

CAMBRIA CUP - 2026

The draw for the group stage of the Cambria Cup has now taken place.

Teams in group A are those captained by Maggie Pierce, Adrian Thomas and Andrea Knox.

Teams in group B are those captained by Anna-Marie O'Brien, Tim Rees and Tony Haworth.

In the group stage you need to arrange to **play both other teams in your group**, two matches in total.

You will need to complete these two **matches by Tuesday 30th June**.

Scoring will be by aggregate and in each set of three stanzas you can only partner the same person once. In the group stage matches will be 30 boards in length. Make sure that at the conclusion of each match you agree the overall score with the other captain.

In the group stage and the semi-finals, the default is playing online on RealBridge. Most players cannot set up matches on RealBridge. You will need to ask either Ceri Pierce (ceri@wbu.org.uk) or myself (julianbridge@hotmail.com) to do that. Captains can agree to play on BBO or face to face.

Ensure you **enter the aggregate score in the comments** section of the 'Results Submission' form. Remember, both captains need to submit the result, not just the winning captain.

In the semi-finals, the winner of group A will play the runner up in group B while the winner of group B will play the runner up in group A. The semi-final matches will be of 42 boards, with stanzas of 14 boards rather than 10, and take place by Sunday 20th September.

The final (60 boards) will take place on Sunday 29th November, with six stanzas of 10 boards and rotating partnerships in both halves of the match as in the other matches. If both finalists are from South Wales then the final will take place in South Wales; if both finalists are from North Wales then the final will take place in North Wales; otherwise, the final will take place in mid Wales.

In the event of a tie for first or second place in a group, the result of the match between the tied teams will determine which finishes higher. If that match was a tie, the number of stanzas won in their tied match will determine which finishes higher. If that too is a tie, the total number of stanzas won across the two matches will be the determining factor.

NB As you have nearly 5 months in which to play 2 matches, there is unlikely to be sympathy for any group matches unplayed by that date (you should assume they will be scored as average minus for both teams). I recommend therefore that you schedule all your matches by around mid-May so as to leave some wiggle room in the case of an emergency.