



## Summer Iowa Games | Bocce Ball Tournament Rules

The Object of the game is to come as close to the point ball (pallino) as possible.

Bocce Teams are made up of four players. Each team will have two players stationed at each end of the court. A coin toss will determine the team who throws the pallino first.

The starting team throws the pallino. The pallino is thrown first and becomes the target. The team player who throws the pallino must throw the first bocce ball of that round. Team 2 (the opponent) will then throw their bocce ball(s) until they come closer to the pallino than Team 1's first throw. If Team 2 runs out of bocce balls, then Team 1 will score 1 point and continue to throw for more points. The most a team can score per round is 4 points. After all of the bocce balls are thrown, the score of the round is determined and the next round begins on the opposite side of the bocce court. Rounds are played until one team reaches the total points to win.

Bocce balls may be played off the sideboards, other bocce balls, or even off the pallino as long as the pallino does not go out of bounds. If the pallino is knocked out of bounds, it will be placed in the center of the back end of the court. The remaining bocce balls will be thrown to determine who scores the points.

All balls must be thrown from waist-level or below. This helps to maintain the integrity of our court.

Players must stay behind the foul line when throwing. Players will be given one warning. After that, their foul shot will be thrown out and the other balls on the court will be put back in order.

The tournament will take a few hours, so it is important for players to stay focused when it is their turn to play.

No food or drinks are allowed on the court!

### **SCORING:**

The official score for the frame is determined after all 8 bocce balls have been played.

Only one team may score at the end of each frame. A team scores one point for every ball closer to the pallino than the other team's closet ball. If the closet ball of both teams is an equal distance from the pallino, then the frame results in no score.

Games go to 7 points, the championship game goes to 11 points.

### **MEASUREMENTS:**

Teams can request a measurement at any time, but no players will be allowed on the court during the measurement. The official will have the last say. If the measurement results in a tie, the team who threw the last ball will throw again. If all balls have been thrown, and a tie still remains, the team who threw the pallino in that round will throw the pallino in the next round.

## **SUBSTITUTIONS:**

Teams are allowed to substitute twice in the tournament. Substitutes can be bystanders or players from a losing tournament team, but only 1 substitute per losing team is allowed. If no substitute is available, the 3-person team will only play with 6 balls instead of 8, and must choose where to place their players (2 on one of the court, and 1 on the other). If there are only 2 people left on a team (no substitutes), they are allowed 2 balls each. If there is only 1 person left on a team, their team forfeits.