



OHCC Bocce Club Standard Rules EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2020

GENERAL:

Open play and tournament play will now have the same rules, except as noted. In open play teams may consist of 2, 3, or 4 players. Tournament play may have teams of 3 or 4 players but the team with only 3 players will have their single player limited to throwing only two balls.

Play:

In open play the teams may choose start order and ball color by mutual agreement. In tournament play a coin toss determines which team starts. The opposing team chooses ball color. All games start at the ball shed end of the courts. All balls must be thrown while standing on the court, behind the red foul line.

Pallino Throw:

The pallino (small ball) is the first ball put into play. The pallino may be bounced off the sideboards but must end up past the center yellow line to be in play and at least one paddle length away from the sideboard. It cannot go past the second yellow line or it is out of play.

When the pallino is thrown out of play, the other team throws it to put it in play. Once the pallino is in play the same player throws their first bocce ball as close as they can to the pallino. The pallino can be hit further down the court. If the pallino is knocked past the second yellow line it is a fair pallino and all the walls are then in play. (See Backboard Rule)

Bocce Ball Throw:

The bocce ball can be bounced off the sideboards or the diagonals. After the first bocce ball has been rolled, the opposing team attempts to roll their ball closer to the pallino. A paddle person will indicate the color of the ball closest to the pallino by showing that color on the paddle. The team that does not have a ball closest to the pallino, rolls another ball. Team members alternate their turns in rolling balls. This continues until all balls have been rolled. However the bocce ball cannot hit the backboard unless the pallino is past the second yellow line, in which case all rails are alive. (See further conditions on BACKBOARD RULE, pg. 2)

After the score is recorded, play continues from the opposite end.

Yellow Backboard Rule:

Once thrown a bocce ball may hit a sideboard, other balls, or a diagonal board, but may not hit the yellow backboard/ rail when the pallino is in front of the second yellow line. If it does, that ball is considered a "Dead Ball" and removed from the court. When the pallino is lying past the second yellow line when the bocce ball is thrown then "all rails are alive" and the ball can hit the yellow backboard and still be alive and in play.

Scoring:

After all balls have been rolled, then each ball closer to the pallino than any of the opponent's balls, is awarded one point. Games are normally played to 16 points and then the teams change ends. The team that won the last game begins the next game. A match is normally won by the first team to win two games. In tournament play if a third game is required, it is played to 11 pts.

Paddle Official:

In open play and tournament play the paddle person will decide the point calls and measure when questionable. In open play any player can ask for a measurement. In tournament play, only a team captain can request a measurement. Players may not go onto the court unless requested by the Paddle official to assist in measuring or retrieving balls. The paddle official's ruling is final but he may request the tournament director to make a ruling which is then the final ruling.

FOULS AND PENALTIES:

Red Foul Line - Foot Foul:

Players may not step on or over the red foul line while rolling the pallino or a bocce ball.

In tournament play two witnesses may object to a foot violation and the penalty is removal of that ball.

Wrong Color Ball Thrown:

If a player rolls the wrong color ball, that ball shall be replaced by the correct color ball and any balls moved by contact shall be returned to their original position.

Rolling Out of Turn:

If a player rolls a ball when it is the other teams turn, the illegally thrown ball is removed from the court and any balls hit and moved shall be returned as close as possible to their original positions.

Excessive Speed:

As a matter of player safety and equipment protection, balls thrown with excessive speed will be regulated. If two players or the Tournament Director make an objection, for the first offense the player will be warned. Upon a second objection, the player will be disqualified from play.

Illegal Touching:

Any touching or movement of a bocce ball by a player other than the paddle person will result in one point to be awarded to the opposing team for each ball moved.

Notes:

Tournament play will have a tournament Director and a Paddle Official will be assigned to each match. Additional rules may be provided by the Tournament Director. Disputes will be decided by the Tournament Director and their call is final.

Good sportsmanship should always apply.

<u>Tournament Directors</u>
Mike Simons

<u>Bocce Club President</u>
Bob Bleything
Dated: _____

