

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 67, SECTION 13 OF THE REVISED
GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF WHARTON, COUNTY OF
MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY HOURS OF SALE AND SERVICE OF
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES TO ACCOMMODATE THE FIFA WORLD CUP
2026 TOURNAMENT**

WHEREAS, the FIFA World Cup 2026™ Tournament will take place in North America from June 11, 2026 to July 19, 2026;

WHEREAS, FIFA matches will take place throughout the United States, Mexico, and Canada during the 39-day period, including eight matches at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey;

WHEREAS, the FIFA World Cup 2026™ Final, the most watched sporting event in the world, will be held on Sunday, July 19 at MetLife Stadium;

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 33:1-40, N.J.S.A. 33:1-40.3, and N.J.S.A. 33:1-94 of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, the governing body of a municipality may limit by ordinance the hours when the sale of alcoholic beverages may be made;

WHEREAS, the Borough of Wharton seeks to amend Chapter 67, Section 13 governing the lawful hours during which alcoholic beverages may be sold and served at licensed establishments within the municipality during the FIFA World Cup 2026™ Tournament in order to support local businesses, maximize economic opportunity, and encourage community engagement;

WHEREAS, even if the lawful hours during which alcoholic beverages may be sold and served at licensed establishments are extended throughout the duration of the FIFA World Cup 2026™ Tournament, licensees remain responsible for ensuring the safe and responsible service of alcoholic beverages during the extended hours.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of the Borough of Wharton does hereby Ordain as follows:

SECTION ONE: Amendment to Chapter 67, Section 13 to Change Hours During FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) World Cup 2026™ Soccer Tournament.

(1) From June 11, 2026 to July 20, 2026, licensed establishments described in Section (1)(a) may sell and serve alcoholic beverages for longer than the regular hours delineated herein, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Relaxation of hours applies to the following license types: (1) plenary retail consumption licenses; (2) seasonal retail consumption licenses; (3) club licenses; (4) sporting facility licensees; (5) plenary retail transit licensees; (6) limited brewery licensees; (7) restricted brewery licensees; (8) farm brewery licensees; (9) plenary winery licensees; (10) farm winery licensees; (11) cidery and meadery licensees; and (12) craft distillery licensees.**
- (b) No licensee described above shall allow, permit, or suffer the sale, service or delivery of an alcoholic beverage for consumption on the licensed premises between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. from June 11, 2026 to July 20, 2026 on weekdays; and between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. on weekends.**
- (c) Between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m., patrons will only be permitted inside the licensed premises, and external noise will be limited to television broadcasts of a World Cup match. No external music shall be played during this time.**
- (d) Any temporary permits issued by the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control authorizing the sale, service, or delivery of alcoholic beverages in an outdoor area shall not be in effect between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m.**
- (e) During the extended hours authorized by this Ordinance, licensees shall comply with all municipal noise and nuisance ordinances.**

SECTION TWO: SEVERABILITY

If any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of the ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

SECTION THREE: REPEAL OF PRIOR ORDINANCES

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with or in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION FOUR: EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication as provided by law.

First Reading: June 8, 2026

Second Reading: July 20, 2026

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

ATTEST:

**_____
WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR**

**_____
Cheryl Muzzillo,
Borough Clerk**