SLASH

North

West

East

South

Fig. 1 - Initial Setup

N

W

E

S

Fig. 2 - Black Connection

N

W

E

S

Fig. 3 - White Connection

North

West

East

South

Fig. 4 - Black Has Won

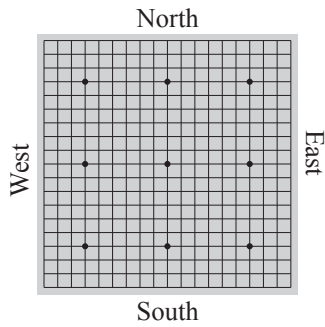**INTRODUCTION** Slash is a played with a Go set. The board starts out empty as shown in Figure 1. The four sides of the board are designated as North, South West, and East. Each player takes possession of all of the stones of one color. Draws cannot occur in Slash. Mark Steere designed Slash in October 2008.

STONE PLACEMENT Players take turns adding their stones to the board, one stone per turn. Black makes the first placement of the game. Each player will always have a placement available on his turn and must make one.

Slash makes use of the pie rule. See the PIE RULE section below.

CONNECTIONS Two like colored stones which are horizontally or vertically adjacent are considered to be connected. If two like colored stones are diagonally adjacent in the Southwest-Northeast direction they are connected. If two like colored stones are diagonally adjacent in the Northwest-Southeast direction they are not connected.

In Figure 2, the two black stones are connected and the two white stones are not connected. In Figure 3 the white stones are connected and the black stones are not.
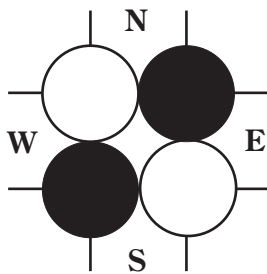
OBJECT OF THE GAME For Black to win, Black must form an interconnected group of black stones which includes at least one stone on the North edge of the board and at least one stone on the South edge. White's goal is to form an interconnected group of white stones which span the West and East edges of the board.
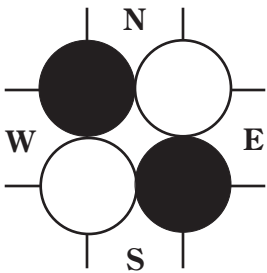
In Figure 4, Black has won the game.

PIE RULE As noted earlier, Black makes the first placement. On White's first turn, White has the option of replacing the on-board black stone with a white stone on the same point. Or White can simply add a white stone to an unoccupied point. In either case, after White's placement players take turns adding their own stones to the board, one stone per turn, starting with Black.

AUTHOR'S NOTE Feel free to publish this rule sheet, and to program the game of Slash for online or offline play. There is no licensing fee, and no royalties are expected. However please don't change the name or the rules, and please attribute the game to me, Mark Steere. My other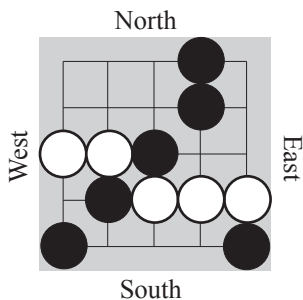 games can be found at marksteeregames.com.