

Kimberley July Fest 2024 Player Information

2024.02.12 version

The rules and standards of this bocce tournament have been drafted with reference to those drawn up by the Canadian Special Olympics committee and Bocce Standards Association in the USA; however, many modifications have been made to make our tournament work with the restraints given.

General Information

This competition is meant to be competitive but in a friendly and respectful way; above all, be outrageous and have fun.

The games will be played on grass. All teams will have at least three games and the top two teams will advance to the playoffs for either A side or B side.

The referees are all volunteers and are not bocce experts. Mistakes will be made so, please cut them a little slack (remember the fun element).

Reminder that any act which is deemed as poor sportsmanship, such a foul language, insulting language, gestures, action or words which engender ill will, if flagrant, may result in disqualification of the player. The team will be left with one less player and one less ball to shoot. If multiple members of the team are disrespectful, they will forfeit the game and may be asked to leave the venue.

The Game

This year, the pits will not have numbers like in the past and be identified by business sponsors of Julyfest. All of your team members need to be at the correct pit at the correct time, you will be given about 5 minutes grace and after that, it is “good night, Irene”. You can substitute one of your regular players with a fill in but that person must play the whole game.

Both teams will need to designate a captain for that game. The captain will participate in the coin toss. The winner of the coin toss can choose to throw the

pallina ball or pick the colour of the playing balls. The person who throws the pallina also throws the first bocce ball. The first ball must be between the centre line and the far line, you will be given two chances to achieve that and it is then given to the opposing team, who will now throw the bocce ball. If the second team also fails to meet the criteria, the referee will place the ball in the middle of the court and the first team will throw the first bocce ball.

After the pallina and the bocce ball have been thrown, the opposing team must continue to throw their balls until they are closer to the pallina than the other team. The balls can be rolled, tossed, bounced, banked etc. as long as the ball is released in an underhand delivery. A couple of things to note are that a player can step on the foul line but not over it. Players are usually given a warning but after that, the referee may deem that ball dead and out of play. Teams can throw their ball in any rotation, provided the one who tosses the pallina delivers the first bocce ball. Each player can only throw one ball.

A team may call for a measurement at any time but only the captains are permitted in the pit with permission from the referee. The measurement will be taken from the edge of the pallina to the edge of the bocce ball. After all the balls have been thrown, the referee will count all of the balls closest to the pallina and determine the points for that end. Please note, that for this tournament, if two bocce balls are of equal distance from the pallina after all balls have been thrown, those two balls will be removed from play and the score will be determined by the remaining balls.

The winner of the game will be the first team to obtain 12 points or have the largest score after approximately 30 minutes of play. However, everyone is a winner if they are having fun.

In the event that a team forfeits, the team that showed up will automatically receive 6 points. A team moves on to playoffs for having the most games won, if this is tied then the point differential will be used, if this is tied then the points for will be used.

On a final note, it is recommended that players and referees wear closed toed shoes for safety reasons and remember, team names and costumes that are flamboyant are encouraged.

HAVE FUN OUT THERE.