**Greenwood Parks and Recreation Bocce Social League Rules**

**Introduction:**

Welcome to the Greenwood Parks and Recreation Bocce Ball Social League. The information and rules below are specific to Greenwood’s league, and it is the responsibility of all team captains to be familiar with and abide by these rules. Also all city park rules must be followed including no smoking or consumption of alcohol on city property.

During game play, it is ultimately the responsibility of the team captains to apply the proper rules to determine a ruling (as there are no officials for matches). Should a ruling present itself that is not covered in the rules below, it is expected that the team captains or their designees will resolve the situation in the fairest way possible, while remembering the primary purpose of the league is to provide recreational competition in a social atmosphere for residents of Greenwood and their guests.

**Official Bocce Ball**:

* Greenwood Parks and Recreation will provide the game balls. We will use the Baden Championship Series Bocce Ball Set.

**Roster:**

* Teams must consist of at least 2 and max of 4 players per evening and may have up to 8 players on the roster. During the regular season our goal is just to give participants the opportunity to play. If needed during the regular season, it’s okay to pick-up players from other teams during the regular season only. The night of the blind draw tournament teams must play with 4 players from their roster.

**Game Play:**

* Each team will play two games per evening. Games will be played to 11 points or 25 minutes whichever happens first. The match will begin with the flip of a coin between one member from each team. The winner of the coin flip has the first toss of the pallino and the other team chooses the color of the team’s balls. If time expires during play, teams will finish out current throws. Regular season standings won’t be kept. August 17th, we will do a blind draw single elimination to end the season. After, let’s all meet up at Smocktown Brewery to celebrate the season. Smocktown is located on Main Street just outside Old City Park to the North. Blind Draw tournament games will be played to 11 win by 1 with no time limit.

**Throwing of the Pallino (white ball):**

* The pallino is the first ball put into play and is thrown underhand from behind the pointing foul line. (Marked area on sideboard) The pallino may be bounced off the sideboards.
* The pallino must end up across the center line and at least 12 inches away from the sideboards or backboard without hitting the backboard. If a thrower fails to do this, the throw goes to the other team. If the second throw fails to place the pallino into play, the pallino is place approximately in the center of the hitting foul line (marked on sideboards) at the end of the court in order to speed up play.
* If a player throws pallino and/or first ball when other team should throw the pallino, the balls are returned and the frame starts over.
* Once pallino is in play, the pallino can be knocked anywhere on the court except back over the center line or out of the court. (Frame ends, play resumes at opposite end and same team throws the pallino).

**Bocce Ball Throws:**

* The initial pallino thrower always throws the first bocce ball. All balls are thrown underhand. If the first ball hits the backboard without hitting the pallino first, the ball is removed and the team throws again until they have a ball in play.
* All bocce balls are thrown from behind the pointing foul line (marks on sideboards). Any ball released behind the pointing foul line is considered a throw for points. We will not use the spocking line this session.
* Each succeeding ball is thrown by the team that does not have the ball closest to the pallino. A team whose ball ties the opponent’s closest ball must throw again. The “IN” team only throws if opponents have thrown all 4 balls. Team members can throw in any order.
* Balls may be bounced off or played against sideboards.
* A ball hitting the backboard without first touching the pallino or another bocce ball is a dead ball and removed from play.
* If a player throws a wrong color ball, it is replaced with a correct color ball after the ball comes to rest.
* If a player throws when the other team should throw or throws more than 2 balls, that ball is removed from play.
* If a team’s legally thrown ball is interfered with while moving by someone or something not on the playing surface before the throw, the ball is to be thrown again. If possible, any balls moved by the throw are reset to their approximate original position. If balls are sufficiently moved that the approximate original positions cannot be determined, the frame is replayed. However, if the interference is caused by a team member, the ball is removed from the play.
* If a team’s legally thrown ball is moved from its resting position (accidently or intentionally) by a team member, that ball is removed from play.
* If a ball or pallino is accidently moved while measuring, it is replaced to the approximate spot that it was at.
* A bocce ball, for whatever reason, that goes out of the court is a dead ball and is removed from play for that frame.
* Volo shooting (lofting the ball in the air beyond the center line of the court) is not permitted.

**Scoring:**

* The official score for frame is determined after all 8 balls have been played and measured. One point is awarded for each ball of a team that is closer to the pallino than the opponent’s closest ball (1 to 4 points can be scored each frame)
* The team that scores in the last frame throws the pallino in the next frame and play continues as above.
* If each team’s closest balls are tied (measurements are taken from the center of the pallino to the outside of the colored ball), no score is made and play continues at the opposite end with the team scoring the point(s) in the previous frame delivering the pallino
* The team that scores 11 points or is leading when the 25 minute time frame expires wins the game.

**Other Information:**

* Please download the Greenwood Parks and Recreation Application for schedules and rain-out information.
* The recreation associate on site is there to keep the official time clock and to write down scores, any ruling questions, and measuring should be decided by the designated team captains.
* Please share any league feedback with Nick Schwab at [schwabn@greenwood.in.gov](mailto:schwabn@greenwood.in.gov)