

Ice Technician Considerations for Wheelchair Curling

Install: Any Curling facility that is accessible or where wheelchair curlers can play should have 18" lines installed from the top of the house to the hog-line. The lines can be done in light (i.e., white or grey) yarn and should each be 18" from the centreline (36" from each other). These lines are essential to the rules of a wheelchair curling delivery.

Before the Practice/Draw: move the rock piles to two parallel lines of 16 rocks near the hog line. If a game is being played, the rocks closest to the middle of the sheet should belong to the team without the hammer.

Before the Practice/Draw: if the facility has removable hacks, they can be left out of the ice (or taken out if already in). A clear path to the ice should also be available.

Before the Practice/Draw: a ramp is often necessary to ensure safe/independent access to the ice surface. Depending on the rise of the step to the ice, a temporary 5' or 6' "suitcase" ramp that is wide enough for a wheelchair is often best. The ramp should be secured to the boards at the top and padding placed underneath it at the bottom that raises it no more than 1 inch from the ice (see below).

