# House of Lords approves extended pub hours for Euros 2024 semis and final



The House of Lords has approved an order to extend licensing hours for pubs during the UEFA European Football Championship 2024 (Euros), allowing them to stay open until 1am if England or Scotland reach the semi-final or final. This amendment to the Licensing Act 2003 means pubs will not have to notify the licensing authority for the extended hours.

Conservative peer Lord Sharpe of Epsom announced the passage, joking that the measure would allow people to "get properly on the lash," while urging responsible drinking. The order still requires royal assent but is expected to come into force in time for the tournament, which begins on June 14, 2024.

This decision follows a consultation by the Home Office, where over 80% of respondents supported the extended hours, despite police concerns about potential disorder. The extended licensing applies only on days when England or Scotland are playing in the late stages and excludes off-premises alcohol sales, such as in supermarkets and off-licences.

The British Beer and Pub Association welcomed the move, highlighting the communal experience of watching football in pubs, although noting that the UK has one of the highest beer duty rates in Europe.