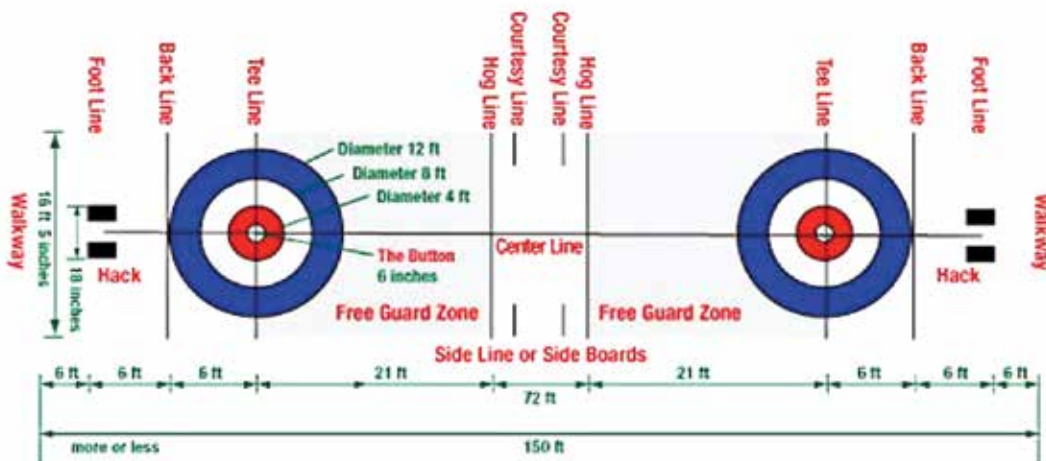


# FUN FACTS ABOUT CURLING

- It is generally agreed that curling was developed on frozen marshes in Scotland in the 16th century
- Curling was first an Olympic medal sport in 1924, but did not obtain full medal status again until 1998
- Curling is played in 48 countries worldwide with Canada leading the way with around one million active curlers
- The modern curling stone is round, made of granite, weighs about 42 pounds and comes from a single island off the coast of Scotland
- The first known U.S. curling clubs were located in New York City, Detroit, Milwaukee and Portage, Wis.
- Sweeping can help a stone slide up to an additional 15 feet
- On average, an athlete can walk up to 2 miles in an 8-end game



## OLYMPIC TRIVIA

**THE FIRST WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES** were held in Chamonix, France in 1924.

**NORWAY HAS WON** the most medals (263) at the Winter Games.

**APOLO ANTON OHNO** is the most decorated American Winter Olympic athlete with 8 medals.

**NOBODY HAS WON MORE MEDALS** at the Winter Games than cross-country skier Bjorn Dählie of Norway, who has 12.

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**Tim Muller, our Network Administrator** here at L&M Radiator, is on his way to the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. Tim is the coach for the men's USA Curling Team.

**What is Curling?**

Curling is a sport in which players slide stones across a sheet of ice towards a target area which is segmented into four rings. It is related to bowling, boule and shuffleboard. Two teams, each consisting of four players, take turns sliding heavy, polished granite stones, also called "rocks," across the ice curling sheet towards the house, a circular target marked on the ice. Each team has eight stones. The purpose is to accumulate the highest score for a game; points are scored for the stones resting closest to the center of the house (target) at the conclusion of each end, which is completed when both teams have thrown all of their stones. A game may consist of ten or eight ends. The 42 pound rocks come from a single island off the coast of Scotland. A team consists of the skip, or captain, of the team and three others. The skip calls the strategy of the game and calls the shots. The skip generally throws the last two stones. The third controls the house when the skip throws their rocks. Rounding out the team are the second and lead. The lead's rocks

start each end and play a large role in determining how the skip will call the game. The lead and second also do a majority of the sweeping. Sweeping in front of the rock as it slides down the ice will heat up the surface enough to cause the rock to go straighter and farther. Two top sweepers can cause a rock to glide up to 15 feet farther than without sweeping.

Curling was reintroduced to the Winter Olympics in the 1998 Nagano Games and has continued through the Salt Lake City, Torino, Vancouver and now Sochi games. Of the 48 countries that have curling organizations, only ten countries are represented in the Olympic Games. The US men's team did not automatically have a spot in Sochi after winning the US Curling Trials in Fargo, ND. They had to travel to Fussen, Germany and compete against seven other countries vying for only two open spots. They beat the Czech Republic in the final game to secure that last Olympic seat and are now Sochi bound!

*We hope you'll join all of us at L&M Radiator to cheer on Tim and the men's USA Curling Team.*

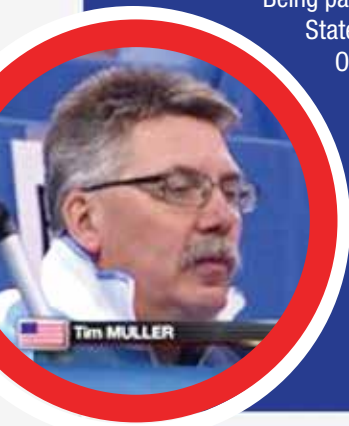


**What does the Olympics mean to me?**

Being part of the Olympics is the top goal of many athletes. You can be a former State, National or World champion in a sport, but you are never a 'former' Olympian. We are no longer just Team Shuster – USA Men's Curling. We are TEAM USA. We are curlers, but we are also skaters, skiers, bobsledders and hockey players. We are also sprinters, swimmers, gymnasts, etc. It is an amazing feeling to wear USA on your back and know that you stand there not just with your teammates, but also the Olympic TEAM USA athletes past, present and future along with all the fans and supporters throughout the United States.

The NBC Sports networks will be televising hundreds of hours of Olympic coverage during the Games, including our curling matches. Be sure to tune in and cheer us on. We are all TEAM USA!

*– Tim Muller*



**Follow Team USA on Twitter**

- Team Shuster ..... @TeamShuster
- John Shuster ..... @Shoostie2010
- Jeff Isaacson ..... @LaZylke\_14
- Jared Zezel ..... @JaredZezel04
- John Landsteiner ..... @jlandsteiner
- Tim Muller ..... @im2bz2curl
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- US Olympic Team ..... @USOlympic



*The USA Men's curling team consists of: John Shuster – Skip (Duluth/Chisholm MN), Jeff Isaacson – Third (Gilbert/Virginia MN), Jared Zezel – Second (Hibbing/Duluth MN), John Landsteiner – Lead (Mapleton/Duluth MN), Tim Muller – Coach (Hibbing MN)*



**Follow TEAM USA**

*A full Olympic curling schedule can be found at [www.sochi2014.com/en/curling](http://www.sochi2014.com/en/curling)*

 Like TeamShuster on Facebook and check out [www.nbcolympics.com](http://www.nbcolympics.com) for all the TV coverage.