



The 5 Rock Rule

August 16, 2018

Beginning in the 2018-19 curling season, curling at all levels will be introducing the 5-rock rule, replacing the 4-rock rule that has been in effect. This will mean that any rocks in the free guard zone will not be eligible to be removed from play until the second's first shot (of the team that has hammer).

Questions for Consideration:

How will this change the game of curling?

Who is it meant to advantage?

Why is curling moving to this rule?

What does defensive play look like with the 5 rock rule?

Free Guard Zone
The area outside the house between the teeline and the hogline

Free Guards
Rocks located completely within the Free Guard Zone

2018-19 Season Free Guard Rule (AKA The 5-Rock Rule)
A rock in the Free Guard Zone may not be removed from play by the opposing team until **after** the 5th rock of the end has been thrown.




Helpful Notes: