



CURLING



Origin

Curling began in the 16th century in Scotland, where games were played during winter on frozen ponds, lochs and marshes. The earliest-known curling stones came from the Scottish regions of Stirling and Perth and date back to 1511. The earliest reports of curling came from Paisley Abbey (Scotland) in 1541. In the early days of the sport, stones were taken from river bottoms. In the 1600's stones with handles were introduced, allowing a delivery style similar to what is used today. In 1716, the first curling club was formed in Kilsyth in Stirlingshire. The game was

brought to North America by British troops in the mid-1700's. The first North American club was formed in Montreal in 1807. The key developments in curling in the 20th century have been the standardisation of the stone and the use of indoor, refrigerated ice facilities. The World Curling Federation (WCF) was created in 1966 and has now 36 affiliated national associations.

At the Olympic Games

Curling made its first Olympic appearance at the 1st Olympic Winter Games in Chamonix in 1924. Demonstration sport in 1932 in Lake Placid, in 1988 in Calgary, and in 1992 in Albertville (in 1988 and 1992, a women's event was also in demonstration), curling became an Olympic sport at the XVIII Olympic Winter Games in Nagano in 1998. In Salt Lake City, 10 teams of men and women representing 12 nations, will take part in the Olympic curling tournament.

Salt Lake City Olympic venue

The Ice Sheet at Ogden was built in 1994. It accommodates four sheets of ice (each measuring 4.75 metres x 44.50 metres). Located about 56 km (35 miles) north of Salt Lake City, it has seating for 1,500 spectators.



The 'Ice Sheet' in Ogden.



*Roy Sinclair,
President*



*Mike Thomson,
Secretary General*