

## Ladies' League Cup – Playing Rules

**Last updated:** January 2026

1. Matches to be played to the laws approved by Bowls England where they apply to team games.
2. Teams will be split into 2 sections.
3. Each team to be represented by 8 players (2 rinks) The games will consist of a team of two sides of four players playing two bowls each; one side shall play at home; the other side will play away. The total score of the two sides shall decide the winner.
4. if one player is short in any rink, the number of bowls played by each defaulting rink to be: the lead and two both playing 3 bowls and the skip playing with two bowls.
5. Defaulting rink to lose 25% of the total shots scored (including decimal places) by each defaulting rink to be deducted from their score after the game has finished. A fourth player may join in a rink (not at skip) before the commencement of the 4th end with no penalty to the score.
6. All league cup games will be played on Wednesday evenings commencing no later than 6:30 p.m. except if verified by the league chair.
7. Points to be awarded in each game:
  - 2 points for team with highest shot difference.
  - 1 point each in the event of a shot difference tie.
8. A game to consist of **18** ends with two trial ends allowed.
9. Only in the case of bad weather, the captains can decide to play 1 shot on the first 2 ends' instead on the trial ends and no 3's up.
10. A toss for the mat is to be made by the skips prior to the game. The home team to decide which rink to play on.
11. A substitute is allowed if one is present but must not play as skip. If a player is injured during a match and a substitute is present to play then the rink will play as a triple with no shot penalty.
12. If a game is curtailed by bad weather or bad light, and a minimum of 8 ends on each rink have been complete, with the scores at the completion of the 8th ends being the result of the game.

13. If, because of bad weather or bad light, a fixture does not take place, or the minimum of 8 ends are not completed, 1 point will be awarded to each team. The green keeper shall decide if the green is playable, or if a green keeper is not available, the two opposing captains will decide.
14. In the event of a Club requiring a postponement in EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES a club may submit a request, stating the reason(s), to the League chair who has full authority to grant such a request if, in her opinion the described circumstances warrant such action. If a fixture is cancelled by any team for any other reason and/or without the permission of the League chair, the team available to play the fixture will be awarded the game with 2 points.
15. If the game is cancelled due to bad weather the game is to be played within 10 days on a mutually agreed date. Any problems to be referred to the league chair.
16. All home skips must be responsible for sending a copy of the scorecard signed by both captains either by a scanned copy or a photograph of the card itself to the league chair the evening of the game being played. All result cards to be retained by each team in case of dispute.
17. The team with the most points when all games have been completed shall be the section winners. Both section winners will play in a final for the League Cup. If two or more teams are equal in points, shot difference will decide the positions. If shot difference is level, then the one that won the most ends in total to qualify for the final.
18. The location for the League Cup final will be played on a neutral green arranged by the league chair.
19. In the event of a draw in the League Cup Final, an extra end will be played.  
Procedure:
- Prior to the game, captains to toss a coin to nominate the rink who plays the extra end. The winner of the toss nominates the rink for the extra end.
  - Another toss decides who has choice of jack.
20. Clubs with a second team to submit 12 named players for Team A prior to the 2026 season. Any player not listed among those 12 will be eligible to play for

Team B. If a non-named player plays for Team A, they automatically become a named player for that team for the remainder of the season. Clubs that have a second team, both teams to submit photo of scorecards on top of results card after every game to check player eligibility. These 12 players can be different to the 12 players from the ladies' league given this is a separate competition.

21. Two clubs may combine to form a team. Players may only represent one club during a season, this will be THE team they represent first in the season. The penalty for playing an ineligible player will be the loss of all shots scored on the rink the player plays on.
22. Combined teams may play on each other's greens in rotation. Decided between the two clubs in the combined team.
23. An open section draw for the following season will be made at the AGM.
24. Dress Code: Club Colours for all players.
25. Any points arising or not covered by the foregoing rules, to be referred to the League chair for consideration by the League committee.
26. Trophy to be presented at the presentation evening.