



Rough Block Curling Stone

Sold



REF: 25784

Height: 23 cm (9.1")

Width: 23 cm (9.1")

Depth: 18 cm (7.1")

Weight: 17 kg

Description

Early Curling Stone.

A very early rough block curling stone with a bent iron handle. The handle has been set into the top of the stone and secured with lead. In shape this stone is nearly rectangular, the sides being fairly straight, as is the top and bottom. This type of stone is extremely rare and hardly ever come on the open market. A good relic from the very beginnings of the sport of curling.

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.