

Bocce Bash Rules

Play will start at 9:30 am. All teams with all their members MUST be on their courts at this time. If a team or a member of the team is not present when it is their turn to play, the opposing team will start to play ... with the possibility of scoring all four points per frame. If the opposing team returns, they can enter the game, but not until the end of the frame.

One substitute is allowed during pool play. The sub needs to stay for the rest of the play. NO SUBSTITUTIONS when teams start single-elimination play.

The opposing team cannot interfere with his opponent by standing on or near the line or making distracting noises when throwing the Pallino.

Play:

Bocce is played with eight large balls and one smaller target ball called a Pallino. There are four balls per team, and balls are made of a different color to distinguish the balls of one team from those of the other team. Each team member throws two balls.

There are two members of each team on opposite ends of the court. The match shall begin with the flip of a coin between the captains from each team. The winner of the coin flip may have the first toss of the Pallino or choose the color of the balls.

A player may toss the Pallino any distance if the Pallino passes the centerline of the court and does not hit or touch the tape marking boundary line of the court or go outside the court. If a player fails to validly toss the Pallino after one attempt, the opposing team will have a chance to toss the Pallino and put it in play. If the opposing team fails to toss the Pallino past the centerline, the Pallino reverts to the original team. When the Pallino has been properly put in play, the first bocce ball will be thrown by the team that puts the Pallino in play.

The toss must be from outside the court. A foot fault will be called if the tosser's foot touches the boundary line, and the ball will be taken out of play. The ball cannot touch any of the court boundaries. If it does, the ball is removed from play. The closest team to the Pallino is called "inside," and the opposing team is called "outside."

After the first throw, the opposite team throws until their ball is closest to the Pallino (inside). The opposing team then throws until their ball beats the "inside" ball. This continues until all bocce balls have been thrown. This ends the *frame*. *Note: Team members alternate/take turns throwing the balls. The team that won the last frame throws the Pallino to begin the next frame. *If the ball is thrown out of turn, the ball is out of play and removed from the court.*

Pallino:

Once the Pallino has been put into play, it remains in play unless it is hit onto a court boundary line or is hit outside the court boundary line. If this happens, the frame is ended. No points are awarded. The game continues from the opposite end of the court with the same team tossing the Pallino.

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Scoring:

Only the "inside" team scores at the end of the frame. One point is given for each "inside" team ball closer to the Pallino than any of the opposing team's balls. If at the end of the frame the closest ball of each team is equidistant from the Pallino, the frame ends in a tie, and no points are awarded. The game continues from the opposite end with the same team tossing the Pallino.

Measurements for scoring should be taken from the inside of the bocce ball to the inside of the Pallino.

Winning:

The winner of each game is the first team to reach 12 points. After reaching 12 points, the winning teams may finish playing their balls in the frame and count all their "inside" balls. *The score does not have to stop at 12. There is potential to win a game with 15 points.*

The team that wins the most games in the morning advance to the afternoon Championship round on each court. If two or more teams win the same number of games, the most points will determine the court winner. If there is still a tie – the tied teams will play a match until 5 points are scored by one of the teams.

*Court Judge should record 1.) games won and 2.) points won by each team. The scorecard is to be turned in at the large Score Board.

The winning team from each court advances to the afternoon championship round.

Teams note: Court Judges are responsible for

- Calling Foot Faults
- Calling out of play balls
- Removing out of play balls from the court
- Measuring and determining "inside" ball
- Determining the points at the end of each frame and NO PLAYER is allowed to remove a ball from the court until a winner is named
- Recording and keeping the score and declaring the winner

Please remember the court judge is a volunteer. So, please be kind to your court judge. Have fun playing bocce and enjoy your day!!