

USA Curling Virtual Education Series: Techniques in Scraping and Pebbling

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Scraping

- Why Scrape?
- How to scrape?
- What to look for



Why Do We Scrape?

- Bring the ice to level after a flood
- Keep the ice level between floods
- Remove used pebble after games

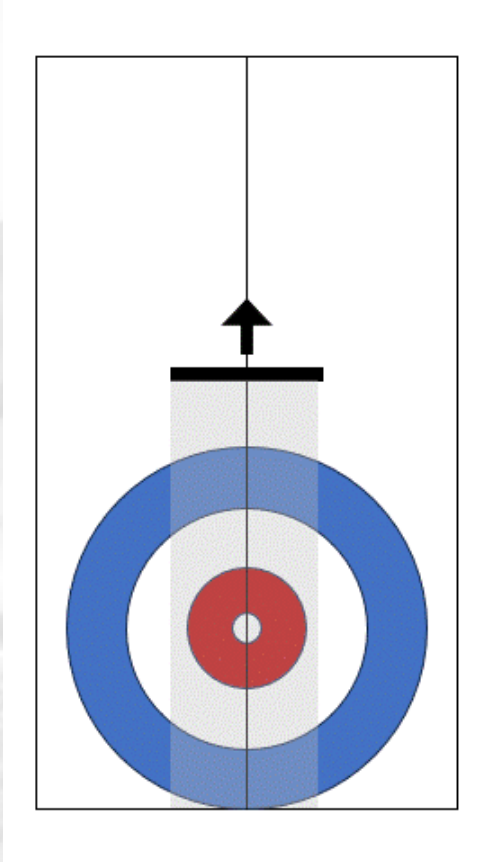


How to Scrape

- Three basic patterns
- Other patterns are usually combinations of these
- Rotating through 3-4-3-6 typically provides good consistent results for many conditions
- It's good to vary the centerline and sideline overlaps slightly to avoid creating runs if there are defects in the blade



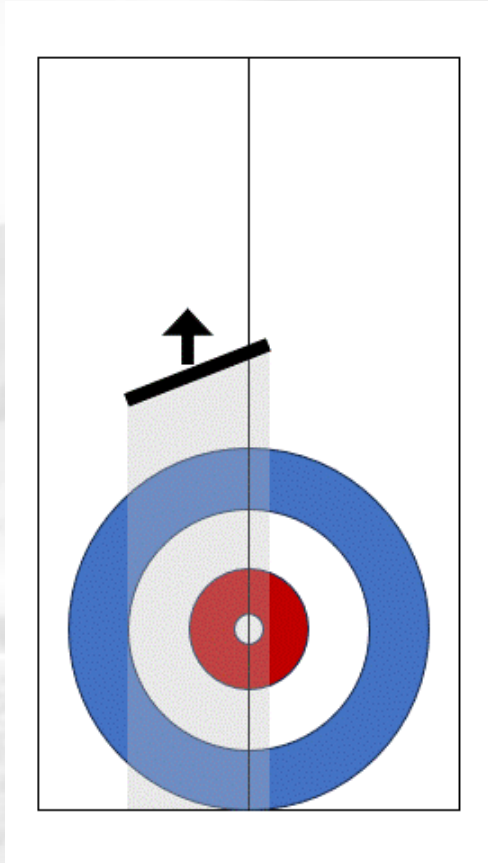
3-Pass



- Cover (most of) each sheet with 3 passes
- One pass up the center, one pass down each side, aim for 6-8" inches overlap
- Does not quite reach the sidelines



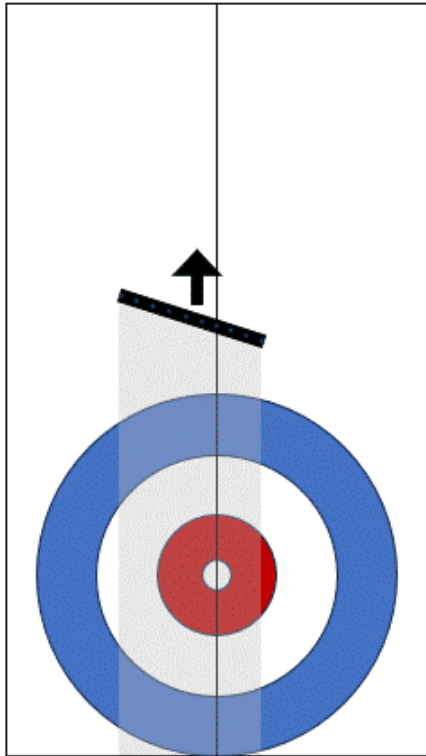
4-Pass



- Cover each sheet in 4 passes
- Two passes with the blade angled out and overlapping the centerline
- Two passes with the blade angled in, slightly overlapping the sidelines



6-Pass

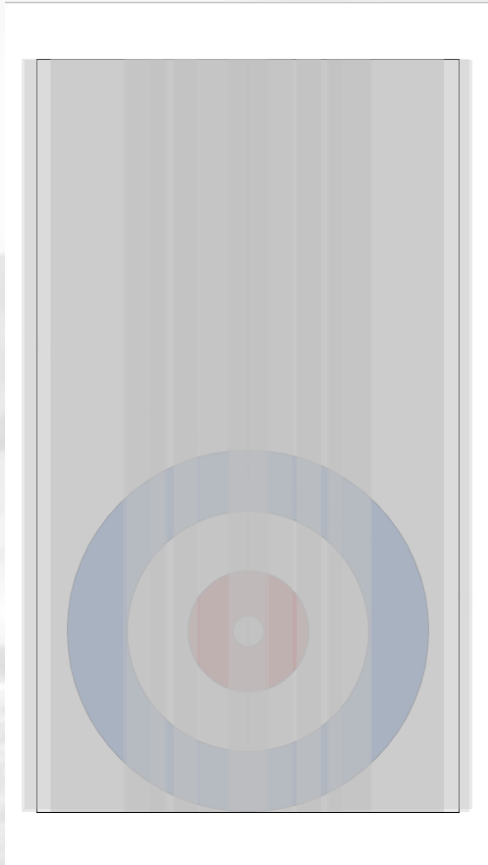


- Cover each sheet in 6 passes
- Two passes with the blade angled in overlapping the centerline
- Two passes with the blade angled out and overlapping the centerline
- Two passes with the blade angled in, slightly overlapping the sidelines

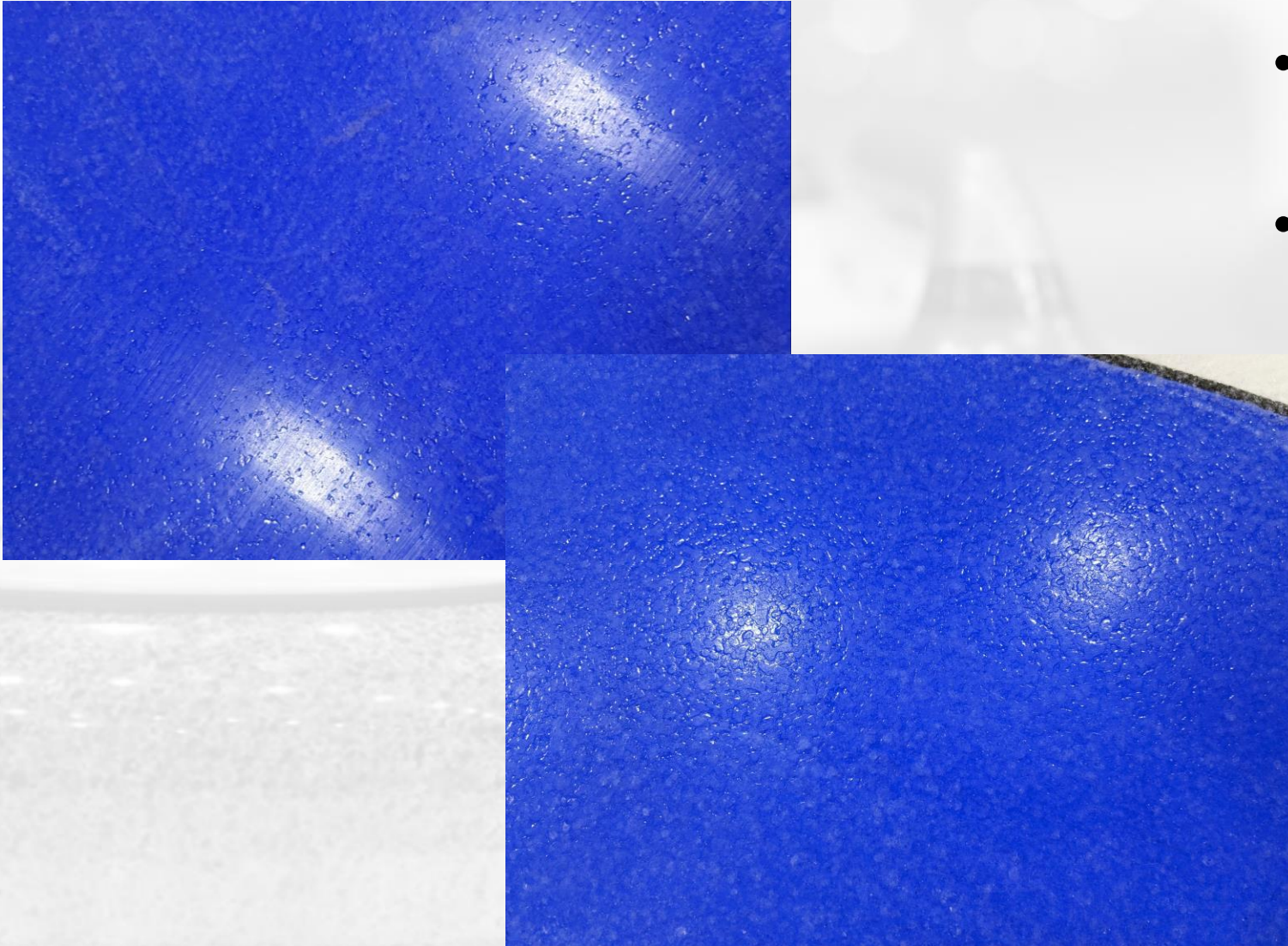


Composite

- Stack of a full set of 3-4-3-6



What To Look For



- Remove most of the previous pebble
- Don't cut all the way down to the pad, but don't leave too much pebble



Pebbling

- How to pebble
- What to look for in pebbling
- Dangers of poor pebbling technique



Proper Pebble Technique

- Apply pebble in two passes
 - Base: "Cold" (previously heated) water with a "fine" pebble head
 - Top: "Hot" (~120 F) water with a "medium" pebble head
- Generally recommended to start with 76 for "fine" and 74 for "medium"
- Top pebble takes most of the impact of the game



Proper Pebble Technique



- Walk backwards
- Keep the pebble head level and parallel to the ice
- Target 40 seconds backline-to-backline pace
- Sufficient arm-swing speed and strength to cover the whole sheet, and overlap the sideline by no more than 1 foot
- Pebble-head must not be twisted

Assessing Pebble Technique



Pebble Head is relatively parallel to the floor ✓



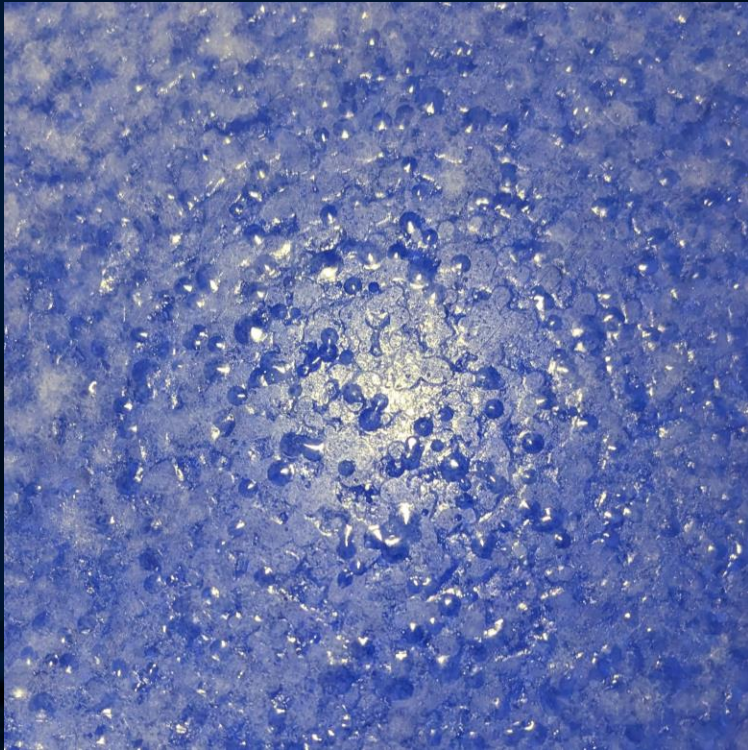
Pebble Head is twisted, flared towards the observer ✗



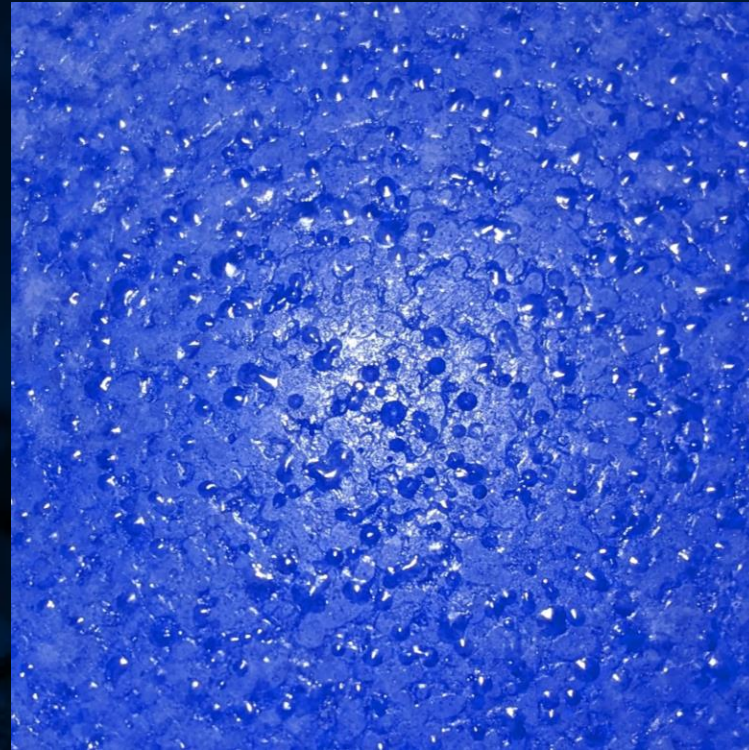
Pebble Head moves slightly up crossing the body, and slightly down away from the body ✗



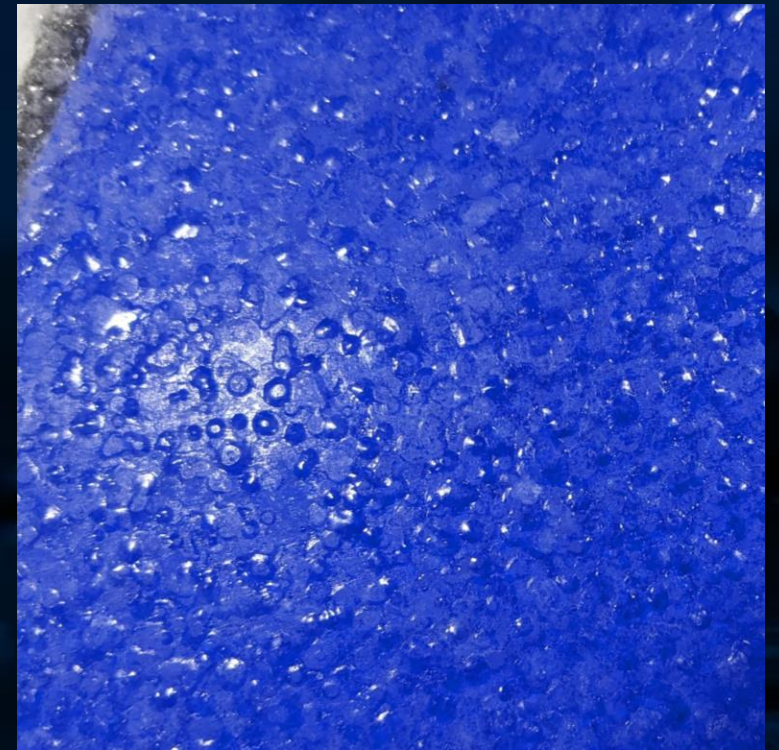
Pebble



76 Base



76 Base + 74 Top



76 Base + 74 Top + Nip



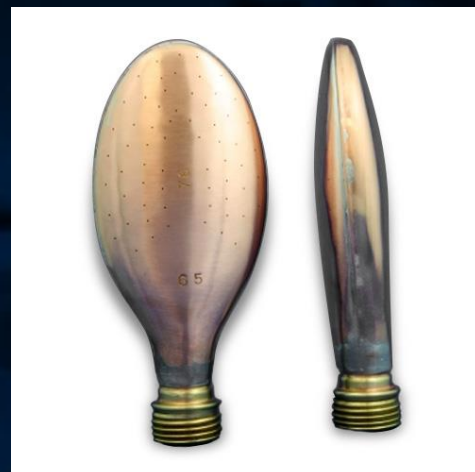
Pebble Head Types

Competition



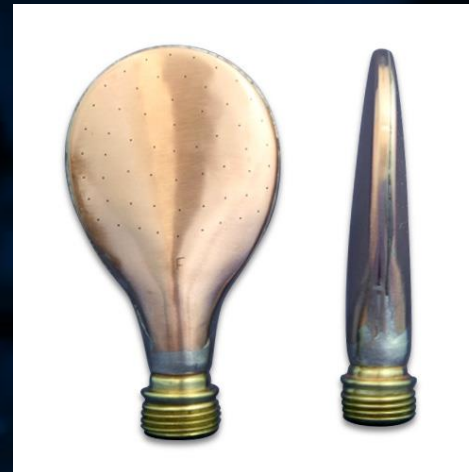
PC: Canada Curling Stone

High Dome



PC: Canada Curling Stone

Beavertail



PC: Canada Curling Stone

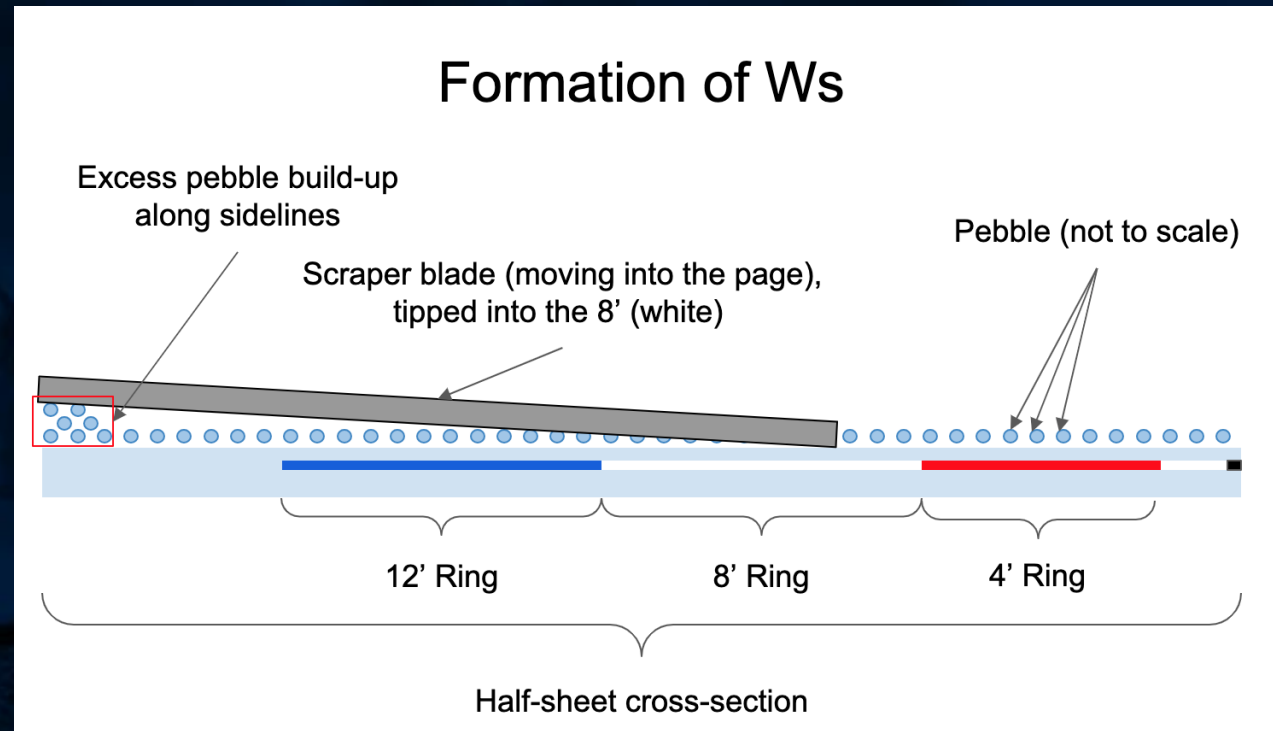
Icemaster



PC: Dakota Curling Supply



What Can Go Wrong?



**Thanks for Coming!
Any questions?**

