STURLING VERSUS CURLING

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Sturling versus Curling

I have been curling for many years and thought I knew a lot about the game, but not too long ago, a member at my club hosted an afternoon of Sturling at our club. Sturling? If you've never heard of this variation of the game, read on.

Sturling is a 2-person game of curling which is open to individuals of any age and gender. It is open to both those with a traditional slide delivery as well as those who use a "stick" (including wheelchair curlers). The key elements of a game of sturling are as follows:

1)   All games are six ends. In case of a tie, an extra end is played with each player delivering 3 stones.

2)   The two delivering players alternately deliver 6 stones each per end, while their teammate skips that end. Roles are then reversed and the partners deliver the stones back.

3)   One member of each team stays at each end of the rink and must not cross centre ice.

4)   No stones may be removed from play prior to delivery of the fourth stone of each end.

5)   Sweeping is allowed only from the hog line to the back of the house at the playing end.

6)   All stones must be released before reaching the hog line, and with some part of the stone within 2 feet of the centre line.

Apart from the above, the other rules and etiquette of regular curling apply.

There are many reasons why sturling continues to grow in popularity, including:

1)   Games only take an hour to complete. At the same time, players still have the opportunity to throw 18 rocks per game.

2)   It is a perfect family activity as the absence of age and gender restrictions allows parents to play with their kids, and grandparents to play with their grandchildren.

3)   The game provides players with both the opportunity to throw rocks as well as to call the shots for half of the game.

If your club is looking for new opportunities for its membership, consider sturling. To learn more about sturling, visit www.sturling.net.