



Utica Curling Club Mixed Doubles Rules

The basic rules of curling apply to Mixed Doubles, but Rule 15 of the World Curling Federation Rules defines Mixed Doubles play. These are abridged here, and shall describe league play at the Utica Curling Club. Modifications from WCF rules or explanations are noted in color.

1. A team is composed of two players, one male and one female. A team must forfeit any game(s) in which it fails to have both players playing for the entire game. (Teams may not play “short-handed.” Teams may field a team with one substitution.)
2. The scoring shall be the same as in a regular game of curling. The “positioned” stones that are placed prior to the beginning of each end are eligible to be counted in the scoring.
3. Each team shall deliver 5 stones per end. The player delivering the team’s first stone of the end must also deliver the team’s last stone of that end. The other team member shall deliver the team’s second, third and fourth stones for that end. The player delivering the first stone can change from end to end.
4. No stone in play, including the “positioned” stones and those in the house, can be moved to an out-of-play position prior to the delivery of the fourth stone of an end (the fourth delivered stone is the first stone that can remove any stone from play). If there is a violation, the delivered stone shall be removed from play, and any displaced stone(s) shall be replaced, by the non-offending team, to their positions prior to the violation taking place. (Note: this is the “free guard zone” rule for mixed doubles.)
5. Prior to the start of every end, one team shall place its “positioned” stone at the playing end of the sheet in one of two positions, designated A and B. The opponent’s “positioned” stone shall then be placed in whichever position (A or B) remains vacant. The location of these positions shall be as follows:
 - Position A: Placement so that the stone is bisected by the center line and is either immediately in front of or immediately behind one of 3 points in the ice.
 - at the mid-point between the hog line and the outermost edge of the top of the house. (Immediately behind this point will normally be the default position used in league play.)
 - 3 feet from the mid-point closer to the house.
 - 3 feet from the mid-point closer to the hog line.
 - Based on the ice conditions, the league chairs may determine and alternate allowed specific placement for each sheet for Position A to be used prior to the start of game and that same placement must be used for the entire game.
 - Position B: Placement so that the stone is bisected by the center line and is in the back of the 4-foot circle. The back edge of the stone is aligned with the back edge of the 4-foot circle.
 - Power Play: Once per game, each team, when it has the decision on the placement of the “positioned” stones, can use the “Power Play” option to position those two stones. The in-house stone (B), which belongs to the team with last stone in that end, is placed on either side of the house with the back edge of the stone touching the tee line, at the point where the 8-foot and 12-foot circles meet. The guard stone (A) is positioned to the same side of the sheet, 6 inches closer to the centerline than the in-house stone. The “Power Play” option cannot be used in extra ends.
6. The team having the decision on the placement of the “positioned” stones shall be:
 - determined by league rules the first end.
 - Following the first end, the team that did not score shall have the decision on the placement.
 - If neither team scores in an end, the team that delivered the first stone in that end shall have the decision on placement in the next end. (Note: this will typically result in the hammer switching sides after blank ends.) **New for 2018: If a blank end results from an equal measure, the team entitled to the placement decision will not change.**
7. The team whose “positioned” stone is placed in Position A (in front of the house) shall deliver the first stone in that end, and the team whose “positioned” stone is placed in Position B (in the house) shall deliver the second stone in that end.
8. While the team is in the process of delivery, the non-delivering player may be anywhere on the ice surface of the team’s sheet. After delivery, either or both players may sweep their delivered stone and any stones set in motion that belong to their team anywhere in front of the tee line at the playing end.
9. If a delivery violation occurs, the delivered stone shall be removed from play, and any displaced stones shall be replaced, by the non-offending team, to their positions prior to the violation taking place. Should the infraction not be discovered until after the delivery of a subsequent stone, play continues as if the infraction had not occurred; however, the player that delivered the first stone of the end may not deliver more than two stones that end.