Curling Term	<u>Definition</u>
Back 4/8/12	The portion of the 4/8/12 foot ring in the house behind the tee line. Conversely, the top 4/8/12 is the section above the tee line.
Back Line	The line across the ice at the back of the house. Stones which go over this line are removed from play.
Biter	A stone that just touches the outer edge of the outside circle (12 foot) of the house.
Blank End	An end in which no stones are touching the house, thus no points have been scored.
Blanking an End	Deliberately creating a blank end for the purposes of retaining the last rock advantage (hammer) for the next end of play.
Board Weight	Throwing a stone with enough speed that it will come to rest in an area just behind the hacks.
Bonspiel	A curling tournament or competition.
Broom	An implement with which players sweep the ice to make a stone travel farther and curl less. Although brushes have replaced brooms, the traditional name remains.
Buried	A stone that is hidden behind another stone, often a guard, making it difficult for a curler to hit it.
Burned Stone	A stone in motion touched by a player or any part of their equipment. Burned stones are removed from play.
Button	The small circle at the centre of the house.
Calling the Shot	When the skip holds the broom where he/she wants the person delivering the stones to aim. When the skip is delivering, the third calls the shot.
Center Guard	A guard that is placed directly on the centre line in front of the house.
Center Line	The line dividing the ice vertically down the middle.
Clean	To brush the ice lightly in front of a moving stone to remove any debris and is less vigorous than a sweep.
Come Around	A shot that curls behind another stone.
Control Weight	A take-out shot that is slow enough that the sweepers have relative control over it's curl, but is faster than board weight and slower than normal take-out weight.
Corner Guard	A type of guard that is off to one side of the house usually used when a team has the hammer and needs to score multiple points.
Curl	The amount a stone bends while travelling down the sheet of ice.
Draw	A shot which lands in play without hitting another stone out. Also refers to a game i.e. "The first draw on Friday is at 7pm".

Double	A take-out shot in which two stones (not including the delivered stone) are removed from play.
End	A portion of a curling game that is completed when each team has thrown eight stones and the score has been decided.
Extra End	An additional end played to break a tie at the end of regulation play.
Falling	As the stone is sliding down the ice, it curls negatively i.e. in the opposite direction that it is supposed to.
Free Guard Zone	The area at the playing end, between the hog line and the tee line, but excluding the house.
Free Guard Zone Rule	The rule that states that an opponent's stone resting in the free guard zone cannot be removed from play until a certain number of stones in an end have been played (usually the first four stones).
Freeze	A form of draw that stops directly up against another stone usually in the house.
Front End	A team's lead and second players considered as a unit. The back end refers to the team's third and skip.
Frost	Buildup that can occur on ice surfaces when there is excessive humidity in the air and tends to make stones stop faster and curl less.
Guard	A stone that is placed in a position so that it may protect another stone.
Hack	The foot-holds at each end of the ice used by a player to start the delivery of a stone.
Hack Weight	The speed given to a stone so it will reach the hack at the playing end.
Handle	The part of the curling stone that a player grips in order to deliver. A stone that has "no handle" is thrown without a turn/rotation and follows an unpredictable path.
Hammer	The last stone delivered in each end- a huge advantage. The team with the last rock is said to "have the hammer".
Heavy	A stone delivered with more weight than is necessary.
Hit	A take-out or removal of a stone from the playing area by hitting it with another stone.
Hit and Roll	A stone that knocks an opponent's stone out of play and then rolls to another position in play.
Hog Line	A line extending across the width of the ice that is parallel to each tee line.
Hogged Line Violation	A stone that is removed from play for the end because it was not released before it reached the hog line at the delivering end.
Hogged Stone	A stone that is removed from play because after being delivered, it did not come to rest completely beyond the hog line at the playing end.
House	The area within the concentric circles at each end of the sheet consisting of a 12-foot ring, 8-foot ring, 4-foot ring and a button.

Hurry/Hurry Hard	A command which instructs players to sweep harder.
Ice (more, less, too much)	Adjustment to the crosswise distance between the skip's broom and the desired target area. For example, a player who feels that the skip's broom is too close to the target might request "more ice".
Inside	When a player delivers a stone that is off-line from the skip's broom, too close to the desired target and likely to curl past it.
In-turn	The rotation applied to the handle of a stone by a right-handed player which causes the stone to rotate in a clockwise manner.
Keen Ice	Fast ice on which stones travel greater distances with less force.
Lead	The first player on a team to deliver two stones in each end.
Light	A stone that is not thrown hard enough.
Never/Off/Whoa!	Called during the sweep to indicate that the stone needs to curl and the sweepers should not sweep.
Nose	The point on a stone closest to the shooter. A "nose hit" would be hitting the stone a this point, avoiding a roll.
Outside	A stone delivered "off the broom" to the side away from the desired target and unlikely to curl far enough to reach it.
Out-turn	The rotation applied to the handle of a stone by a right-handed player which causes the stone to rotate in a counter-clockwise manner.
Pebble	A fine spray of water applied to a sheet of curling ice before commencing play. These droplets freeze creating irregularities on the surface and allows the stones to curl.
Peel	A shot designed to remove a guard.
Pick	When a stone's running surface travels over a foreign particle such as a hair or dirt on the ice, causing the stone to deviate from it's expected path.
Pin	The spot in the exact centre of the button.
Port	An opening or gap between stones just wide enough for a delivered stone to pass through.
Raise	A shot in which the delivered stone bumps another stone forward.
Runback	A shot in which the delivered stone bumps a second stone which in turn knocks a third stone out of play.
Second	The second player on a team to deliver two stones in each end.
Shooter	In a hit, it refers to the stone being thrown.
Shot Stone	At any time during an end, the stone which is closest to the button.
Skip	The curler who directs play and determines strategy for the team. Skips deliver the last pair of stones in each end.
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Slider	Slippery material such as Teflon that is placed on the sole of the sliding shoe making it easier to slide on the ice.
Spare	An alternate player or substitute for a team member who is unable to play.
Spinner	A stone travelling with rapid rotation that will curl only a small amount if at all.
Split the House	A strategy of drawing to a different area of the house to prevent your opponent from taking out both stones.
Steal	Scoring in an end in which you do not have the hammer.
Sweeping	The action of moving a broom back and forth in front of the path of a moving stone to clean or polish the ice surface.
Swingy Ice	Ice on which stones curl more than usual.
Take-out	Removal of a stone from the playing area by hitting it with another stone.
Tap Back	A shot where the delivery stone taps another stone towards the back of the house.
Tee Line	The line extending across the width of the sheet that passes through the centre of the house parallel to the hog and back line.
Third/Mate	The third player on a team to throw two stones in each end. This player can also act as skip when the skip is delivering his/her stones and assists with shot selection decisions.