

From the Board

Thank you to everyone who attended our annual assembly and to all those who voted in the board election. We had a tremendous turnout and David Christopher and Cathy Drobny were elected as Contributing Organizational Directors. We would like to thank Chris Rodgers and Charles Scott for running for the board.

We are working through the great feedback we got at the annual assembly and we look forward to another fantastic year of Boccia!

Membership Fee

The 2025 membership is now open. Please click <u>here</u> (Note: Due to increased costs the Board has approved a \$75 fee for a full membership.)



USA Boccia salutes the life of our Boccia athlete, Scott Richards. He was a member of the great St. Louis team, The Cluster Busters. He went through classification in 2015 and ultimately competed in the BC5 division.

Michael 'Scott' Richards was born on June 20, 1970 and passed on November 3rd, 2024. His graveside service was held on Nov. 23rd with full military honors.

To read more about Scott's life:

https://minterfuneralchapels.com/obituaries/michael-scott-richards/1437/

Scott, you are missed!

Boccia Blast 2025!

When: June 11-15, 2025

Where: Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

(Just 15 minutes from Toronto Pearson International Airport)

Key Dates:

- Registration Opens: April 10, 2025 - Tournament Date: June 11-15, 2025

Contact us at: bocciablast@gmail.com Website: www.bocciablast.com

High-Performance

Birmingham, Alabama - Lakeshore National Adapted Sports Organization (LNASO) is pleased to announce the athletes who will represent Boccia United States on the 2025 National Teams. Athletes were selected after a two-day selection camp held at Lakeshore Foundation November 22-23, 2024.

Boccia United States Team A:

- Kalvin Blauert
- Tony Blauert (Ramp Operator)
- Cassie Mitchell
- Nick Taylor

Boccia United States Team B:

- Daniel Castillo
- Natalie Chastain
- Becky Prince (Ramp Operator)
- Angelina Randez (Ramp Operator)
- Henry Sawyer

Athletes represent states from across the country, as well as a growing national interest in the sport that has historically seen more popularity in international communities.

"I'd like to congratulate all of the athletes who not only were named to the 2025 teams but also those who attended the selection camp," said High Performance Consultant Kathy Brinker. "Each year, we see a growing number of athletes continuing to improve their game and vie for spots on the National team. The 2025 teams represent some of the top talent in the U.S. today and I am excited to watch them grow and compete this year as we continue to look toward LA 2028."

Next up for the 2025 squad is a training camp in March at the US Olympic and Paralympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado. You can learn more about Boccia United States at www.lakeshore.org/boccia.

Lakeshore Foundation, a noted U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Training Site, has hosted numerous international competitions and training camps since its designation in 2003 and **will host the 2025 Boccia Nationals.** Lakeshore is also the home of LNASO, which serves as the national governing body for USA Wheelchair Rugby and Boccia United States.



Save the Date: USA Boccia Nationals 2025: July 30th through August 3rd Come compete where Team USA trains. Lakeshore Paralympic Training Center Birmingham, Alabama. Registration opens April 2025

Potential Timers needed for LA 2028

Want to learn the system that will be used for timing in LA 2028 and have the credentials to apply for timing at the LA games. Please fill out a <u>RESUME</u> to receive training. While at this time we are not responsible for securing timers for the 2028 Games, we do want to offer you this opportunity to become well skilled in timing when the opportunity arises in the future.

Want to improve your team/pair play?

We have heard from athletes that they want to improve their tactical play in team and pair competition. We are looking to potentially have a team and pair only competition in mid-June prior to USA Boccia Nationals. If you are potentially interested in this type of competition, please complete this short survey https://forms.gle/X49CBcihgfLvY6GZ7 This is not a commitment but rather a survey to explore interest. Questions, please contact Kathy Brinker at kathyb@bocciaunitedstates.org

Hosting a Regional Tournament

The Regional Committee has created three levels of local tournaments. If you are interested in hosting an event please visit our website or click here.

Calendar

2025	
To be rescheduled	Tampa, FL Regional
March 28 th -30 th	Long Beach, CA Regional
May 3 rd -5 th	Blue Valley Regional, KS
June 11 th -15 th	Boccia Blast, Canada
July 30 th - August 3 rd	USA Boccia Nationals
	Birmingham, AL
September. Tba	San Antonio, TX Regional

About USA Boccia

USA Boccia is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, with headquarters in Bay Shore, New York, whose mission is to provide an inclusive opportunity for all persons, especially those with physical disabilities the opportunity to play, learn, and compete in the sport of Boccia on the local, regional, national and international level. USA Boccia is the National Organization for the sport of Boccia. For more information about USA Boccia, visit us at:

WWW.USABOCCIA.ORG

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