - Lesley M.
- don't forget to take off the gripper (oops!) - Wayne
- No matter what happens, SMILE... it's not the Scotties - Kathi N.
- don't kneel on the ice or put your hand on the ice - Lynn
- Communicate - JB

*Some of curlers may get a kick out of seeing such an old photograph (above) that comes from an old book of mine entitled "Alberta at the Turn of the Century" (Provincial Archives of Alberta-Publication No. 2 dated 1975).
Flo Scott
Day Ladies Curling Club*



Hurlbert the Unready's Curling Quiz Answers:

1. What is the shape of a curling stone called? (A) oblate ✓
2. What is the bottom of the curling stone called? (C) annulus ✓
3. The granite for curling stones comes from (b) Scotland and Wales. Which type do we have at Glen Meadows? Read on: You decide.

4. Trick question... all four are used for curling stones—sort of—see below for the explanation about Blue Hone.

• Trefor granite is either blue/gray or red/brown with white mineral grains is named for the region of Wales where it originates. The rock has consistent white and black minerals throughout.

➔ • Blue-Hone granite was mined on the Ailsa Craig Island off the coast of Scotland. Light gray color with flecks of white minerals. This granite is one of the premier granites for curling stones, but mining is no longer allowed on the island due to its declaration as a bird sanctuary for the preservation of several species. In the early 2000s, the Kays of Scotland, a curling-stone manufacturer, obtained a special one-time permit to gather granite from the island, obtaining an approximate 20-year supply of stone. Due to go 'extinct' in 8 years.

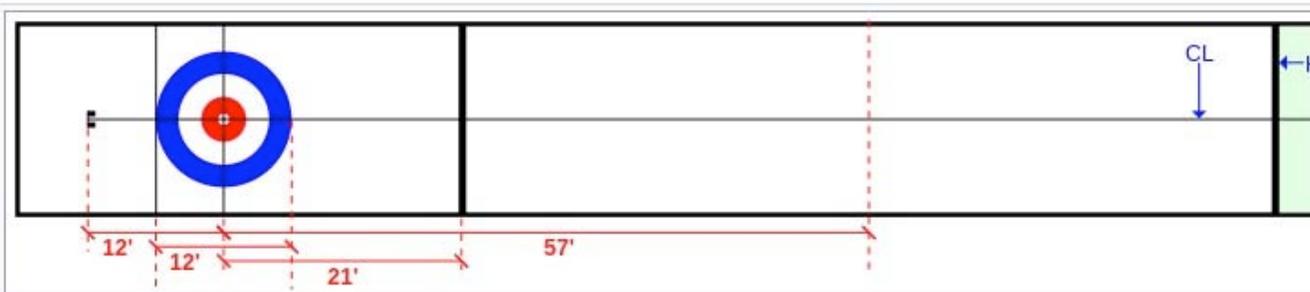
• Ailsa Craig Common Green granite is another popular curling-stone material from the Ailsa Craig Island. This granite is green in color due to different accessory minerals in the granite. Like the Blue Hone, The Ailsa Craig Common Green granites have specks of white minerals throughout the rock.

• Keanie granite is a pink to brown rock with visible white and black mineral grains. As it is more porous than others, it is prone to develop pitting more readily than other types of curling granites. Therefore, Keanie is less desirable as a curling stone than other materials available.

5 • How many different ways are there to 'clock time' delivery of your curling stones?

(D) twelve! So, exactly what is clock timing? This type of rock speed timing is simply stopwatch timing between known reference points on the sheet. Common reference points are measured in seconds of travel between:

1. Backline to release hogline
2. Backline to far T-line
3. Backline to centerline {an imaginary line or logo) at mid-ice.
4. T-line to hogline.



A curling sheet, with dimensions - **CL:** Centreline • **HOL:** Hogline • **TL:** Teeline • **BL:** Backline • **HA:** Hackline with

5. T-line to T-line.
6. Hogline to hogline.
7. Hogline to far T-line.
8. Hogline to top 12'.
9. Hogline to back 12'.
10. Hogline to hack.
11. Hogline to boards.
12. Sheet centerline to house-end T-line when there is some marker at mid-ice.

[sources: ehow.com and answers.com]



March 2012 issue

Glen Meadows Curling Club

Rock
Talk

You Voted

Q: How well will Teams Nehouin and Howard do at the upcoming World's?

- (Laurie Robson and Joan Beattie at Tuesday Night Ladies made the following prediction:- Nedhouin Bronze - Howard Gold
- Our team's not sure about Nedhouin; she wasn't a very dominant presence at the Scotties despite her win; she needs to be more aggressive (just a joke).
- Howard is a definite Gold contender; his team is playing impeccably well and Howard himself has been playing incredibly well and so deserves to win.



Challenge: Can you name the owner of the above leg & the event?? Hint: the date was 2010

MORE of your best curling tips

contributed by Wednesday morning ladies and Wed. evening mixed teams

- clean the rock without bashing the front of the hack... actually that's also my pet peeve! - P.
- Don't overthink it (speed up the play) - Kathy
- aim for the broom - Ron S.
- have fun; have a good laugh - anon
- don't let your bad shots get you down - Alli & Jenny
- don't miss the wrong shots... especially the last shot - anon
- don't be shy about giving new curlers advice... especially protocol and etiquette - Wilson team

The 2012 Provincial Stick Championship Report

The Provincial Stick Championship was held in Salmon Arm on March 9 – 11, 2012 with 28 teams from the province. Most of the entries were from the area: Armstrong, Chase, Enderby, Vernon etc. One team came from Maple Ridge and of course our team represented Glen Meadows.

There were four pools of teams; each pool played five games. The top two teams in each pool then went to a next round to play off for the Championship, while the rest of the teams played on a Consolation series. We were guaranteed six games and after the sixth game, in order to keep playing, a team had to keep the winning streak.

The people were very friendly and it was a lot of fun. We met some new people and saw several people that I had met last year, when Julia White and I attended the Provincial event in Armstrong. Deb, the Armstrong bartender was there and bought Bill and I shooters to welcome us to the event. The entry fee included a soup and sandwich lunch of the Friday and a buffet of Beef Dip and salads and desserts on Saturday.

Unfortunately, Bill and I (shown right) lost our sixth game, so our bonspiel run came to an end, but we hope to go to the Championship next year, when it is in Enderby. We hope some of you will consider attending also!

[Reporter: Dorothy Wright]





March 2012 issue

Glen Meadows Curling Club

Rock
Talk

Scotties 2012 Gallery



Word of the Day Negative ice

(Wiktionary) A shot in which the player curls the stone in the opposite direction in which the stone is expected to curve, due to significant defects in flatness of the ice.

(shotrockcurling.com) Negative Ice - When a skips brush is positioned such that the delivered stone must travel the opposite direction that it would normally curl to make the shot. If a skip is calling negative ice you might think the shot calls for an out-turn when they are actually playing an in-turn (and vice versa). Negative ice is played when there is a fall in the ice.

(Wikipedia) Fall: A defect in the ice which causes stones thrown in that area to curl negatively; Falling: As the stone is sliding down the sheet, it curls negatively.

Another website phrases it this way: *negative ice ... means it's tougher to read the ice.*

curling clinics - your advance notice

Here's your chance to attend our first class clinics

The benefits?

- 1 • streams of great info & advice
- 2 • practice in challenging new ways to improve your game
- 3 • build your confidence
- 4 • view objective videos of your curling performance & MUCH MORE

Early October & Early January

Curling Rock Drag Effect - YouTube



www.youtube.com/watch?v=xfVx1-emCV8

25 Feb 2008 - 2 min - Uploaded by williamgatesiii

@lgcrooks Then how do you explain how some rocks may curl with **negative ice**? When taking a wide shot ...

[More videos for negative ice curling »](#)





March 2012 issue

Glen Meadows Curling Club

Rock
Talk

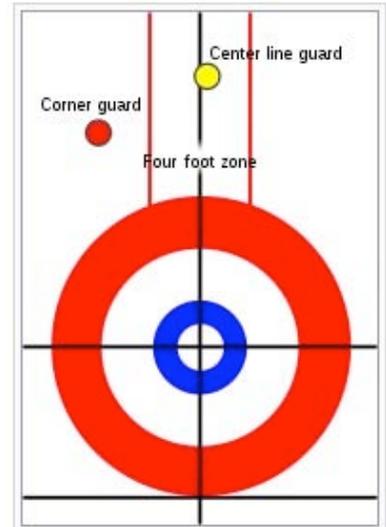
Umpire Says: "It's in the Rules!"

Senario #1: Your stone clearly crosses the back line but spins back in. Must you remove it? Or, are you permitted to keep it where it is?

Senario #2A: In the game, your skip is not on the ice (for one reason or another). The third (or vice-skip) is in the hack, ready to deliver the rock. As your skip leaves the ice, s/he says "Don't hold up the game. Just throw the rock, I'll be right back." The third's rock is delivered—in fact, it's closest to the button. Can your opposition have the rock removed and not be counted?

2B: In this version of the Scenario, your second goes down the ice to hold the broom because the Skip's not there. Your Lead sweeps the rock. Again, can your opposition have the rock removed and not be counted?

Senario 3: You deliver a rock. The broom belonging to one of your sweepers, touches the moving stone en route and it displaces a stone belonging to the opposition. One of your sweepers immediately pushes the rock out of play. Is that what s/he should have done? If not, what are the possibilities?



Answers from *CCA's Official Rule Book* on next page.

Seven Ender Game at Glen Meadows + Three Double Take-outs

Wednesday, February 29, 2012 members of the Brent August Team (Brent August, skip; Lynanne Smith, third; Brian Crossley, second and Marilynne Miles Gray, Lead), scored at seven ender coming home. As proof, cell phones were whipped out to take some over-the-top pictures.

During the same game, Lead Jule Cunningham of the opposing team, delivered three double-take outs, one in each of three successive ends. Unfortunately, there was no camera rolling to capture those moments for Julie.



Scoring the 7-ender led to the re-discovery of the 7-Enders Trophy—decorated with plaques bearing the names of all those who have managed such a feat in the past—lodged at the back of the Trophy case.

Yes, and as to the picture being pretty wild, it was either that or stand stiffly to attention or no picture at all.



March 2012 issue

Glen Meadows Curling Club

Rock
Talk

Answers to Umpire Says: "It's in the Rules!"

Scenario #1: Your stone clearly crosses the back line but spins back in. **Remove it.**

Scenario #2A: **Yes**, your opposition can have the rock removed and not be counted. Rule says only the skip or vice skip may be positioned inside the hogline when the delivering team is in the process of delivery; rock is removed if one of those two is not in control at the playing end.

2B: **Same** answer as 2A.

Scenario 3: The possibilities: • all stones come to rest and non-offending team has option to remove the touched stone or put them where they thought they might have come to rest had the incident not happened.

YOU VOTED:

Your favourite curling team @ Scotties or Brier this year?

Comments by curlers: "Love the new faces at the Brier this year"

"I really missed seeing Kevin Martin, Jeff Stoughton at the Brier this year"

- Kelly Scott (7 votes) - "she is so positive", "she is such a lady" - nominated by Juba White, Dorothy Shortreed, Denise Irwin, Florence Scott, Kathi, G. Roge, MMG
- Kevin Koe - (6 votes) nominated by Denise Irwin, Florence Scott, Darlene Dressler, Dorothy Shortreed, Denise Irwin; Dorothy Wright
- Heather Nedohuin - (4 votes) nominated by Bonnie O., Darlene Dressler, DonnaMae W., Dorothy Wright
- Team Howard - (3 votes) nominated by Julia White; 'thanks to the Rockumentary film of the team'
- Jennifer Jones - (2 votes) nominated by GM; Joan Beattie
- Jamie Koe - (1 vote) nominated by Barb Carr • Ontario women's team - (1 vote) nominated by Barb Carr
- Marie-France Larouche - (1 vote) nominated by PB • Jill Officer - (1 vote) nominated by GM



YOU VOTED

Most over- or under-rated curler at the Brier, Scotties, World's

Folks, this question landed some interesting replies. Seems it was a question guaranteed to let opinions fly unedited.

- I don't watch curling on tv (2 votes)
- Newfoundland/Labrador & Brad Gushue (3 votes)
- I like seeing new faces at the Brier
- I miss the screaming (several 'guys' offered this reply... who's to say whether it was in reference to the Scotties, the Brier or both?)
- The guys at the Brier have raccoon eyes
- Heather Nedohuin (favourite)
- Bernard; Jamie Koe of NWT/Yukon (under-rated)



Membership Changes 2010/11 to 2011/12

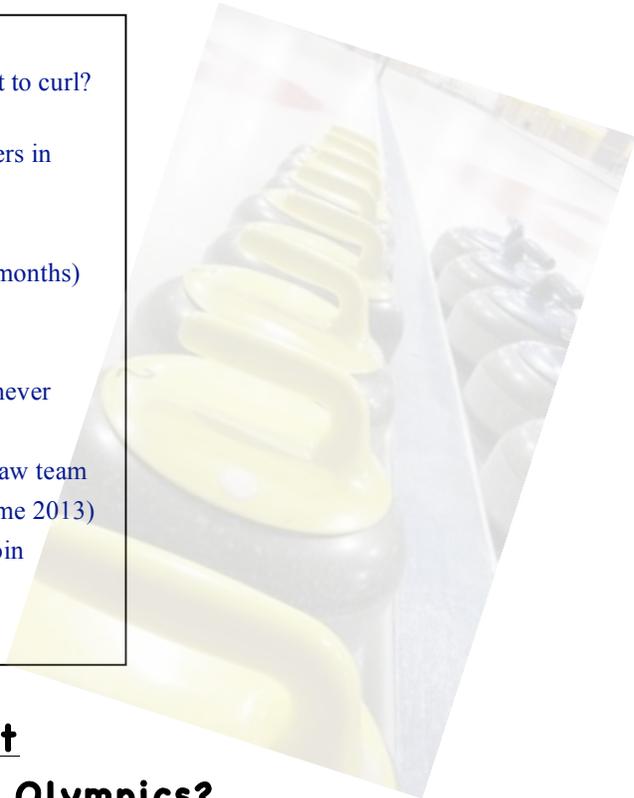
* includes players in two or more leagues, changed leagues

Day Ladies	= 5 New Members	= 6 Lost Members
Tuesday Ladies	= 8 New Members	= 12 Lost Members
Monday Men	= 12 New Members	= 11 Lost Members
Thursday Men	= 5 New Members	= 9 Lost Members
Wednesday Mixed	= 8 New Members	= 8 Lost Members
Friday Mixed	= 9 New Members	= 8 Lost Members
Stick	= 6 New Members	= 2 Lost Members
Masters	= 7 New Members	= 13 Lost Members
Juniors	= 12 New Members	= 15 Lost Members
Competitive	= 2 New Members	= 0 Lost Members
Novice	= 18 New Members	= 34 Lost Members

YOU SAID

Q: Suggestions for how GMCA can get more people out to curl?

- Hire cute guys to go up and down the ice as cheerleaders in clingy pink tights (for a YouTube promo)
- Hold some skins games
- Hold a series of Special Nights (e.g., once every two months) at which we mix up/ rotate teams
- Hold an open house reception (2 nominations)
- Encourage people to bring friends / people who have never curled to come out to practice ice and maybe have
- put all the names in a hat and have designated skips draw team players (the way 'professional teams' are going to do come 2013)
- approach people on the Spares List to form teams or join established teams



How are curling games scored at the Brier, Scotties, Worlds and Olympics?

[Source: Curlstat.html]

The method is a four point system. For a shot executed correctly the curler is given the maximum four points. A complete miss is given zero points. Partially successful shots are scored between zero and four. Thus, in a completed 10-end game, the maximum score for a player is 80 points (4 x 2 x 10).



March 2012 issue

Glen Meadows Curling Club

Rock
Talk

How are curling games scored at the Brier, Scotties, Worlds and Olympics?

(Cont)

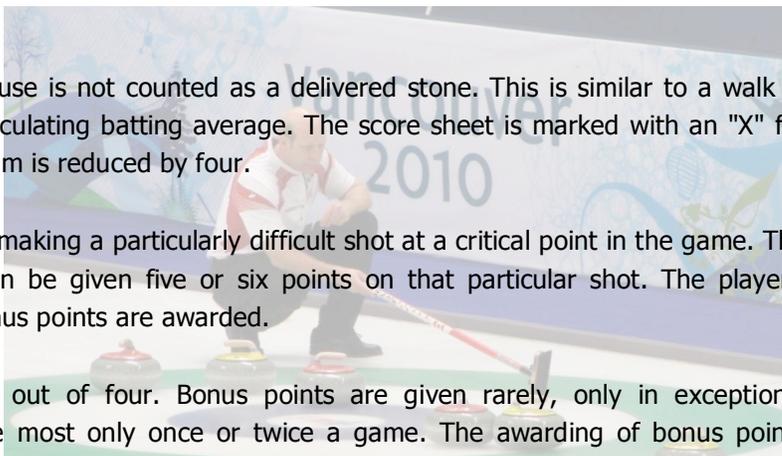
When a game is conceded before all rocks have been thrown, a player's possible maximum may be less. Similarly, when an extra end beyond 10 is played, a player's possible maximum may be greater than 80.

Exceptions to the above:

- A rock deliberately thrown through the house is not counted as a delivered stone. This is similar to a walk in baseball, not counted as a time at bat in calculating batting average. The score sheet is marked with an "X" for that shot, and the player's possible maximum is reduced by four.
- A player may be awarded bonus points for making a particularly difficult shot at a critical point in the game. The maximum bonus is two points. A player can be given five or six points on that particular shot. The player's possible maximum is not increased when bonus points are awarded.

Effectively, the player is given five or six out of four. Bonus points are given rarely, only in exceptional circumstances. This is likely to occur at the most only once or twice a game. The awarding of bonus points recognizes execution of a particularly superb shot under pressure conditions which dramatically affects the outcome of the game. They are more likely to be given to skips and thirds who usually have more precise shots to execute.

Note, however, that at the opposite end of the scale, a player is not given less than zero for a particularly bad shot. Note also it is inaccurate to simply total percentages and divide by their number to give an average.



Winter Youth Olympic Games

Canada's Thomas Scoffin, Corryn Brown, Derek Oryniak and Emily Gray stole their way to a bronze medal at the first-ever Winter Youth Olympic Games this month in Innsbruck, Austria.



Playing their third game of the day – following a loss to Italy in the afternoon semi-final and quarter-final victory over Czech Republic in the morning – Team Canada stole a point from Sweden in the first end, then held their opponents to one point in the second. After a Canadian deuce in three, Sweden surged back with a three-point score in four to move ahead 4-3 at the break.

Canada answered with a single in the fifth to tie the score, and a steal of one in six to take a 5-4 lead. A blank by Swedish skip Rasmus Wrana in the seventh end meant Team Canada had to defend its lead without hammer. Another steal of one in the eighth put the game away.

The curling competition at the first-ever Winter Youth Olympic Games involved 16 mixed teams of four (two male and two female) curlers between the ages of 16 and 18. Skip Thomas Scoffin, vice Corryn Brown, second Derek Oryniak and lead Emily Gray were selected for Team Canada on the basis of their curling accomplishments – all competed at the 2011 Canada Winter Games – as well as on their academic and personal strengths. They come from different provinces and territories (Yukon, B.C., Manitoba and Prince Edward Island) and have been training for the Youth Olympic Games since meeting for the first time last April.



March 2012 issue

Glen Meadows Curling Club

Rock
Talk

PHOTO GALLERY: Esquimalt foursome wins Glen Meadows curling bonspiel

Kerry Park & Glen Meadows Spiels

As seen in Peninsula News Review – front cover & website Feb 27/2012

By Christine van Reeuyk - Peninsula News Review
Published: February 20, 2012 11:00 AM
Updated: February 20, 2012 11:11 AM

Esquimalt's Georges Bombezin foursome won the A division while the Al Frame rink from Kerry Park took B division at the masters bonspiel at Glen Meadows last week. The tournament ended Friday, Feb. 17.

The top finishing Glen Meadows rink was the Roy Mickle foursome who topped the C division. Victoria's Rick Pepper rink finished atop the D division.

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News Flash "Kerry Park Men's League Open Spiel Feb 9-12"

In response to a notice from Kerry Park for more teams, our Competitive League gathered four players as a last minute entry. Within a few days they were on the ice, competing against mostly younger teams. Lawrence Woytowich alleges that Lynn Wilson, Wayne Scott and Ken Wigbers maintained such a high level of accuracy that during the four days his basic requirement was only to guard the teams exceptional play. By Sunday morning they were looking forward to reaching the A-Event final, needing a victory over Kerry Park's Wes Craig. Once again Glen Meadows was in front and out playing the opposition. However two ends of clearly missed last shots by Craig resulted in wicks to the four foot negating some high scoring GM possibilities and the victory. The very apologetic Craig team commented that as the home team they had gone to church that morning. Even with a disheartening loss, the team returned home with some excellent prizes, Sat & Sun free meals, and a fun four days of curling against teams never encountered in master /senior curling. Team comment, "Incidentally it was very encouraging to see a very young Juvenile Boys team win the C-Event, not only from the point of competitive play but personal on ice conduct".

NEXT ISSUE (projected): September, 2012 Thanks for a good season. Your Rock Talk Editor, Marilynne Miles Gray