



Bocce Banter

January 2021



President's Message



Greetings,

Happy New Year! All of us have been looking forward to ushering 2020 out and looking forward to a better 2021.

This will be my last message to you as President of the Bocce Club. Due to my health, I have not been physically able to be in Bonita Bay this season. It has always been my conviction that one needs be present if one is to effectively lead. For this reason I submitted my resignation to the Bocce Board at the January 13 board meeting. I have enjoyed serving on the board over the years and, as per the bylaws, I will now serve in an ex officio capacity.

Due to COVID-19 controlling gatherings we were not able to hold the annual meeting in 2020 to elect new board members. I want to take this opportunity to thank each of the current Board members for their continued dedication, with some members staying beyond their term, so our

Club could try to provide an on-going format during these difficult times.

I am pleased to announce that the Board elected Dave Williams to finish my term as President. Dave has been an active member of the Bocce Board as the Facilities Director and now will also continue as President. Bob Switzer continues to serve as our IT person to insure the Wild Apricot program for our website is functioning. Dave Kozlowski serves as the Treasurer and now, since the resignation of Membership Director Norman Manchevsky (who had to return to Canada), Dave K. has also taken over Norm's duties as the Membership Director. Mary Calabrese continues as the Social Director, Tom Covelli as the Tournament Director, Ken Zegel as the Communication Director and Carol Pytlarz as the Club Secretary.

I leave with great appreciation for your support and for the opportunity given me to serve you on the Bocce Board.

I plan to see you all at the courts next season.

Diane

Three Bocce Club members are candidates in the upcoming BBCA Board of Directors Election: Joe Calabrese, Hank Gempeler and Susan Hager.

Joe and Hank are past presidents of the Bonita Bay Bocce Club and have worked diligently for many years to upgrade our court facilities, and most recently, supported building the new restroom next to the bocce pavilion. Susan Hager is also an active Bocce Club member whose efforts were instrumental in the recent nourishing of sand at our Beach Park.

Voting in the BBCA Board Elections will begin January 29. Look for the notice in your mailbox.

<<<<<<<<<<BOCCE>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

Women's Tournament

Wednesday February 10, 2021

Register Now !!!

Ways You Can Register:

- Click on the **Green Button** below, at the end of this article, and register right now. (or)
- Use the registration e-mail notice that was automatically sent to you. (or)
- Go to Bocce Club website and click on Events. (BonitaBayBocce.Com)

Tournament Format

1. Each player will sign up as an individual using the Bocce Club website.
2. A team of two (2) players will be paired up by a random drawing upon completion of registration.
3. A random draw will be used to determine match schedule/bracket placement.
4. A single elimination bracket system will be used to determine winning team.
5. Maximum number of participants will be 24 players. Minimum number of participants is 16. **Note:** If fewer register, the Tournament Director will determine if the event will take place.
6. Event will be held on Wednesday, February 10. If the weather doesn't

cooperate, **Thursday February 11 is the back up date.**

7. Starting time schedules will be announced after random bracket drawing has been completed.
8. Registration may be done as follows:
9. **Last date to register is February 3.**
10. If you have Tournament questions, contact Tom Covelli at the following address (tomcovelli2015@gmail.com).

Tournament Safety Regulations

1. Everyone will need to abide by strict and specific safety measures to protect everyone involved. Obviously, the basic safety precautions that we've all been living with will be in place - **social distancing, frequent hand sanitizing, and the wearing of face masks required at all times.** Hopefully the restroom will be completed by February and will also be helpful.
2. Bocce equipment will need to be sanitized before each match. Sanitizer will be available for that purpose.
3. The single elimination format will minimize the number of participants that will need to stay at the courts awaiting results of other matches. This

will allow us to post a match schedule with exact times so everyone will know when to be at the courts.

4. Participants in the tournament may be asked to referee matches before or after they are scheduled to play. This will eliminate the need to have additional people at the courts solely to referee. Unfortunately this will make some of our best refs unavailable, but we should still be able to resolve any close calls without issue.

To Register Now!

Click on the **Green Button** below!

Registration Closes February 3rd

[Women's Tournament Click Here To
Register](#)

Women's 2020 Tournament Champions



June Cousineau





Gloria Johnson

Women's 2020 Tournament Runner-Ups



Mary Mach

REGISTER NOW !!!

Registration Closes February 10

Ways You Can Register

- Click on the **Red Button** below, at the very end of this article, and register right now. (or)
- Use the registration e-mail notice that was automatically sent to you. (or)
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Tournament Format

1. Each player will sign up as an individual using the Bocce Club website or methods described above.
2. A random draw will be used to determine match schedule and bracket placement. A single elimination bracket system will be used to determine the winner.

3. Maximum number of participants will be 28 players. Minimum number of participants is 16. If fewer register, the Tournament Director will determine if the event will take place.
4. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled match time.
5. Event will be held on Wednesday, February 17. If the weather doesn't cooperate, then Thursday, February 18 is the back up date.
6. Starting time schedules will be announced after random bracket drawing has been completed.
7. **Last date to register is February 10.**
8. If you have questions regarding the tournament, contact Tom Covelli at
[\(tomcovelli2015@gmail.com\)](mailto:tomcovelli2015@gmail.com)

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To Register Now!

Click on the **Red Button** below!

Registration Closes February 10

Men's Tournament
Register Here

Men's 2020 Champion Finalists



2020 Champion

Tom Covelli



2020 Runner-Up

Neil Albert

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Membership Information

Here's a final reminder to all members who have not paid their dues for the 2020-2021 or have not notified our Membership Director that they have chosen to suspend their membership for this season. As of February 1, 2021 any member who has not paid dues or notified Dave Kozlowski they have suspended membership will be dropped from the Bocce Club rolls.

If you are planning to participate in the Bocce Club in the 2021-2022 season but, due to the virus have chosen not to play this season, then suspending (opting-out) your membership will be beneficial for the following reasons:

- You will continue to receive all club e-mail newsletters and notices.
- You will retain your Club membership and receive the easy to complete on-line membership renewal notice next November. You will not have to go through the process of re-joining the Club as a non-member.
- There is no charge for dues if you choose to take this option and do not participate in league play or any scheduled events.
- If later in the season you feel comfortable and choose to begin playing again, then you pay your dues (\$10) and join the fun.

To suspend your membership send an e-mail to Dave Kozlowski, Membership Director (dkoz@comcast.net), stating your name, or names if a couple, and write that you are choosing to suspend/opt-out for this season.

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BOCCE BITS & REMEMBRANCES

We're inviting our members to provide us with any bocce member or league information that you'd like to share here in the Banter.

- Did something special happen in your league you want to share?
- Did you or a member in your league have a special occasion or event? Birthday? Anniversary? Etc.
- We make many friends in our leagues, club events, and open play during our bocce experience and upon returning to Bonita every season we sadly find that some are no longer with us. It might be

nice to let us know so we can respectively pass it along.

- Do you have a picture (or two) taken during a league or bocce event you'd like to share here?
- Please keep what you send concise. Just a quick blurb.

If you have something from the above list you'd like to share here, send it to Ken Zegel (Jaz61550@aol.com) by the 15th of the month for it to be included in that month's Banter.

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Court Safety Regulations

Cliff Notes Version

- Wear masks when in the court or pavilion area.

- Maintain social distancing in all areas of the courts and pavilion when others are present.
- Disinfect all balls and other bocce equipment before use. Disinfectant is supplied in cabinet.
- Disinfect hands prior to and after play.
- Four (4) players to a court highly recommended.
- Appoint one player on each court to be the scorekeeper.
- When returning from travel out of state/area wait 10 days before participating.
- If having been exposed to someone with the Covid, do not come to the courts for at least 14 days after exposure.
- Stay at one end of the court --- do not switch ends during play.
- If not feeling well do not come to the courts.
- Guests and others not playing are not to be standing or sitting in the court area.

- Team up with spouse or member of your household if not comfortable being in same area as a non-household member.
- If you contract the Covid after playing notify the BBCA office at 239-495-8111 and your league coordinator.

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Walkway Safety Reminder

For your safety, the BBCA has closed the direct pathway along the east side of the pickleball courts because of ongoing construction work.

In recent days this has become an issue as people have continued to use this CLOSED pathway. This pathway is clearly marked with Path Closed signs and barricades.

**DO NOT USE THE CLOSED PATH
UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES**

Please use the paved pathway located further west between the pickleball restroom and the pickleball courts. Or use the park entrance east of the bocce courts. Both are safe and only a short distance more to walk.

Think Ahead, Stay Safe, and
Do The Right Thing !!



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Remembering



Members of our Bocce family who have passed since last season and will be fondly remembered. May they Rest in Peace.

Bob Faherty

88, A member of the New Gang league, Men's Open, as well as being involved in many other Bocce events and activities.

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Bob Zane

81, A member of the New Gang League as well as taking part in the many other Bocce events and activities.

.....

Jim Baird

90, A member of the Misfits and Crossing Guards leagues as well as participating in many of the other Bocce events and activities.

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Restroom Update



The apron around the restroom has now been completed. Final touches on the roof are also done.



Construction on the long awaited restroom project is now finished. Some landscaping is being done and then the last step, a final inspection, will have it ready to go.

And, before moving on, a big "THANK YOU" to the BBCA and to all those who supported and worked on making this restroom a wonderful addition to the Riverwalk Park Pavilion Complex.

Note: Due to the Women's (February 10th) and the Men's (February 17th) Tournaments, the Women's Open play will only be held on Thursday those two (2) weeks.



Women's Open Play every Wednesday and Thursday morning.

Come Join Us !!!

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Men's Open Play

The Men's Open play bocce is every Friday from 1 PM to 3 PM. All Bocce Club men are welcome join us in a few friendly games, to pick up some playing tips, and to meet new friends. No commitment --- just come to the courts. The coordinator for the Men's Open is Dave Williams.