



STURT BOWLING CLUB

21 Trimmer Terrace UNLEY SA 5061

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www.sturtbowlingclub.com.au

Night Owls - Season 2026-27

The Season

1. The season will be at least 14 nights that includes 3 weeks of finals. The season may be extended depending on timing of the Clubhouse redevelopment

Tuesdays

2. 8 weeks from 27 October 2026 to 15 December 2026
3. No play on 22 & 29 December 2026 and 5 January 2027
4. 6 weeks from 12 January 2027 to 23 February 2027. No play on Tuesday 26 January 2027

Thursdays

5. 7 weeks from 29 October 2026 to 10 December 2026
6. No play on 24 & 31 December 2026 and 7 January 2027
7. 7 weeks from 14 January 2027 to 25 February 2027

Tuesday/Thursday Night Challenge Match

8. The Tuesday v Thursday night challenge match may be held depending on the timing of the Clubhouse redevelopment. The top 13 sides on the 2026-27 premiership table will be offered the first right of refusal.

Finals Nights – All Teams Involved

(Players must have played 3 minor round matches)

Tuesdays

9. On 9, 16 & 23 February 2027, **all teams** will play during the finals series. Essentially all teams are placed in a group of ideally 8 and play off. The top 8 will contest the Night Owls "Premiership" title (week 1, 1v8, 2v7, 3v6, 4v5 - week 2 highest rank winners v lowest rank winners - week 3 Grand Final is the winners of week 2). Teams in the remaining groups will play off, similarly, for the Nights Owls "Championship", "Excellenza" and "LaLiga" titles.

Thursdays

10. On 11, 18 & 25 February 2027, **all teams** will play during the finals series. Essentially all teams are placed in a group of ideally 8 and play off. The top 8 will contest the Night Owls "Premiership" title. (Week 1, 1v8, 2v7, 3v6, 4v5 - week 2 highest rank winners v lowest rank winners - week 3 Grand Final is the winners of week 2). Teams in the remaining groups will play off, similarly, for the Nights Owls "Championship", "Excellenza" and "LaLiga" titles.

Inclement Weather/Extreme Heat

11. If games on 9, 11, 16 & 18 February 2027 are not live, the winners will be determined on the higher finishing team on the premiership table.
12. If games on 23 & 25 February 2027 are not live, the Night Owls title will be determined via the highest placed team on the premiership table who are scheduled to or competing in the grand finals.

Fees

13. The game cost is \$12 per player, and we ask that someone from each team collect your fees and pay \$48 in exchange for a team score card.
14. Sturt Bowling Club @ Unley Oval does not charge a player registration fee with each players' Bowls SA "Night Owls player administration fee" paid by the Club.

General Rules and Conditions of Play

15. Games will commence by 7 pm with "chimes" to sound at 9 pm to signify end of play (any end being played when chimes sound can be completed)
16. Games will be a maximum of 16 ends.
17. On 23 & 25 February 2027, the "chimes" will sound at 910 pm notwithstanding 15. but not overriding 12. & 35.
18. Where scores are tied in any week 1 final, semi-final or grand final, an extra end(s) will be used to determine the winner – which may commence after the chimes have sounded.

19. Please enter team's player names on the score card
20. There are no dead ends - If the jack goes out of bounds it shall be placed on the 2-metre mark (if a bowl is on 2-metre mark, the jack shall be placed on the nearest available spot toward the mat on the centre line) and the game will continue.
21. Please return scorecards to the designated person and place jacks and mats in the trolley. Rink numbers to be placed in bowls room and scoreboard names (and clips) to be placed on the table in the administration office.
22. Games "are not live" if, across all rinks, an average of 6 ends are not completed.
23. If any team looks to forfeit a game the Night Owls sub-committee will try to make up the numbers so a team can play. Forfeiting a game is where (i) a team cannot play with 3 players or (ii) a team plays with **ALL** players made up by the Night Owls sub-committee. In (i), the team not forfeiting will receive points as if their opposition has forfeited. In (ii), the team not forfeiting will receive points as per the result of the game played – see **Scoring**.
24. Where teams play with 3 players, the leader and second bowl 3 bowls and the skipper bowls 2, except where (i) team refuses a 4th player found by the Night Owls sub-committee (ii) in all week 1 finals, in 8 week 2 semi finals and in 4 week 3 grand finals and (iii) where team presents with 3 players on consecutive weeks. If these exceptions apply, players bowl 2 bowls only.
25. Where multiple forfeits occur on a given night, the Night Owls sub-committee reserves the right to amend the draw to accommodate the maximum number of teams participating.

Team Handicaps

26. No handicaps apply during finals series.
27. If a team is playing a team that is 30-49 points ahead on the premiership table, they shall receive a 3 shot start, if a team is playing a team that is 50-69 points ahead on the premiership table, they shall receive a 5 shot start and if a team is playing a team that is 70+ points ahead on the premiership table, they shall receive a 7 shot start.

Scoring

28. 10 points for a Win and 5 points for a Draw
29. 2 bonus points will be awarded to each team (win or lose) if they do not forfeit the match or otherwise at the discretion of the Sturt Bowling Club Night Owls sub-committee.
30. Teams who receive a forfeit (and not otherwise play) will be awarded 12 points and a 10-0 result.
31. Teams who forfeit will receive 0 points and a 0-10 result.
32. If a team is scheduled an additional bye, they will be awarded 12 points and a 10-0 result.
33. Where a team requests a bye that cannot be rescheduled, that team's final premiership table ranking will be determined by less game(s) played. Where a team does not have the requisite number of byes, their premiership table ranking will be determined by eliminating the medium result(s) to reduce to the games played as the norm.
34. Positions on the premiership table are determined by "points" then "shot differential" then "shots for". Should this not separate sides at the end of the minor round, the result of the matches between the impacted sides during the minor round will determine order. If this does not determine order, a countback on the most recent match or matches will be used.

Inclement Weather Contact

35. In the first instance, please ring the Club on 8271 4362 from 330pm.

Inclement Weather Conditions

36. An average of at least 6 completed ends must be played for games to be live on a given night (e.g. 78 completed ends over 13 rinks)
37. If games on a given night are not live in the minor round, matches will be rescheduled where possible. Where any matches are not rescheduled and disadvantaged by losing a game, the respective teams will each be allocated 7 premiership points and a score of 10 shots.

Extreme Heat

37. Sturt Bowling Club respects the right of individuals and/or teams not to play in extreme heat, and we ask Night Owls to keep themselves adequately hydrated.
38. Where the forecast maximum temperature for the day, at 7 pm on the day before is 41 degrees or more, play will be abandoned.
39. Play will also be abandoned where the forecast air temperature on the day of play for 430pm is 38 degrees or more. This determination is to be done by 9am on the day of play.
www.bom.gov.au/places/sa/adelaide/forecast/detailed.
40. Team representatives must have the abandonment confirmed by the club before advising team members of same.
41. No play, practice or any outside activity in relation to Night Owls will be permitted while the temperature is 37 degrees or more as per the latest observation from the West Terrace / ngayirdapira site
<http://www.bom.gov.au/sa/observations/adelaide.shtml>

Final

41. Any circumstances not provided for in the above regulations will be decided by the Sturt Bowling Club Night Owls sub-committee or representative based on equity, fairness and the laws that support the sport of Lawn Bowls.

Good Bowls, Good Fun.