



2016

8th Annual Bocce Ball Tournament Rules

Game Setup:

- Team with oldest member gets to pick color of balls and throw the pallino first.
- 2 members of team at each end of court (4 people total on each side)

Initial Pallino Throw:

- 1st throw by oldest bocce player on the court
- Pallino must be past center line, inside court boundaries.
- If pallino lands out of bounds or short of center line the other team throws the pallino.
- Whoever lands the pallino ball within bounds throws the first bocce ball.

Playing the Game:

- Object of game is to get your bocce balls as close to the pallino as possible.
- Subsequent throws are intended to land closer to the pallino than the previous throw(s)
- Players may hit the pallino or other bocce balls to change their position
- All balls must be thrown from behind the Foul line (do not touch the line!) and thrown underhand. Balls thrown overhand are ignored for scoring purposes.
- As long as pallino remains in bounds, all balls must be past the center line, inside court boundaries. Balls that are out of bounds are ignored.
- If pallino is knocked out of bounds, ignore all boundaries (including center line) and include all balls for scoring purposes regardless of location.
- Each succeeding ball is thrown by the team that does not have the ball closest to the pallino (i.e. the “OUT” team throws). That means a team may throw multiple times in a row.
- Team members must alternate throws; each team member will throw 2 balls in their frame.
- If the “out” team has thrown all of their balls, then the “in” team can throw the rest of their balls.
- If a ball is thrown out of order, the non offending team may choose to remove the offending ball or replace it with one of their non thrown balls. The offending ball is thereby removed from play and scoring for one frame. Any affect the offending ball had by hitting other balls remains on the field.
- Team that scored last is the first to throw in the next frame.
- No stalling or “eating up the clock” is allowed during play. Players must throw their balls in a reasonable amount of time. If an official believes that stalling is occurring the player will receive a verbal warning from the official. If stalling continues after the warning the official will declare the current player’s ball forfeit and play will continue as normal (next player throws or frame ends).

Boundary Line Rules:

- If the pallino is touching any part of a line, it is in bounds.
- If the bocce ball is touching any part of a line, it is out of bounds.
- If a player steps over the Foul line when throwing their bocce ball, the ball is ignored for scoring purposes but remains on the field. Any effect the ball may have caused by hitting other balls remains.

Scoring:

- Once all balls are thrown, the official(s) will measure to see which balls are closest to the pallino.
- Points are awarded to the team that is closest to the pallino.
- The number of points is decided by determining how many of the scoring team's bocce balls are closer to the pallino than the non-scoring team's closest ball.
- That means only one team scores during each frame, and they may score anywhere from 1 to 4 points depending on how many of their balls are closer to the pallino than the opponents closest ball.
- If the teams' closest balls are the exact same distance from the pallino, then neither team scores, and the team that threw the pallino in that frame throws the pallino again to start the next frame.

Note: Each team may request one measurement per game. Further measurements are at the discretion of the bocce official(s).

Next frame:

- The players at the other end of the court are now the "active" players.
- The team that scored in the previous frame throws the pallino to start the next frame (and then throws the first bocce ball)

Winning:

- **During Timed Bracket Play:**
 - Team with highest score at end of 15 minute time limit wins
 - **There is a 2 minute warning horn, don't stop play – it's just a warning!**
 - Tie breaker: Pallino is thrown by oldest player. All team members throw one bocce ball from the same end of the court, scoring team wins match (all eight bocce balls are in play).
- **Championship Game (1st and 2nd place):**
 - The first team to score 8 points wins the game (you do NOT have to win by 2 points).
 - Each match will consist of up to 3 games with the winner of 2 games advancing in the bracket.
 - Match losers are eliminated there is no losers bracket.