

QuidditchUK Club Merger Policy

This policy outlines the procedure and rules for the merging of two or more QuidditchUK clubs. Wherein the newly formed club would maintain the relevant seeding status of one of the previous clubs.

The following restrictions on maintaining a previously earned ranking (to be used for seeding at upcoming events) will apply to all QuidditchUK member clubs.

1. Branding changes

- a. Changes to the club's brand, by itself, will not lead to a loss of any earned ranking. These changes include but are not limited to:
 - i. Change of name*
 - ii. Change of logo*
 - iii. Change of team jersey*

2. Club type changes

- a. A club changing from University to Community membership, or vice-versa, will not, by itself, lead to a loss of any earned ranking.

3. Disbanding a club

- a. If a club disbands (i.e. does not re-register as a club at the start of a new season) they will also forfeit any ranking they had earned in the previous season.

4. Disbanding a team within a club

- a. Seedings are based on how an individual team, not club, ranked at the previous tournament it attended.
- b. If a club has multiple teams and they do not re-register one of those teams at the start of a new season, the ranking of that team will ordinarily be ignored when generating seedings.
- c. If it is not the highest ranked team at a club that disbands then a higher ranking team within that club can opt to 'drop down' to the ranking of that disbanded, lower ranked team.
 - i. This direction is allowed but the other direction is not, as 'dropping down' in ranking results in a lower seeding and therefore (theoretically) harder competition at the next event.*

5. Merging of clubs

- a. If two clubs inform QuidditchUK that they wish to merge, they must follow the below process to determine the new club's ranking
 - i. *If the clubs are in different regions, they must first decide which region the new club will register in*
 1. They are then only eligible to maintain the ranking of the previously existing club from that region.
 - ii. ***The clubs obtain a statement from all their current, active QuidditchUK members saying one of the following and passes them on to QuidditchUK no later than one month before the start of the new season (i.e. 1st August):***
 1. I intend to play for the newly formed merger club.
 2. I intend to transfer to a different club entirely.
 3. I will no longer be playing for a QuidditchUK club in the upcoming season.
 4. I intend to re-register and run/assist in running one of the existing clubs for the upcoming season.
 - iii. *If any of the members from Step 2 respond with Option 4, that previously existing club will maintain its ranking and the newly formed club will not be eligible to maintain that ranking.*
 - iv. *If a member responded with option 4 but does not re-register that previously existing club with QuidditchUK within 1 month of the season starting (i.e. 1st October), they shall forfeit their previously earned ranking and that ranking will be transferred to the newly formed club.*
 - v. *If the newly formed club maintains both of the previously earned rankings, they shall automatically be given the higher ranking unless they inform QuidditchUK that they wish to take the lower ranking (similar to 4.3).*
 1. This must be communicated to QuidditchUK within 1 month of the season starting (i.e. by 1st October)
 - vi. *If the newly formed club does not maintain any ranking from previously existing clubs then it shall be considered unranked for the upcoming season.*

Disbanding a team examples:

Club A has two teams, Team 1 and Team 2. Team 1 came 3rd at their regional tournament (earning a 1st seed spot for BQC) and Team 2 came 9th at their regional tournament (earning a 2nd seed spot for BQC).

Case 1: Club only re-registers Team 2.

Team 2 maintains their 2nd seed spot and the 1st seed spot is passed to the next-ranked club. If this happens before Regionals then it will be the next-ranked club within that region; if this happens before BQC then it will be the next-ranked team of either region.

Case 2: Club only re-registers Team 1.

Team 1 ordinarily maintains their 1st seed spot (and the 2nd seed spot is passed to the next-ranked club) but the club could choose to relinquish that in favour of taking the 2nd seed spot that Team 2 had earned (and the 1st seed spot is passed to the next-ranked club). If this happens before Regionals then it will be the next-ranked club within that region; if this happens before BQC then it will be the next-ranked team of either region.

Merging clubs examples:

Club X and Club Y are registered in the same region. Club X (who was ranked 5th at the end of the previous season) and Club Y (who was ranked 10th at the end of the previous season) decide to merge to form Club Z.

Case 1: All members from X and Y intend to play for Z

Club Z shall be considered ranked 5th for the upcoming season, unless they inform QuidditchUK that they wish to be ranked 10th by 1st October.

Case 2: A group of members from X decide to continue as Club X in the upcoming season.

Club X shall maintain its ranking of 5th and Club Z shall be ranked 10th

Case 3: A group of members from Y decide to continue as Club Y in the upcoming season

Club Y shall maintain its ranking of 10th and Club Z shall be ranked 5th

Case 4: Both Case 2 and Case 3 occur

Clubs X and Y will maintain their ranking of 5th and 10th respectively. Club Z shall be unranked.