

# Curling a hot sport in South Lake Tahoe

By Larry Sidney

Some quick Olympic trivia: What is the most talked about sport in the 2014 Sochi Olympic Games in terms of social media?

Curling.



South Lake Tahoe curling founder Larry Sidney, center, with members of U.S. Women's curling team members in Sochi. Photo/Provided

By now you've probably seen those 42 pound granite stones sliding down the ice, as two players sweep their way down the ice in front of it. It's quite addicting, really, and right now the world is abuzz talking about curling.

South Lake Tahoe is the home of Lake Tahoe Epic Curling (LTEC), and they have also noticed the spike in interest.

We have quite a few people signed up for this week's learn-to-curl. In fact, the club has had more curling requests in the last week than they do in a typical month, including requests for private ice sessions.

I'm in Sochi where there are thousands of people at every curling session. People are talking about it all over the Olympic Park. All of the excitement here is showing up at our club back in Tahoe.

Lest you think you've missed your chance to check out the local curling scene, fear not. In conjunction with the finish of the Olympics, LTEC is sponsoring an open house Feb. 23 from 6-8pm at the South Lake Tahoe Ice Arena on Rufus Allen Boulevard. The event is free to attend, and you can watch LTEC's experienced curlers match up in league play.

For the more adventurous, try it yourself from either 6-6:45m or 7-7:45pm. Reservations are required for this, so you will need to email [Info@tahoecurling.com](mailto:Info@tahoecurling.com) to sign up. There is a small fee for participating, and you can find more information on the club's website.

*Larry Sidney is co-founder of Lake Tahoe Epic Curling.*