



October 19, 2022

Since our inception in 2007, Hollywood Curling has taken immense pride in opening our doors to foster a curling community that welcomes all participants regardless of gender, identity, age, race, or ability. We are a grassroots, volunteer based organization committed to spreading the love of curling across the Southern California region and beyond. We are equally committed to ensuring a safe environment for each and every person who takes the ice with us.

In light of the findings of the Yates report, the Hollywood Curling Board has deep concerns over USA Curling (USAC) CEO Jeff Plush's ability to lead the organization. The Yates report specifically calls out Jeff Plush's pattern of inaction when confronted with evidence of abusive behavior and sexual misconduct while CEO of the National Women's Soccer League (NWLS). As USAC CEO, Jeff Plush acts as a SafeSport Coordinator, arbiter of appeals made to SafeSport rulings, and appoints members of the USAC SafeSport Panel per the USAC SafeSport Handbook (pgs. 23, 25). Given the findings of the Yates report, it is difficult to trust in Jeff Plush's ability to adequately handle issues of misconduct and assault.



As curlers and members of USAC, we are owed not only full transparency into this troubling situation but also decisive action from the USAC Board. We echo the USAC Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Task Force in calling upon the USAC Board to do the following:

- **Revisit SafeSport complaints made with Jeff Plush as CEO.** The Yates Report exposes the lack of meaningful action taken by CEO Jeff Plush when notified about allegations of sexual abuse and other misconduct in the NWSL. We are therefore concerned about the process in which SafeSport complaints were handled. We ask that a full investigation be carried out to determine the appropriateness of the response to all SafeSport claims received by Jeff Plush during his tenure as CEO of USA Curling.
- **Release the results of the 2021 investigation of Jeff Plush.** On October 4, 2022, the USA Curling Board of Directors issued a press release with the following statement in response to the Yates Report, “Through internal and external review procedures, the Board conducted an independent investigation to ensure that...current Chief Executive Officer of USA Curling, Jeff Plush, acted in accordance with prioritizing the safety of athletes – which was found to be the case.” Due to the disparity between the Yates report and the USAC investigation, we demand the USAC Board release the findings of their investigation with full transparency.
- In the absence of the above actions, we cannot have confidence that Jeff Plush is prioritizing our best interests as USA Curling members and ask for his immediate removal as CEO.



Curling is a sport that we love dearly. It has brought people into our lives who have become part of our family. Given us a community. Given us an opportunity to connect with amazing people and make unforgettable memories. Which is why we wanted to take this moment to reaffirm - Abuse will not be tolerated. Misconduct will not be tolerated. Silencing those speaking out will not be tolerated. And we insist that the organization that governs our sport puts those same priorities above all else and takes actions to ensure it.

Sincerely,
The Hollywood Curling Board of Directors