



WHEELCHAIR CURLING

WHEELCHAIR CURLING made its debut at the 2006 Paralympic Winter Games in Torino as a medal event after its success at the 2002, 2004 and 2005 World Championships in Switzerland and Scotland.

BASIC RULES

Competition takes place between four competitors from each of two teams. Stones are "thrown" by hand, or by the use of a "stick" towards a target at the opposite end of the ice. The object of the game is similar to that of boccia in that the goal is to get a team's stones as close to the center of the target (the "house") as possible. Eight ends are played with a possible extra end if the teams are tied after eight. There is no sweeping. While competitors may or may not use a wheelchair for daily use, all competitor are required to play from a wheelchair. Rules for the sport require that each team is comprised of both genders.

A second discipline, mixed doubles, incorporates two athletes, one of each gender.

EQUIPMENT

The main equipment needed for wheelchair curling is an athlete's wheelchair, curling stones and delivery sticks.

A curling stone is of circular shape, having a circumference no greater than 36 inches, a height no less than 4.5 inches and a weight, including handle and bolt, no greater than 44 lbs. and no less than 38 lbs.

Each team uses a set of eight stones having the same handle color and individually identified by visible markings

GETTING STARTED

We encourage you to get started by finding equipment (rent, borrow or buy) that fits and is comfortable for you. We encourage you to connect with a local curling club to take an introductory course on the sport. To find a list of wheelchair curling clubs in your area, please visit <https://uspara.us/findaclub>.

CLASSIFICATION

Determines which athletes are eligible to compete and how athletes are grouped together for competition. If an athlete has a Paralympic eligible impairment, the athlete may be eligible for a classification appointment. Once an athlete is ready to compete regionally or nationally, an athlete should seek classification.

For more information on wheelchair curling, please visit www.TeamUSA.org/USA-Curling.

PARALYMPIC ELIGIBLE IMPAIRMENTS

- Ataxia, Athetosis and Hypertonia
- Impaired Muscle Power
- Impaired Passive Range of Movement
- Limb Deficiency
- Leg Length Difference

CURLING TIMING

- All games are scheduled for eight ends, a minimum of six ends must be completed.
- Each team shall receive 36 minutes of "thinking time."
- When extra ends are required, the game clocks are reset and each team receives six minutes of "thinking time" for each extra end.

PARALYMPIC SCORING

- The game is decided by having a score greater than your opponent at the completion of eight ends, when a team concedes victory to its opponent or when one team is mathematically eliminated.
- If the score is tied at the completion of eight ends, play continues with extra end(s) and the team that scores first wins the game.
- At the completion of an end, a team scores one point for each of its own stones located in or touching the house that are closer to the tee (center of the house) than any stone of the opposition.