

Acton Cup Rules 2022

1. League clubs with at least one mens and one ladies team shall automatically be entered in this competition. There is no entrance fee.
2. The winning club shall hold the Acton Cup for 12 months. The Cup is the property of the League and cannot be won outright.
3. The clubs knocked out in their first match shall be entered automatically for the Acton Plate competition. The winning club shall hold the shield for 12 months. The shield is the property of the League and cannot be won outright.
4. References in these rules to the Acton Cup competition shall include and refer also to the Acton Plate competition.
5. The draw for the first round is stated on the NECLTL website; <http://www.necltl.org/acup.cfm> It is the Clubs responsibility to arrange their next match in a timely manner, within the timelines of each round. Details of opponents may be found on the NECLTL website.
6. The finals shall be played at a venue to be decided by the Referee.
7. Each match shall consist of five events:- a ladies 'singles, men's singles, a ladies 'doubles, a men's doubles and a mixed doubles.
8. No player shall play in more than one event in each round or represent more than one club in this competition in a season. A player shall be a bona fide playing member of the club he or she represents and, by the quarter finals, must have played at least two League matches for the same League club that season. For all previous rounds, it is preferable that a player has already played in two League matches, or it is their *intention* to do so.
9. A match shall be won by the team which wins at least three events. Except in the final, each event shall be the best of three sets each of which, INCLUDING THE FINAL SET, shall be decided on a tie-break which shall operate at six games all.
10. All matches must be completed by the date given for the relevant round.
11. Each match shall commence not later than 15 minutes after the agreed start time and unless otherwise agreed by both sides three events shall be played at that time. Before the match commences and not later than 15 minutes after the agreed start time, the Captain of each team shall exchange lists of players and events in which they shall play, this can be done by completing the match card prior to the match being played. The order of play shall be as agreed by the Captains, otherwise by ballot. Should a player nominated for any event be absent or not play when required to do so, that event shall be forfeited to the other side.
12. Should a match be suspended due to bad weather before it has been won, it shall be rearranged as soon as possible. The home team must offer 3 alternative dates to the away team within 7 days. The away team must accept one of the dates within 7 days of being offered the alternative dates. The match shall be replayed from scratch.
13. The home team shall provide official balls as in League matches, see League Rule 17 (unless the Referee confirms in advance of the match that a different ball of a similar quality may be used). The home team may wish to provide the players with light refreshments after the match.
14. The captain of the HOME team must provide the match card and the WINNING team must advise the Referee of the result by email within 24 hours of completion of the match. This must be done by emailing a photo of the match result card, fully and correctly completed in all respects including block capitals and signed by both captains. Any member of the WINNING team can send the photo of the match card to the Referee. (See page 5 for the email address.)
15. Any dispute must be referred immediately to the Referee, whose decision shall be final.