



# Burlington Bocce Club

## 2021 Welcome Letter and How to Play

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The Burlington Bocce Club was founded in 2007 as a social and recreation-oriented club that is dedicated to providing Burlington a place to gather around the game of Bocce. We are an exciting crew with over 200 members.

The volunteer run non-profit club offers several ways to get involved.

### **Burlington Bocce Club Membership (\$20 individual, \$40 family)**



As a club member you will receive a Membership Card with a combination number on the back. You can use the combo to unlock the cedar equipment box in the woods. It contains bocce ball sets, score-pegs, and measuring tapes. The combo will also unlock the chains securing the court broom. Family Memberships include significant other, children under 18. Members are encouraged to bring their friends and family, but you should never share the bocce combo with non-members.

Membership also enables you to participate in the doubles league, discounted parking passes, and voting rights at the annual club meeting, and a membership card.

As a club member, you are expected to help maintain the courts and equipment. Pull any weeds and remove stones or debris from the playing surface. Use the equipment for its intended purposes only. Make sure all bocce and maintenance equipment is locked away when you are finished playing. It is courtesy to give the courts a sweep when you are finished. Don't play of squishy/soggy courts.

To join simply fill out a membership form and send it with payment to Julia Ely (BBC), 322 Bay Rd, Shelburne, VT 05482. Make checks out to Burlington Bocce Club please.

**If you are playing in the doubles league, please use the combined form for the entire team. The team contact person should collect money from team members and send in a single check – to simplify the process.**

### **Doubles League Season (\$20 per player/\$40 max per team)**

Teams of 2-5 players. Teams are submitted to Julia Ely ([julia@burlingtonbocce.com](mailto:julia@burlingtonbocce.com) or mailed to 322 Bay Rd Shelburne, VT 05482) by May 15<sup>nd</sup>. A season calendar is created and teams play on assigned dates, once a week at 6:15pm. Last year we did a T/Th league, a M/W league, and a morning league. You can change players between matches, and you make one player change during a game.

The Burlington Bocce Club also offers several one day Events throughout the summer. There is a separate fee for each event, and some have entry requirements. More details available on the website.

### **Tournaments 2021**

Although there were no tournaments held in 2020 due to the Covid health crisis, 2021 looks brighter. With cautious optimism, we have scheduled all our tournaments for this summer. All events are subject to change as they are dependent on State and City health guidelines. We are anticipating a great summer of bocce and hope to see you at as many events as possible. We try our best to keep updated calendars, rankings, and information on the [BurlingtonBocce.com](http://BurlingtonBocce.com). Two of our courts are wheelchair accessible. Look under tournaments on the website for dates.



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### Basic Play:

Choose a court and place the bocce balls into the color coded racks.

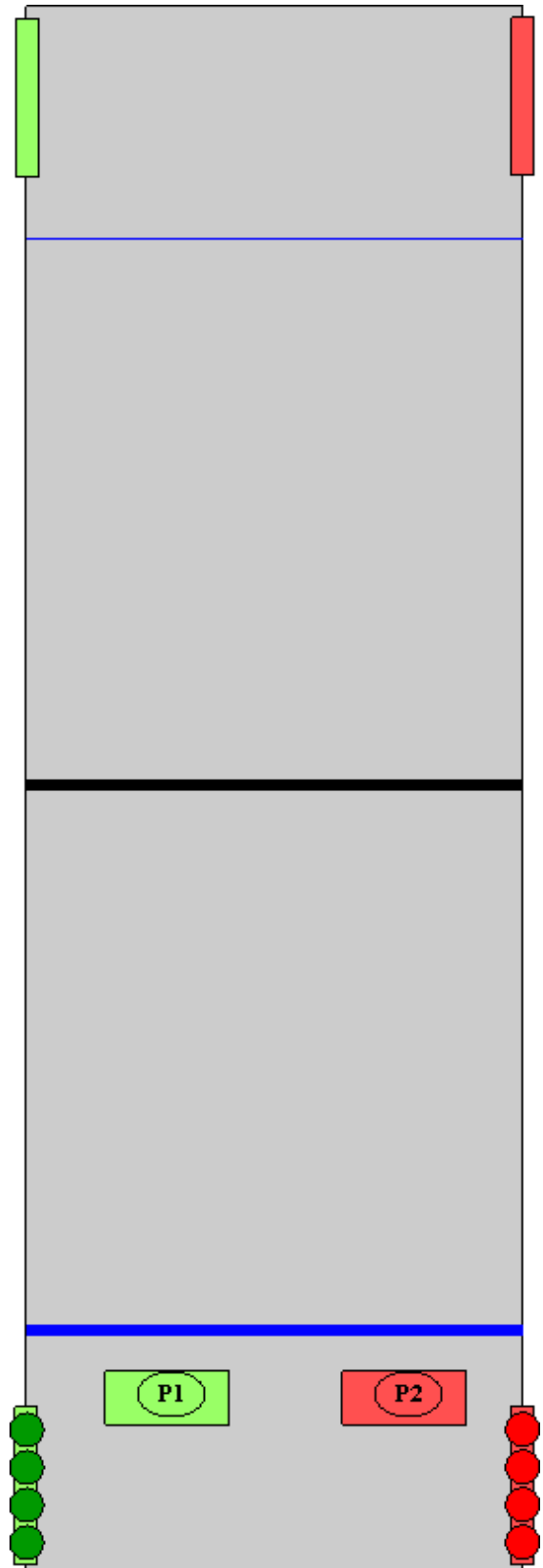
Flip a coin to see who throws the pallino (small white ball). Let's assume Player 1 wins toss.

Player 1 tosses pallino from behind the **throw line (blue line)**. The pallino must go past half court (black line), but not past the blue line on the far side. The white ball is now your target.

**Ball 1:** Player 1 rolls first because they threw the pallino. Player 1 rolls one ball, attempting to get as close as possible to the pallino. It is ok to hit the pallino. If the pallino moves, where ever it stops is the new target. It is ok to use the sides, but if you hit the back wall without hitting another ball first, it is considered a dead ball and is removed from play.

**Ball 2:** Now Player 2 rolls one ball, attempting to get closer than Player 1.

**Ball 3-8:** Depends. If Player 1 is closest, they are considered the "In Ball" and do not roll again until someone beats that throw. Player 2 will continue rolling until they get closer and become the "In Ball," or they run out of balls.





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### Scoring

You can play to any score you like. Club tradition holds that you play to an odd number. 7, 9, and 11 are most common. If you're new, a lower number is best to keep it lively.

In the scenarios below, you can see that only the team closest to the pallino can score. How many points you score is determined by how many of your balls are closer than the other teams' best ball.

If you have one ball closer, you get one point, two balls-two points, three balls is three points, and four balls closer (aka a Casino) is four points.

Club rules states that a ball is worth two points if it is "kissing" the pallino. Kissing means your ball is touching the white ball. To test if it's a kiss, try to slide a \$100 bill between the balls. If it doesn't fit, it's a kiss. Only \$100 bills will work for this.

