Member Club Changing Region Procedures

1. This is a matter that the USA Curling Board of Directors strictly controls. **USA Curling Bylaws Section 6.2:** “An individual Curling Club may petition USA Curling for assignment to a Regional Curling Association other than the one with which they are then presently associated with geographically. The Board of Directors shall make the determination based upon the best interests of USA Curling.”

2. To effectuate such a change, a Member Club must petition the USA Curling Board. The petition should detail the reason(s) for leaving their current region and joining the proposed region. The petition should be submitted to the USA Curling Secretary.

3. In practice, there should be letters of support for the change from the regional associations involved:
   a. These letters of support help guide the board in its decision-making process.
   b. Having a letter of support from the regional association the club is leaving is **not** a requirement for petition submission.
   c. From a practical standpoint, lacking a letter of support from the regional association that the Member Club seeks to join would be considered suspect.

4. The USA Curling Board would take action at its next meeting, and the change would be effective immediately upon approval.

Member Club Changing to At-Large

1. USA Curling Bylaws defines an “At-Large Club” as “A curling club that does not belong to any Regional Curling Association.” The bylaws do not specifically cover changing from a regional association member to being “At-Large.” However, interpretation of **USA Curling Bylaws Section 6.2:** “An individual Curling Club may petition USA Curling for assignment to a Regional Curling Association other than the one with which they are then presently associated with geographically. The Board of Directors shall make the determination based upon the best interests of USA Curling.” Would allow for this, in that a Member Club is moving from the region they are currently associated with to no affiliation with any regional association.

2. To effectuate such a change, a Member Club must petition the USA Curling Board. The petition should detail the reason(s) for leaving their current region. The petition should be submitted to the USA Curling Secretary.

3. The USA Curling Board would take action at its next meeting, and the change would be effective immediately.

4. Board representation for the club being reassigned to “At-Large” would be switched to the director currently assigned that block of Member Clubs.
Forming a new USA Curling Regional Association

The formation of a new Regional Association is controlled by both USA Curling Policy and Bylaws. The policy directs procedures, and the bylaws control the final approval process.

**USA Curling Bylaws Section 6.1:** “As the sport of curling grows in its participation and the additional Curling Clubs are created, in the best interest of the sport of curling and USA Curling, the Board of Directors may recognize additional Regional Curling Associations or recognize a change in the geographic scope of any present Regional Curling Association in accordance with USA Curling policy.”

The exact procedure beyond the above is grey. **USA Curling Policy 21-08, Section 4.a.ix, states:” The procedure for applying for membership in USA Curling for those entities identified under USA Curling Bylaws Section 5.1.a.iv shall be as determined by the Board of Directors.”**

The above referenced Bylaws Section 5.1.a.iv reads:” Any other Regional Curling Association, curling club, or other entity offering curling programs which applies for membership pursuant to USA Curling policy.”

Bylaws and Policy procedural interpretation:

1. The new regional association will have to meet certain aspects of the Member Club application process, including:
   a. Formation of a legal entity (incorporation or charter) through the Secretary of State, or the equivalent, in the State which the association chooses to incorporate. The legal documents of incorporation would be a required submission.
   b. Development and submission of bylaws that include USA Curling’s Non-Discrimination Policy (current Policy 21-03)
   c. Letters of intent from all USA Curling Member Clubs seeking to be charter members of the regional association.
2. On meeting the above requirements, the package of materials would be presented to the USA Secretary, who would then log that receipt and present it to the USA Curling Board for consideration at their next meeting. The USA Curling Board may, at its discretion, request additional requirements of the applicant, under USA Curling Policy 21-08, Section 4.a.ix at noted above.
3. Approval of the application would become effective immediately.
4. As detailed in **USA Curling Policy 21-09, Section 7:**” To the extent that a new Regional Association (New Association) is created from an existing Regional Association, the New Association would be considered to be part of an existing Regional Association for purposes of director allocation until the next scheduled reallocation. Creation of any new Regional Association shall not cause an additional director to be added.”