

DISCUSSION PAPER

REGIONAL STICK CURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Vision: Regional stick curling championships in the northwest, central and east regions. Over time potentially adjust geographies of regional championship.

Teams must qualify at provincial championships to participate in a regional championship. Creates an opportunity for provincial winners and top finishing teams to compete at a regional level.

The regional champions in the three divisions would earn a berth at the national stick curling championship. If a regional winning team has already qualified for the national championship, then the second-place team in that division would qualify for the national championship. This creates a second opportunity for a competitive team in a region to earn a berth in the national championship.

Benefits:

This approach will strengthen the competition pool at the national championship by providing top regional teams a second route to qualify for the national championship.

The regional championships should raise the profile of stick curling on a regional basis and project an image of a sport serious about developing a competitive stream for its participants.

Logistics:

Held in early to mid-March but would require coordination with the provincial stick curling championships.

Overseen by a regional stick curling board comprised of two members from each provincial organization (stick curling body or stick curlers from provincial curling body).

Rotational hosting by provinces within the region.

Event hosting delegated to a club within the host province.

Potential regional structure could be:

East – PEI, NB, NS, Nfld

Central – Quebec, Northern Ontario, Ont, Man

West – Sask, Alta, BC, NWT/Yukon/Nunavit

Other alignments may make more sense logistically. Consideration could be given to having a fourth region called Prairies consisting of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. That may reduce participant travel costs and align better with existing inter-provincial competitive norms.

If four geographic areas in a zone; then each area would enter three teams per division creating two pools of 6 for a 5 game round robin format.

If three provinces in a zone; then each province would enter three teams per division with the host province adding a fourth team. This will create two pools of five per division for round robin play. If planning for proposed central region, with two Ontario associations, you could go with three teams per designated area and end up with a draw consisting of two pools of six teams per division. There are alternative approaches and draw possibilities. The appropriate approach would be determined by the regional organization in consultation with the host club.

Timeline would be a 2027 start date.

Cost charged must support regional championship requirements and attract host club participation. Anticipate would be \$150 - \$200 per team.

Support documents:

Have attached the Maritime Stick Curling Championship documentation and a sample draw.