Bocce Banter

March/April 2024

President's Message

It's that time again... Many of you have returned or are planning to head back to your northern home for the summer. But there are many Snowbirds who will continue to play Bocce individually or in groups and/or in tournaments.

The 2023-24 Leagues Schedule Sheet will be removed from the message board for the season. Leagues will be scheduled for late October and leaving all courts available for open play during the season. Please, when you are using the courts, reserve your times on the Summer Signup Calendar posted on the pavilion bulletin board.

Beginning November 1, 2024 Bartram Bocce Club will be accepting new or returning members. Please call Jim at 239-940-7773 (but please not until after November 1).

Please take time to read the report of the 2024 annual Bocce Club Annual Meeting and Luncheon, which is in this issue of Bocce Banter.

Thank you from the entire Board for helping to make this year's Bocce Club success.

We look forward to seeing you at the courts next fall!

Dave Williams

Directory

Order in which each link will appear in this Bocce Banter:

- President's Message (see above)
- Directory
- Community Challenge Tournament & Pizza Party Social (see below)
- League Coordinator Annual Meeting/Luncheon
- End of Season Dinner/Dance Social & Pizza
- Reflections - The 2023-24 Season

Reminder: If you are reading this Bocce Banter on your phone, the organization of the material is similar to what your phone in the horizontal position.

Community Challenge Tournament

2024 Community Challenge Championship Team Photo - Left to Right:
Front Row: Ken Ogden, Dave Williams, Tom Dykman, Jim Dillon, Jim Dolan
Back Row: Ken Ogden, Dave Williams, Tom Dykman, Jim Dillon, Jim Dolan

The Community Challenge was held on March 10th, 2024 with a good turnout. Although the weather was cool and rainy (but! the pavilion was warm) we had a team led by Bocce President, Dave Williams, with Jim Dillon, Jim Dolan, Ken Ogden and Tom Dykman, Ginny Gaudio and Kanisty Smith rounding out the team. Ken Ogden and Dave Williams had the second place winners with a team from Sandpiper captained by Janet Hamilton with Jack Hamilton, Jim Hamilton and Steve Johnson rounding out the team called the "Sandpiper Sandwiches".

The play was competitive and the competition means longer match play and more time needed to finish the final round of play. The final match between the Bartram Bocce Club team and Sandpiper had to allow at the last minute players to enjoy their Pizza Social goodies. After pizza, the final match was completed and the Community Challenge and the Pizza Social concluded as the 2024 Community Challenge Champions.

Thanks to Jim Dillon and Tom Dykman for taking on the challenge of organizing the Community Challenge. Jim Dillon, Jim Dolan and Tom Dykman are "shout out" to Sheila for, as she put it, "herding cats" to get the Pizza Social and her tournament organized. Thanks to all who helped June and Sheila get this Challenge Tournament and Pizza Social organized. Thanks to Ginny Gaudio who was awarded with the raffle prize and teacher of the month. And of course, thanks to those who volunteered — Jim Dillon, Cindy Dillon, Jim Dolan, Ken Ogden, Tom Dykman, Sheila Dykman, June Gouveiano, and Dave Williams.

To view more Community Challenge pictures click on the link below:

2024 Community Challenge Tournament

Pizza Party Social

After Tournament Social

The Pizza Party was a wonderful conclusion to the Community Challenge Tournament. Those in attendance enjoyed the pizza, salad, and the fixings for cupcakes for dessert. Thanks to Janet Pytlarz, who organized this social event, and to all those who assisted the day of the event. A good time was enjoyed by all!

League Coordinators

Annual Meeting & Luncheon

The Annual League Coordinators' Meeting & Luncheon was held on Wednesday on April 1. At the completion of the meeting, Coordinators were asked to write down what they felt was the important role they play as the link between the Board and the League members.

President Dave Williams called the meeting to order and asked the League Coordinators for their responses. The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

Membership Report was given by Ken Dykman:

- 127 present members
- It is advisable that "bundled" couples should be treated as one person in the bowlers.
- When needing a team to play on or when a bowler needed more players to fill roster, then that person or that "bundled" couple should be asked first. This would be important for those who reached out for his assistance.

Treasurer Report was given by Dave Kozlowski:

- The number of members using Venmo for their membership and event registration is down (a good thing).
- Current checkbook balance is in very good shape.
- Money is allocated for new fees, a sink and pathway lighting.

Tournament Report was given by Dave Williams:

- There is currently no tournament scheduled for the 2024-25 season. We plan to further discuss what we want to do. Volunteers are asked to contact Dave if they are interested.
- The question of, "How to increase participation in tournaments" was discussed and Bocce Coordinators were asked to promote club events with their league members.
- "Should a different team format be used for the tournament?" Suggestions were made for the Tournament Coordinator's to ponder and let the Board know if they have a suggestion.
- The Battle of the Sexes proved to be successful and a change in the format for the Battle of the Sexes" Tournaments were positively received.

Social Report was given by Carol Kozlowski:

- All Social Events were well received. Thanks to Carol, Janet, Sheila, Ginny, Tom Dykman, Jim Dillon, Cindy Dillon, Chelsea, and the March Tournament Team for the fun social events this season. The Cold Beer Social on Friday will be a standard $5 per person for each event to encourage participation and allow the event coordinator to purchase the appropriate food in the amount of people attending.
- The Winter Social Dinner & Dance Social usually held in January will be postponed due to venue cost issues to a date in February. Dates are set for April date of Saturday as it is far more reasonable cost. The event is scheduled for Saturday, April 20th. Save the date! Sign up for season ticket.

Communication Report was given by Jim Cellarosi:

- It is planned for club information to be sent out by Constant Contact. Please allow to further improve what the Bocce Club offers to those living in the Bonita Bay Community.

Facilities Report was given by Dave Williams:

- Courts are in good shape. A big thank you to Bob Neiberry who has done a lot of the work maintaining the courts.
- BOCA has allowed parking on the streets during events.
- Restructuring of the parking lot and pathway lighting is underway between the bocce courts and the water later this spring.
- Plan is to have a sink installed near the fountain. BBCA is waiting until current projects are completed.

Board Membership Nominations

- There were no nominations for the Board.
- Current Board members were approved unanimously.

Other Business

- *Sign Up Procedures for Courts:* Dave Williams reviewed court sign up procedures.
- *Scheduled Monthly Bocce Rules:* A Coordinator informed the Board that the Bocce Rules posted on the website are rules for those who are the game and that the link on the website was not working. The Coordinator stated that the rules for those who are scheduled are also posted on the Bocce Pavilion bulletin board. Those who are scheduled are asked to read the rules. The link would be looked into to check the website.
- *Tournament Referee List:* It was suggested that a list of tournament referees can serve as a referee be made available for use by those who have volunteered to referee a game or a tournament.
- *Jinks to Bocce Sessions:* The 3-Jinks to Bocce sessions this season were very beneficial in bringing many new members into the game. The 3-Jinks to Bocce sessions will be offered as follows dates place and these workshops have been incorporated into the beginning membership levels as well as adding a new member.

Leagues/competitions: Dillon, Kinz, Dan Rohers, Bihlar Rohers, Bocce Belles, Men's Bocce, Candlewood Women, Court Jesters, Crossing Quartets, DeBocciety, Dee Dee's Bocce Bombs, Dykman Dillon Pedigo Jillions, Immortals, Lake Bloomers, Low Rollers, Men's Open, Mixed Doubles, Mixed Triples, Mixed Bocce, Remarkables, Sandpiper Bocce, River Rollers, Rick n Rollers, Sotto Bocce, Sunset Bocce, Tuesday Women's Bocce, Twice Nice, Zimmers.

The meeting was called to a close and all those present were treated to their well deserved delicious luncheon buffet.

2024 End of Season Dinner & Dance Social

Our Bocce Club's first End of Season Social Event made its debut the evening of April 20th at the Pavilion overlooking the lake. The venue was perfect for a beautiful Spring evening that brought the "Bocce Balls" out to play with their friends/couples. There were attendees who were able to enjoy cocktails and appetizers while watching the sunset. The buffet dinner was delicious with serving dishing out entrees of herb salmon, chicken Marsala, Caesar salad, pasta and steaming vegetables the evening with DJ John Nobilos, providing great music to dance the night away — and dance they did. Nearly 80 members attended, having a great time with their friends, bocce buddies, bocce friends, Bocce Belles to Court Pytlarz and Joe Cellarosi in planning and working with DeBocciety on this event.

To view more pictures of the Dinner & Dance Click the link below:

2024 End of the Season Dinner & Dance

Reflections

The 2023-24 Season

The 2023/24 Season has drawn to a close. Our membership increased as the Season commenced with the Battle of the Sexes on November, January Battle of the Sexes with the Pollock afternoon, February's Battle of the Sexes followed by the Rose & Chorse Social, March Community Challenge Tournament that ended in June with the Pizza Social and the season ending Dinner & Dance Social — a great way to end the season. Thanks to all who participated in the Bocce Leagues and League play was enjoyed by all.

Sgt. Pepper's Bocce Band was the most fun of the year. And, to all our members, take a bow for your participation in our Bocce Band. We had a great rehearsal but we will once again come together to make and enjoy our music. Please, let Jim Dillon and I know if you would like to participate and/or to enjoy the Bocce Club experience.

Dave Williams

The mission of Bonita Bay Bocce is to promote the joy of bocce through friendly competition and cooperation in a safe and secure environment.

Play Bocce!

See You At the Courts!

bonitabocce.weebly.com

See You All Next Season !