



USA Boccia

Newsletter



Issue: November 2025



Letter from the President

Cathy Drobny

Dear Boccia Family,

As the leaves turn and cooler weather rolls in, we are rolling right into the end of the 2025 boccia season with pride and accomplishment. This year, USA Boccia celebrated a decade of growth and innovation, and unbreakable spirit in this Paralympic sport. Whether you're an athlete, coach, volunteer, or fan, thank you for being part of our family and for making this possible. This edition highlights USA Boccia Holiday Ornament, Coaches Clinic, the beginning of the 2026 tournament calendar and more.



Coaches Clinic

USA Boccia is proud to host a Level 1 Coaches' Clinic! Are you passionate about coaching Boccia and eager to take your skills to the next level? Don't miss this opportunity to learn from an experienced Coach, network with fellow coaches, and gain valuable insights into the latest coaching strategies and techniques.

Course Details

Prior to the full day workshop, you will take 2 online modules

Then attend a full day in- person course:

- Interactive Workshop and Training Session
- Instructor: Kathy Brinker; High-Performance Consultant and coach for Boccia United States, Member of the Coaching and Development Committee for World Boccia
- Hands-On Drills and Demonstrations
- Q&A Sessions
- Networking Opportunities
- You will receive jigs, video support, PDFs and other environmental supports to immediately take back and use in your local program

Who Should Attend?

This Boccia clinic is designed for boccia coaches of all levels. Whether you're just starting your coaching journey or looking to refine your approach, there's something for everyone!

- Date: January 23, 2026
- Time: 9:00 am-5:00 pm
- Location: Wesley Chapel Recreation Complex. Held in conjunction with the Tampa USA Boccia PVA Regional Boccia Tournament, Wesley Chapel, Florida

How to Register

Plan to participate now. **Contact** cathy.drobny@gmail.com for more information.

Registration will be open soon on usaboccia.org

Attendance is limited to **10 participants**. Price is \$150

Don't miss out on this invaluable learning experience!!!



Member Resources

Challenged Athletes Foundation: Grants are now open - Deadline is November 14th, 2025, <https://www.challengedathletes.org/grants/>

- **Sport Expense and Participation Grant** with maximum award: \$1,500. May be used for: Travel to competition (flights, lodging, meals), event entry fees, coaching and training expenses.
- **Adaptive Sports Equipment Grant** with maximum award of \$3,500 every 5 years. **Maximum award:** \$3,500 Designed for athletes who need equipment that's not available through CAF's preferred vendors. (boccia balls and ramps have been approved in the past).



Program Highlight: Equipment Loan Bank Expansion

Great news for emerging players! USA Boccia has replenished its Loan Bank program. We have also added ramps and pointers to the equipment inventory list. First priority is for SCI and veteran athletes, but all current USA Boccia members are eligible to participate. The loan bank program's purpose is to provide a "bridge" for our athletes from the time they want to start playing Boccia until the time they can acquire their own equipment. This information can be found on the USA Boccia home page. Click here for more information: [Equipment Loan Bank Program - USA Boccia](#)

A grant from the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation has made this possible—shoutout to them!



Membership Update: Aligned for Success

USA Boccia has streamlined its membership year to sync with our tournament calendar. The membership year will run from September 1 to August 31st

This change accommodates the heightened energy around our fall tournaments and early 2026 competitions. **Join or renew today** to stay eligible for events, access resources, and connect with our network. Visit [Club | USA Boccia Membership | Bay Shore, NY](#)

for easy online registration. Your support fuels our mission to provide inclusive opportunities for athletes with physical disabilities at every level.

Here's what it means for you:

- If you **purchased** a membership after **September 1, 2025**, you are good for the whole competition season. Membership year ends **August 31, 2026**.
- If you haven't secured your membership for this tournament season....Join now!



Merchandise Store

Holiday Shopping Made Meaningful. Looking for unique gift ideas this season? Start your holiday shopping at the **USA Boccia Merchandise Store** — where every purchase helps support our mission! A portion of each sale goes directly to USA Boccia programs and athletes.

Shop now: [USA Boccia Merchandise](#)

Special Edition Alert! Celebrate **10 years of USA Boccia** with our **limited-edition holiday ornament** — a perfect keepsake for your tree or a thoughtful gift for any Boccia fan. Crafted with high-quality materials, this ornament is designed to shine for many seasons to come.



Other Ways to shop and support USA Boccia.

iGive.com

iGive is a platform that helps you support your favorite charity with your shopping. You can search for stores that participate in iGive and sort them by category, deals, and coupons.

You shop at your favorite online stores, and iGive works with the retailer to make a donation – on your behalf – to the cause of your choice.

Shop and support USA Boccia through iGive.com, follow these steps:

1. Create a free iGive account.
2. Install the iGive Button browser extension.
3. Generate donations when you shop online by shopping at any of the 2,000+ stores that partner with iGive.
4. Choose USA Boccia as your cause. We are listed as one of their charities.

Use this link to start today: <https://www.igive.com/welcome/lp19/index.cfm?c=23604>

Use this link to find a list of iGive participating stores <https://www.igive.com/html/merchantlist2.cfm>

Shop With eBay Giving Works

Sell your products on eBay while helping USA Boccia. When listing your item, choose the USA Boccia as your charity and the percent of your sale you want to give back – It's that easy. Click here for more information [eBay for Charity](#)



Remember USA Boccia this year on Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday is December 2, 2025. This is our biggest fundraising day of the year, and **USA Boccia needs your support** to make it a success! This global celebration of generosity is your chance to uplift athletes, grow our programs, and champion inclusion through sport.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us in this worldwide movement of giving. Every donation makes a difference — and it's easy to give! Visit our website and donate directly using the link below: [Donate - USA Boccia](#)



Coaching Corner: Strategy Tips from Coach 'Jacky'

Precision Under Pressure

Focus: How to stay calm and accurate during high stakes ends. Tips:

- Practice with a countdown timer to simulate match pressure.
- Use breathing techniques between throws.
- Visualize successful shots before releasing the ball.

Tactical Decision-Making

Focus: Choosing between offensive and defensive plays. Tips:

- Ask: “Do I need to score or protect?”
- Use mock scenarios in practice to rehearse decision-making.
- Review match footage to analyze tactical choices.



Calendar



Note: Stay Informed About Upcoming Competitions. Keep an eye on the Competition Calendar for the latest updates, event details, and registration links. All information will be posted on the main page of the USA Boccia website as it becomes available: <https://www.usaboccia.org>.

2025

November

GUMBO State Boccia Tournament is a Move United Sanctioned Competition

Dates: November 15

Place: LA Gumbo Inc. 2840 Military Hwy, Pineville, LA 71360

Phone: 1-800-259-7200 Fax: 1-318-640-4299

Registration: [State Boccia Athlete Entry/Permission to Participate Form – print/mail/fax to:](#)

Veterans Day - November 11, 2025

With deep gratitude, we honor and thank all USA Boccia members who have proudly served in our nation's armed forces. Your dedication and sacrifice inspire us every day.

2026

January

Coaches' Clinic

Date: January 23

Place: Wesley Chapel Recreation Complex, Wesley Chapel, Florida

Registration: registration link available soon at [usaboccia.org](https://www.usaboccia.org)

PVA/USA Boccia Tampa Regional (Level III)

Dates: Jan. 24-25

Place: Wesley Chapel Recreation Complex, Wesley Chapel, Florida

Registration: <https://event.racereach.com/boccia-tampa26>

March

DASA Mighty Mississippi Match-Up: USA Boccia Regional (Level III)

Date: March 28-29

Place: Lindbergh High School, St. Louis, MO

April

Columbus Parks and Recreation USA Boccia Sanctioned Regional (Level III)

Dates: April 10-12

Place: Columbus, Ohio

SoCal Adaptive Sports USA Boccia Sanctioned Regional (Level II)

Dates: April 11-12

Place: Burbank, CA

May

USA Boccia Blue Valley Regional (Level III)

Dates: May 1-3

Place: Blue Valley North High School, 12200 Lamar Avenue, Overland Park, KS

Boccia Challenger

Dates: June 16-23

Place: Birmingham, Alabama Hosted at Lakeshore Foundation, this international event marks the return of World Boccia to the U.S. for the first time since 2017.

July

The Hartford Nationals, Move United Multi Sport Tournament

Dates: July 13 referee clinic and athlete clinic - July 14 Boccia tournament

Place: Grand Rapids, MI

USA Boccia National Championships

Dates: July 28-Aug 2, 2026

Place: Venue Iowa West Fieldhouse, Council Bluffs, Iowa. Host: Omaha Sports Commission



Request for Proposals

Are you interested in hosting a future USA Boccia National Championships?

The search is on for the 2027 and 2028 Tournaments. For more information and the application form, go to our website (usaboccia.org) under the Tournament tab or use the following link. [Hosting Nationals - USA Boccia](#)



Annual Assembly

Thank You for Joining Us! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended USA Boccia's Annual Assembly on **October 14, 2025**. Your participation helped make the meeting a great success!

If you weren't able to join us, no worries — all relevant links and materials are available on our website under the **Governance tab** at usaboccia.org or click on the below links.

[Annual Assembly VOD 2025](#) – (video recording)

[Annual Assembly Slides 2025](#)

[Annual Assembly Audio Only 2025](#)



Board of Directors for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

We're excited to welcome **Roberta Flanders** as the newest member of the USA Boccia Board of Directors! Roberta's Bio (<https://usaboccia.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/roberta-Flanders-letter-of-application.pdf>)

Alongside Roberta, we proudly introduce the full board serving from **January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026**. Please join us in thanking these dedicated leaders for generously sharing their time, talent, and vision to guide and grow our organization. We also want to especially thank Mary Hodge for her time serving on the board.

David Christopher

Patrick Parkes

Cathy Drobny

Nick Taylor,

Roberta Flanders

Brenda Wiggins

Connor Mealey

Benji Wolken

Michelle Miranda



Let's Play Boccia!

The USA Boccia Family

usaboccia.org | [@usaboccia](https://twitter.com/usaboccia) | [#PlayBoccia](https://twitter.com/PlayBoccia)

P.S. Forward this to a friend—help us grow the Boccia family!

Thank you to our Partners!



Contact Us

USA Boccia

1398 Penataquit Avenue, Bay Shore, NY 11076

Phone: 631-338-6164

Email: usaboccia@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.usaboccia.org>

Connect with Us



To Join click here: [Become a Member - USA Boccia](#)

Founded in 2015, USA Boccia's mission is to provide athletes with physical disabilities with the opportunity to compete and excel in the sport of boccia on local, regional, national and international completion levels. Our goal is to increase participation of athletes, awareness, education, involvement, and competition in the adaptive sport of boccia. USA Boccia's objective is to bolster existing boccia programs, expand developing programs and develop new programs in cities where we have identified a leader. We do this by conducting outreach, clinics, and competitions, providing referee training, and providing equipment from a managed loan bank program.