

# Spectators Guide to Bocce



## Key Words:

**Pallina** – Small target or object ball

**Bocce Ball** – Larger balls (usually red or green) that are tossed at the pallina.

**In** – The bocce ball nearest to the pallina.

**Out** – The bocce ball that is furthest from the pallina.

## The Game:

**Start of a Game:** The match begins 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 pallina and choose the color of the balls (usually red or green).

**Start of Play:** The team chosen to have first toss of the pallina, has three tries to toss the pallina past the center line, whether successfully or not, they also throw the first bocce ball.

- The team whose bocce balls are closest to the pallina is called "in " and the opposing team "out." Whenever a team gets "in", it steps aside and lets the "out" team roll. The "out" team throws until it beats (not ties) the opposing "in" teams ball. This continues until both teams have used all their bocce balls.

**Scoring:** Only the "in" team scores. One point is given for each ball of the "in" team that is closer to the pallino than any ball of the opposing team.

- If at the end of any frame the closest ball of each team is equal distance from the pallina, the frame ends in a tie and no points are awarded to either team.
- The game will resume from the opposite end of the court with the same team tossing the pallino

**Start of the Next Frame:** The team who scored last, throws the pallina to begin the next frame.

**End of a Match:** The first team to score 12 points (must win by 12 points) or the team with the most points at the end of the scheduled time wins the match.