



Early Curling Stone

Sold



REF: 26849

Height: 19.5 cm (7.7")

Diameter: 24.5 cm (9.6")

Weight: 16 kg

Description

Early Curling Stone.

A fine traditional double - soled granite curling stone with the owners initials W.T.M. chiselled into the stone. The stone is most probably made from granite from Ailsa Craig by Turnberry, Scotland and has a plated one-piece cast brass goose-neck handle with wooden grip. A good decorative piece and very good as a door stop. W.T. Malcolm ESQ was the secretary and treasurer to The Airth Bruce Castle and Dunmore Curling Club in Falkirk, Scotland.

The exact origins of curling are unclear but it is known to have a long history in Scotland, and it was through Scottish immigrants that the game of curling spread to other parts of the world. Early curling was an outdoor sport that was played on frozen lochs and ponds. Because of the unpredictable weather artificial curling rinks were being made to make a little frost go a long way. Concrete rinks were flooded with small amounts of water so they would freeze solid after a night of frost, thus having a rink to play on when the frozen lochs or ponds were unsafe. The first Curling Clubs were formed in Scotland as were the first rules to standardize curling and its equipment. The Grand Caledonian Curling Club was founded in Edinburgh in 1838, they formally adopted these new rules and became the sport's governing body. They heavily supported the use of round granite stones and rather than eight players each throwing a single stone it changed to a team of four players using two matched stones each. Four years later, in 1843, Her Majesty Queen Victoria so fascinated by the game demonstrated on the polished floor of the ballroom of Scone Palace near Perth she granted the Club the title of Royal Caledonian Curling Club. Curling was firmly established in Canada by the Scots with The Royal Montreal Curling Club being established in 1807, the oldest sports club still active in North America.