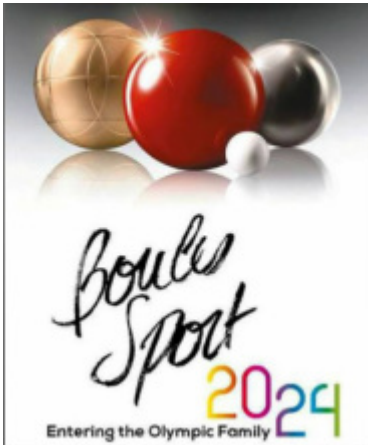




# BOCCE TIPS Volume 7

By Sal Caravello

**New Training Starts:** New Comers Training starts on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, and November 16<sup>th</sup>, these are three day sessions for new residence, if any members are interested in participating please come join us, it fun and enjoyable, I promise.....



## Question from Volume 7: *Is it legal to cross the center line?*

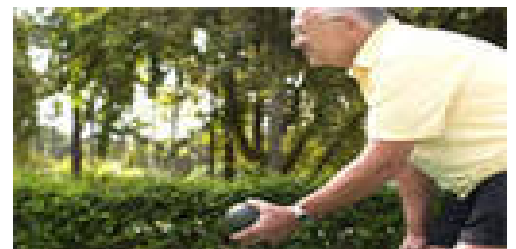
YES. There are two main reasons to cross and they both require the same first step, ask the captain of the opposing team for permission. If you are on a four player team, with two of your teammates playing from the opposite end of the court, it is common to meet at the center line to discuss strategy. **What if you would like to take a closer look at the way the balls and pallino are situated?** Always ask the captain. Although it is a rule that you must get the opposing captains permission to cross over the line, it is almost seems like no more than a courtesy to ask permission.

**A Historical Look:** In 1576, the Republic of Venice publicly condemned the sport, punishing those who played with fines and imprisonment. Perhaps most grave was the condemnation by the Catholic Church which deterred the laity and officially probated clergyman from playing the game by proclaiming Bocce as a means of gambling. Contrary to the rest of Europe, the great game of balls thrived in Great Britain. Such nobility as Queen Elizabeth I and Sir Francis Drake were avid fans. According to legend, Sir Frances Drake refused to set out to defend England against the Spanish Armada until he finished a game. He proclaimed, "First we finish the game, then we'll deal with the Armada". Bocce frequently lost and gained popularity throughout the ages. It was Giuseppe Garibaldi, who while unifying and nationalizing Italy popularized the sport as it is known today. In 1896 during a resurgence of popularity, the first Bocce Olympiad was held in Athens, Greece. Bocce has been a part of international sports ever since.

Reference source: United States Bocce' Federation

**ReUnion Friday:** There are still other courts available for trained newbie players to continue to get together and play. It is good for newbees to continue to develop their skills and confidence by playing as much as they can. Members should join the newbees and give them the advantage of your knowledge and experience in playing the game of Bocce', you will be pleasantly surprised how much they know. Since I am there I will be available to assist anyone in developing their skills of the game. Remember the newbees are mine for the first year.

**Round Robin International Tournament:** Looks like we now have thirty-eight players to create eight teams that will compete head to head. It is going to be exciting for sure. On that note we need volunteers to keep score and flag. No player is permitted to do either function so we need your help. [93bluetoo@gmail.com](mailto:93bluetoo@gmail.com)



**Question for the next issue:** *Must all balls pass the center line?*