

How to Play Bocce

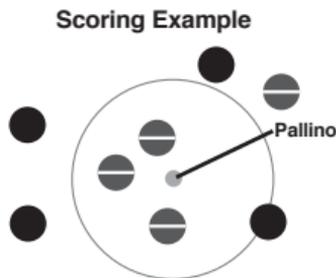
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The game of Bocce (from the Italian word *boccia*, meaning "bowl") grew out of games played in ancient Rome. It's a game of skill, strategy, and luck that is enjoyed in countries all around the world.

The rules of Bocce are simple:

1. Players divide into even sized teams - two players play head-to-head or players divide into 2 teams, red or blue. The 8 large bocce balls in the set are divided evenly between teams with each team making note of the particular colors of their balls. This becomes important during play.
2. To begin a frame, a player is chosen at random to toss the target ball - called the pallino - onto the playing field. That same player then tosses the first bocce ball, using an underhand motion like the one used in bowling, and tries to get their ball as close as possible to the pallino.
3. The opposing player or team then tosses their first bocce ball, using an underhand motion, and tries to get their ball closest to the pallino.
4. At this point, the player or team whose ball is currently closest to the pallino is considered "inside" and the other team is considered "outside." Outside players throw their bocce balls until one of them takes over the inside position. Players may do this by knocking the pallino to a new location, by knocking their opponent's ball away from the pallino, or simply by tossing their ball closer to the pallino.
5. The game continues with outside players throwing their balls until they either take over the inside position or run out of balls. When outside players have tossed all their balls, inside players may toss any remaining balls they have to end the frame.
6. **Scoring** (see image) - When all balls are tossed points are awarded. Only players who have the inside - ball(s) closest to the pallino - may score in any frame. Inside players receive one point for every ball of theirs that is closer to the pallino than their competitor's closest ball. The game continues until one player or team of players scores either 7 or 13 points - depending on the score agreed upon before play begins.



Striped team gets 3 points

Buona fortuna!