

Bocce Ball Rules

1. Bocce is played with eight large balls and one smaller ball called the pallino.
2. The game may be played with a minimum of 2 players and a maximum of 8 players on each team (must have equal number of players on both teams to play match).
3. Divide the bocce balls evenly between the numbers of players. You will notice that your bocce ball set has balls with 2 different colors.
4. At random, choose a player/team to throw the pallino.
5. After the pallino is thrown, the same player/team will throw his first bocce ball.
6. The purpose of the game is to get your bocce balls as close as possible to the pallino.
7. A player may toss the pallino any distance as long as the ball passes the center line of the court and does not hit the back wall, although it may be bounced off the sideboards.
8. If the thrower fails to toss the pallino pass the center line or hits the back wall, the thrower is given one more toss. If the second toss fails to pass the center line or hits the back wall, the thrower loses their turn and the opposing team takes over.
9. Once the pallino has been validly put into play, it remains in play even if a bocce ball hits it against the backboard. However, if the pallino is knocked out of the court or it is knocked in the front of the center line, the frame will end, no points are awarded, and the game will resume from the opposite end of the court with the same team tossing the pallino.
10. If any bocce ball hits the back wall after it is thrown without touching the sideboards or any other ball, including pallino, the ball is no longer in play and must be removed from bocce ball pit.

11. If a bocce ball hits the side wall after it is thrown, the ball shall remain in play. If a bocce after hitting the backboard strikes a stationary bocce, that stationary bocce shall be replaced in its original position. The thrown ball is removed from play.
12. After the first player/team has thrown his first bocce ball, he is considered "inside" because his ball is closer to the pallino than any of the competitor's balls.
13. All other players are considered "outside." Whenever a player/team is considered "inside," he will forfeit his turn throwing bocce balls.
14. All "outside" players will take turns throwing their bocce balls until one of theirs gets closer to the pallino than the "inside" player.
15. After all players have thrown their bocce balls, the player/team that is "inside" will be awarded points.
16. One point will be awarded to this player/team for every ball that is closer to the pallino than his closest competitor's ball.
17. Any bocce leaning on the pallino is scored as 2 points. Two Bocce of opposing teams equidistant from the pallino cancel each other out, and no additional points are scored for that bocce and any bocce beyond them.
18. Teams may play best of 3 frames. A frame/game is won when a player/team reaches 7 points.
19. After the points are awarded, the frame is completed. Start a new frame by electing the other team who lost the previous frame, to throw the pallino and to throw the first bocce ball.
20. If the pallino is knocked out of the court, the current frame has ended. Restart the frame with the same team who started the last frame, going first.

21. Teams that consist of 2 or more players...

4-player team rolls 1 ball per person.

5 or more player team plays 4 players per frame throwing 1 ball per person. -

The additional player(s) will rotate in on the next frame and any player on that team must rotate out.

No player may throw more than 1 ball consecutively.

22. If teams cannot meet during scheduled games, please reschedule with opposing team captain

- Email or call team captain with enough time before scheduled match to arrange another time
- Be sure to make contact or receive a response from the team captain to acknowledge the reschedule
- Captains be sure to be available by email or phone before the game so you can respond to a reschedule request

23. **Teams must play a rescheduled game within 3 working days of original date.** Teams who are unable to play within the 3-day time frame will both receive a disqualification and a loss will be counted against both teams.