02 / 2026-27 CLUB RULE UPDATES

Mixed doubles starting stone marks

The four guard marks for the 2026-27 season

Scope: World Curling mixed doubles, including wheelchair mixed doubles through R15(b). Confirm local adoption.

Effective date: Adopted for 2026-27; World Curling rulebook dated September 1, 2026.

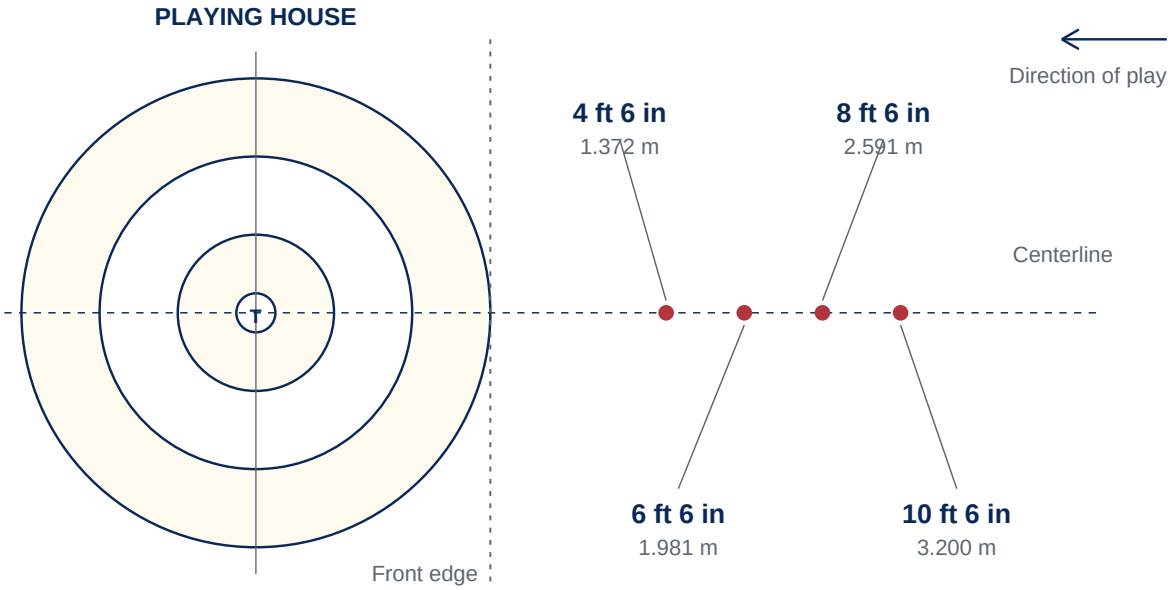
Checked: October 10, 2026. World Curling rulebook dated September 1, 2026; current clean file revised October 6.

What changed

There are now **four guard-placement marks, giving eight positions**: one stone position immediately on either side of each mark. Previously there were three marks and six positions. The nearest and farthest marks stay; the old middle mark is replaced by two marks. Power Play guard markings also change. This is an adopted rule change, not a proposal. [1]

The four centerline marks

Measure from the **outermost edge at the front of the house**, toward the hog line. These are distances to the marks, not stone centres. [2]



Overhead view rotated to show distance. Red dots are ice marks, not stones.

The guard straddles the centre line and sits immediately on the house side or hog-line side of the selected mark. Only **one guard** is placed; the marks show alternatives. [2]

Choose once before practice

For officiated play, the Chief Umpire and Chief Ice Technician select the guard position for each sheet before pre-game practice. Without an event official, the teams agree on it before practice, considering the ice conditions. Keep that position for the whole game. [5]

Example: If the teams choose the house side of the 6 ft 6 in mark, they use that choice throughout the game. They do not choose a new distance each end. [5]

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02 / MIXED DOUBLES SETUP

Power Play and club application

Power Play side marks

For the four rows on page 1, the corresponding Power Play marks lie this far to either side of the centre line: [2]

Guard mark row	Sideways offset	Metric offset
4 ft 6 in	3 ft 8 in	1.12 m
6 ft 6 in	3 ft 7 1/4 in	1.10 m
8 ft 6 in	3 ft 6 1/2 in	1.08 m
10 ft 6 in	3 ft 6 in	1.07 m

These are **sideways offsets to the marks**. Use the official layout diagram for installation; do not simply shift every guard the same distance sideways. The published imperial and metric values are rounded. [2]

The familiar parts stay

The normal in-house stone still sits on the centre line at the back of the four-foot circle, with its rear edge aligned to the circle's rear edge. These new markings do not change the five delivered stones per team or the once-per-game Power Play, which remains unavailable in extra ends. [4]

This setup applies to mixed doubles under the World Curling rules, including wheelchair mixed doubles through R15(b). Check your league's adopted rules before changing markings. [3]

Official sources

1. World Curling advance notice of the mixed doubles change. Official notice hosted by Curl BC.
2. World Curling mixed doubles marking diagram. July 28, 2026. Use this diagram for installation.
3. World Curling Rules of Curling 2026. R15(b), R17(f), pages 24-30.
4. World Curling Rules of Curling 2025. R17, for unchanged mixed doubles basics.
5. World Curling 2026 rules showing changes. R17(f), selection of the guard placement.

Educational summary. Your governing body and event rules control. Current rules: worldcurling.org/rules

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