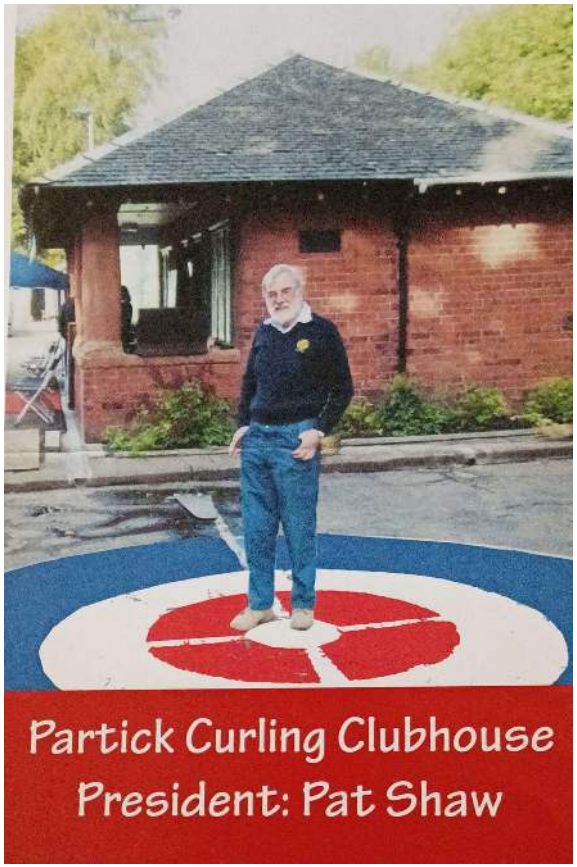
Curling - the roaring game



Patrick Shaw

14 March 2024

The Rink

The Rink

The curling rink:-

- is 44.5m (146 ft) long
- is 4.75m (15½ ft) wide
- has a target at either end called the house

The houses:-

- are made up of a 12ft, an 8ft, a 4ft and a 1ft (3.66m, 2.44m, 1.22m & 0.30m) diameter circle;
- and are generally painted red white and blue in colour.

The smallest circle in the house is called the "button" or the "pot-lid".

The line in the middle of the rink is called the centre line and is used by the players to line up their shots.

The two lines between the houses are called the hog lines. The players must release the stone before they reach the first hog line. The stone must cross the far hog line to stay in play.

How to Play

Curling teams consist of four players called the lead, second, third and skip, who each have two stones to play.

The skips are the team captains and direct their teammates on what shots to play. The skips do this by giving signals to their teammates using their hands and brush.

The teams play alternately, with the leads playing the first two of their team's stones, the seconds playing the next two, the thirds the next two and the skips playing the last two stones.

When all sixteen stones have been played this is called an "end" of curling. In clubs, matches are played to a time limit of around 2¼ hours or until a maximum of ten ends are completed.

The winner is the team with the most points at the end of the match. See page 11 for how points are scored.

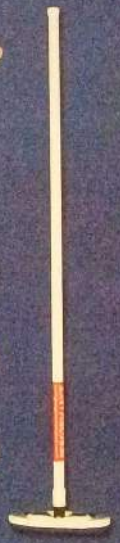
Equipment

Curling stones:-

- weigh 20kg (44lb)
- are 29cm (11½in) across
- are made of granite
- are highly polished to help them slide across the ice

To the right is a curling brush. Modern brushes are often made up of a fibre-glass handle and a synthetic fibre head instead of actual bristles. In the past they were actually corn brooms with wooden handles.

To the left is a curling cue, used by some wheelchair and less mobile curlers to deliver the stone without bending down.



Curling shoes have one shoe with a grippy sole and one with a smooth sliding sole to allow the curlers to slide when they deliver a stone.

THE SPIRIT OF CURLING

Curling is a game of skill and of tradition. A shot well executed is a delight to and it is also a fine thing to observe the time-honoured traditions of curling b applied in the true spirit of the game. Curlers play to win, but never to hur their opponents. A true curler never attempts to distract opponents, no prevent them from playing their best, and would prefer to lose rather than to unfairly.

Curlers never knowingly break a rule of the game, nor disrespect any o traditions. Should they become aware that this has been done inadvertently, will be the first to divulge the breach.

While the main object of the game of curling is to determine the relative ski the players, the spirit of curling demands good sportsmanship, kindly feeling honourable conduct.

This spirit should influence both the interpretation and the application of rules of the game and also the conduct of all participants on and off the ice.

REVIEW PROCESS

The Rules of Curling and the Rules of Competition will be reviewed by the W Curling Federation (WCF) Competitions & Rules Commission on an annual ba Member Associations may submit in writing suggestions for this review to Secretariat by ~~15 May~~ 31 December. ~~The proposals will be discussed at the~~ ~~Annual Congress and then voted upon at the WCF Annual General Assembly.~~

WCF MISSION STATEMENT

To be the world's favourite Olympic / Paralympic Winter team sport.

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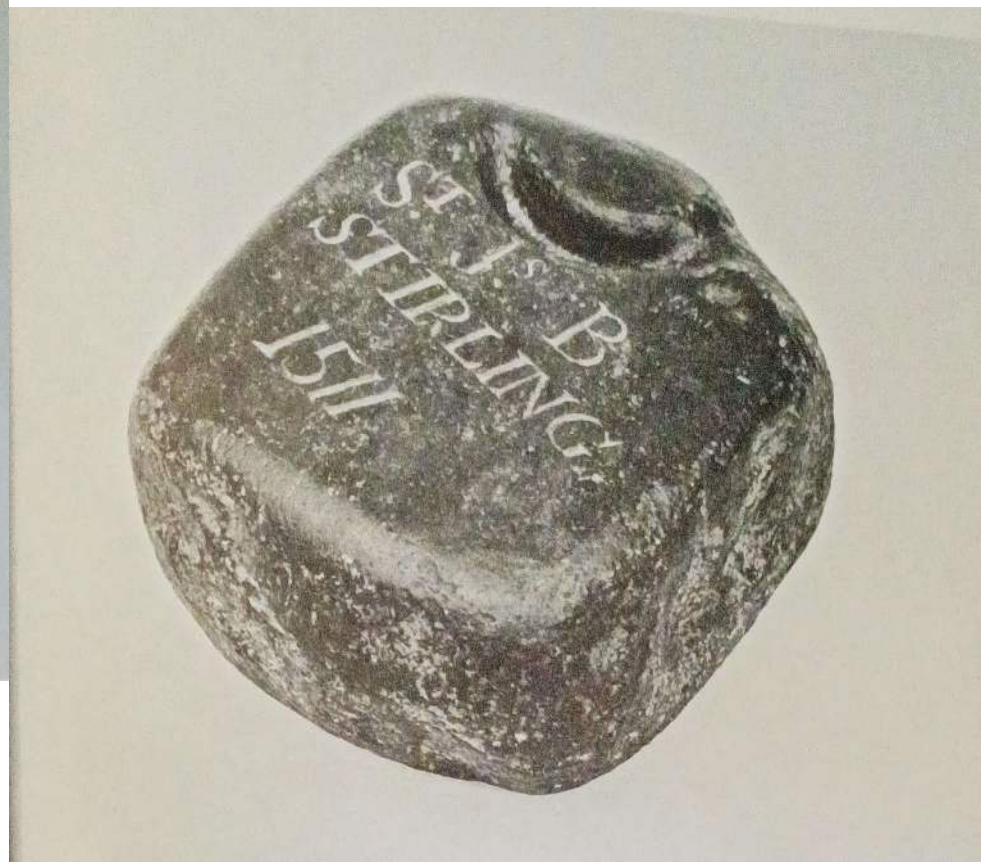
Partick Curling Club Bell Bonspiel
Friday 12th March 2010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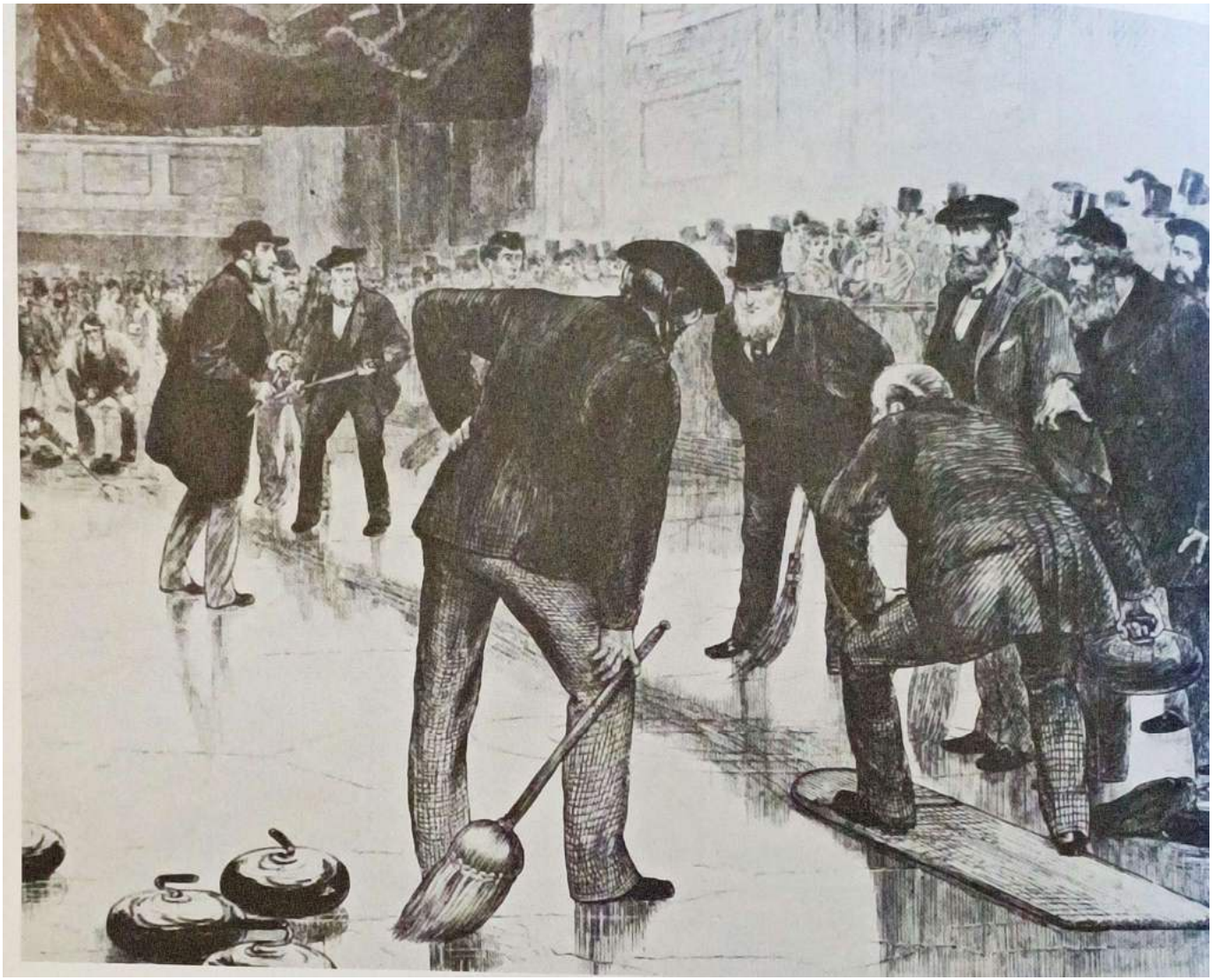

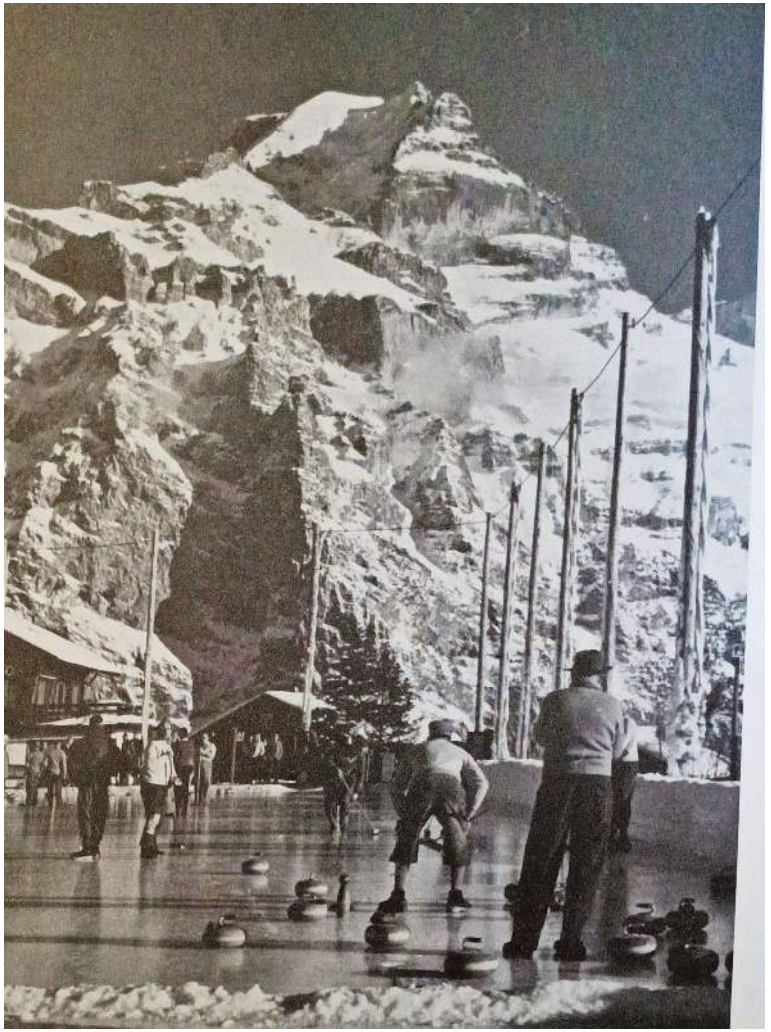

Indoor Ice

A private company in Glasgow, judging that skaters and curlers were present in sufficient number to yield profit, built the first

Partick Curling Club House and official badge

J. G. KENNEDY.
W. ROBINSON.

First Olymic Team Gold 2002 at Salt Lake City

The end or your beginning?