

BOCCE CLUB

SUN CITY TEXAS

BOCCE NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2017

Sherry Nogle, Editor and Don Webb, Assistant Editor

ROUNDUP OF THE LATEST BOCCE CLUB NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT!

Recently, I was asked, “Do you have to join the Bocce Babes?” The answer is, “No.” If you are a member of the Bocce Club, you don’t have to join any activities that are sponsored by the Club. The same goes for any other Club activities. It is up to you to choose what you want to do.

I would like to share a short recap of our recent five-member participation in the 11th Annual Yountville Invitational Bocce Tournament held in Yountville, CA. Anne Warnock, Sherry Nogle, Pat Mellinger, Tim Feerer, (myself) Steve Mellinger, and Sherry’s son, Tyson, joined us for a Friday night practice and all-day Saturday Tournament, August 12, 2017. Sixteen teams were invited. We played a Round Robin of three games that morning with the top eight teams moving onto the Semifinals. By late afternoon, we played in the Finals. Our team won a spot in the



Final Four. We finished in **FOURTH PLACE!**

The Courts were a new experience for us. We were challenged with a surface of crushed granite with wooden side boards and the courts were 100' long. Just to place the Pallino, you had to throw it over 50' (our courts are only 65' long). Needless to say, we were well past our "comfort zone." This was a great tournament with wine and cheese Friday night, Continental breakfast Saturday morning, BBQ for lunch, with endless wine, beer, and water. All the monies collected from entry fees, raffle tickets, silent auctions went toward supporting Veterans with PTSD. These Vets live at the Pathway House in Yountville.

Because we went this year as a Club, we'll have an automatic invitation for next year's tournament. As a team, we had a great time competing with lots of laughs. I found it very satisfying that our Club could compete so competitively with other teams. We hope you will be interested in this tournament next year (it will be either August 3rd & 4th or August 10th & 11th, 2018) and will want to enter. A firm date will be available in April 2018. This year's team members will be available at our Fall BBQ, October 5th to answer any questions you might have.

I met with Dennis Walter, Chairperson of the Expansions Task force, on August 17, 2017 about the conversion of the two Shuffle Board courts over to Bocce courts. Dennis is projecting this to take place in October or November of this year. This project is in this year's budget (June 2017-June 2018). Pulte allotted \$1 ½ million dollars for expansion in Sun City with about \$390, 000 per year to be spent over four years.

We are very happy to announce that our Bocce Shirts are almost ready for sale. The committee has been working hard getting this task completed. The slogan on our T-Shirts reads, "Let's Play Bocce!" You may order a T-Shirt at any of the Bocce Club Events on August 31, September 2, 4, 9, 14, 16, 19, 23, or October 5. The Sport-TEK Dry Zone T-Shirt is Royal Blue. It is preshrunk. Ladies' shirts have a V-Neck and Men's shirts are crew-necked. The price of the T-Shirt is \$19.00.



TREASURER'S REPORT by Doug Brumm

At the end of July, the Bocce Club had 186 paid members of which 77 are new members. We have an account balance of \$1,491 as of August 8, 2017 which includes some expenses that are still in process.

LEAGUE NEWS FROM JOHN SHIDELER

LADIES LEAGUE PLAY

The final Ladies League of 2017 will start at 8:00 AM on Friday, September 8, 2017. The League is scheduled to play four weeks, September 8, 15, 22 and 29. We will be playing "Sun City" rules and will play 3 untimed games weekly.

This is the last qualifying league play for the Ladies Club Championship Tournament that is scheduled for October. The first 16 ladies to sign up will be eligible to play in this league. To register, please email: John Shideler at shadraski@yahoo.com

ADVANCED LEAGUE PLAY

The Advanced Bocce League # 6 play is scheduled to start on Wednesday, September 20, 2017, at 8:00AM. We will play four weeks, September 20, 27, October 4 and 11. We will be playing "Sun City" rules and will play 3 untimed games weekly.

The individual points of this league will be carried forward and added into the total 2017 player points used to qualify for the Advanced League Club Championship Tournament scheduled for late October.

The first 16 members to sign up will be eligible to play in this league. To register, please email: John Shideler at shadraski@yahoo.com

BOCCE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

There will be two 2017 Bocce Club Championship Tournaments, Advanced and Ladies League, held in late October. The top ten (10) total accumulated scores in League play will automatically qualify players for the Tournaments.

A single elimination qualifying tournament will be held for any club member who did not make the "top 10" accumulated requirements. The top (6) players in this tournament will qualify for the Championship tournament in either Ladies and Advanced categories.

The Club Championships will be a 16 person, double elimination tournament. It will be a two-day event for each league. Specific dates and times will be announced in the October Newsletter.



Steve Mellinger rolled a 5 pointer!

September

2017

BOCCE CLUB EVENTS

FOURTH PLACE WINNERS!



The Sun City Bocce Team in Yountville, CA

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DAILY CLUB PRACTICE: SEPT. 1 – 30; 8:00 – 10:00 AM	Be sure to sign up for league play in advance. Email shadraski@yahoo.com to enroll!	For the Safety of others and yourself, keep bocce balls racked!	Step off the court when not playing. Only one person on the court at a time.	No Foul language. No Glass objects. No Smoking.	1 Bocce Tips for Beginners & New Members 8-9:00 am	2
3	4 Advanced League V 8-10:00 am	5 Ice Cream Bars Social 9 – 11:00 am 	6	7	8 Bocce Tips for Beginners & New Members 8-9:00 am Ladies League III, 8-10:00 AM	9 New Player Bocce League 8-10:00 am on courts 2 & 3
10	11	12 Sign up to attend, "Talk Like a Pirate" TODAY! Email Sherry at nogle@gmail.com	13	14 Bocce Babes Team Jersey Social/Iced Coffee 9-11:00 am	15 Bocce Tips for Beginners & New Members 8-9:00 am Ladies League III, 8-10:00 AM	16 New Player Bocce League 8-10:00 am on courts 2 & 3
17	18	19  " Talk Like a Pirate" Bocce Social, 8-11:00 am	20 Advanced League VI 8-10:00 AM	21	22 Bocce Tips for Beginners & New Members 8-9:00 am Ladies League III, 8-10:00 am	23
24	25	26	27 Advanced League VI 8-10:00 AM	28	29 Bocce Tips for Beginners & New Members 8-9:00 am Ladies League III, 8-10:00 AM	30

New Bocce Club Members Walt & Tricia McCullers

By Janet Platteborze

We welcome our new Bocce Club members Tricia and Walt McCullers who live in “Area 51” also known as Neighborhood 51.



We met Tricia and Walt on a Saturday at our New Member class. They learned quickly and played as if they were old hands at the game. They began to join us for several club functions, and Tricia joined the Bocce Babes Social play.

To get to know them better, we interviewed them and received some interesting answers.

Where are you from?

Walt was born at Travis AFB, CA where his father was in the Army. His dad had run cable/telephone lines solo across enemy lines in WWII for 3 years, and now was working on cabling in airplanes. Tricia was born on the Presidio in San Francisco, CA where her father and 2 uncles were in the Navy for 20 years.

What was your past employment?

Walt was a firefighter/engineer with 33 yrs. service in the Fair Oaks, CA area. He also did many odd jobs including being a caterer, tagging great whites, salvage scuba diving for cars, boats, and guns used in crimes. Walt says, “*Being a firefighter is the best job/career anyone could ever have.*”

Tricia was like a “migrating butterfly” (her words) starting as a file clerk, computer data entry/backup programmer, secretary, vocational counselor for the welfare reform program in Placer County, and a self-contracted real estate agent for 15 years with a real estate developer.

About 8 years ago, while Tricia was working as the Director of Marketing and Sales for an Independent/Assisted Living Community in Granite Bay, CA, she met Walt, who was there to

find a place for his aging father. Walt had lost his wife of 31 years to cancer about 2 years earlier, and had struggled with his loss, until he met Tricia, and the rest is history.

Do you have children?

Walt and Tricia each have 2 adult children, with 7 grandchildren between them. *“We are grateful for our loving children that are all doing fantastic. We are proud of the terrific parents they have become.”* The grandchildren range from one just starting college on a full scholarship; one still in HS expecting a full scholarship in Engineering, and a freshman that wants to be a Marine Biologist; to four wee ones including one starting kindergarten to one not yet ready for school. *“While merging families was not easy at the beginning, we are now very close and our new family tree is benevolent; and we know that Walt’s first wife is looking down on all of us and smiling.”* All but two grandchildren are in California, and Walt and Tricia are hoping to have them all relocate to Texas in the future, and feel it all looks promising.

Why Bocce?

“BECAUSE IT IS SO MUCH FUN” At first, Tricia thought those balls were really low and this bending down to pick them up is “work”. That view was quickly changed because *“the playing part is really, really exciting”*, and a great form of exercise. What they really love about the game is that it is outdoors, not closed in by walls, and not too hard on the body, but most of all what they really love about the game are the awesome people in this club.

What are your Hobbies/Interests?

Walt is a dive master and loves diving; he is getting back into golf and appreciates living here with all the courses and fun people. Tricia loves reading, swimming in our fantastic pools, and cooking, *“just being around fabulous family & friends.”* New on their list is Bocce (of course) and shuffleboard at Wriggley’s Pub which is their *“CHEERS”*. They have just begun Line Dancing classes and *“If we win the Lotto, a sail boat is on the bucket list”*. Together they love traveling, sipping wine, laughing, eating too much, watching great comedies with a bucket of buttered popcorn.....just too many to list.

What is your Mantra (and Glass Half Full Paradigm)?

“Say what you mean and mean what you say”

What is your highest value?

INTEGRITY

Seeds of Summer

by Sherry Nogle

The Bocce Club hosted “Seeds of Summer” on Thursday, August 3rd. Usually, playing bocce is the “big event” when hosting an event, but on Thursday it was the “Seed Spitting” event that took precedence. After eating as many slices of seedless watermelon your tummy could hold (or your bladder), twelve seed-

spitting contestants quickly lined-up for the first “Sun City Bocce Seed Spitting” contest.



Everyone was given a cup of 10 pumpkin seeds which were used in place of watermelon seeds because Steve Mellinger couldn't buy watermelons with seeds. After his long search of traveling to grocery store to grocery store to find watermelons with seeds, he finally conceded and bought packages of pumpkin seed ammo (they worked just as well).

Ken Pardee oversaw the project of creating a “Spitway” or target for the contest. He taped two large plastic table cloths together, and then spray painted two gigantic targets with red bulls-eyes in the center of each. He then took blue spray paint and painted a blue circle around the target. To finish the target, he encircled the outside the blue target with black spray paint. Each circle was given a different point value. The target farthest away from the free throw line received more points. To challenge the “over-achiever spitters”, Ken placed a doggy bowl at the top end of the targets. WHOPPING BIG POINTS could be made if your seed landed near the bowl or inside the bowl!



The judges, Steve, Pat and Ken, stood by ready to record the value of each contestant's seed landing, and cleared the target area for the next spitter. If the seed fell outside the "Spitway", no point was recorded.

Some contestants admitted that they were a little nervous because this was their first spitting event and they didn't want to mess-up. "Relax," says Steve Mellinger and just "spit".

The first spitter up, toes to line, was Anna Ruth and as soon as she spat down the runway, howls of laughter erupted from the crowd. She had broken the ice and tensions were released through giggles and chuckles. Everyone relaxed and was eager to be next in line.



Some participants had quite a time launching their seeds. Some seeds stuck to their lips, making it only a few inches from their feet, while other contestants had no problem launching the little white missiles. They either created an arc and hoped the wind gust would carry it down to the farthest target, or they inhaled deeply, leaned back to achieve maximum force, and propelled the seed down the spitway.

Colene Caravello stepped up to the line. Her cheeks puffed up, her head coiled back and with one mighty heave she launched a seed that hit nearest the DOGGY BOWL! That one seed secured her seat in the top three spitters!



Many techniques were used, but Sherry Nogle believed that the real key to spitting is in the tongue. your tongue, Nogle said. “It Lastly, “You take a deep as hard as you can and through your rolled tongue.”



“Make a taco with acts like a cannon.” breath and then blow bullet the seed

Doug Brumm got so tickled that he almost swallowed his seeds (no one wanted to perform the Heimlich on him, except maybe, Maureen). He finally got serious, and bulletted his seeds down the "Spitway".



Colene Caravello, Lois Hammelman, and Sherry Nogle earned the bragging rights and their names memorialized in the September Bocce Newsletter. Their pictures are also displayed in the Sun City Bocce Bulletin Board. These winners received "Happy Face" buttons to testify to being the Best Seed Spitters in Sun City (or at least the Bocce Club).



The Sun City Bocce Club plans to make Seed Spitting an annual event. FYI---the adult seed-spitting world record, set in 1989, is 68 feet 9 1/8 inches. Imagine that!



HERE'S THE SCOOP

The Bocce Club is having an Ice Cream Bar Event

Tuesday, September 5th

9:00 - 11:00 am

Come play Bocce with us and eat Ice Cream Bars!



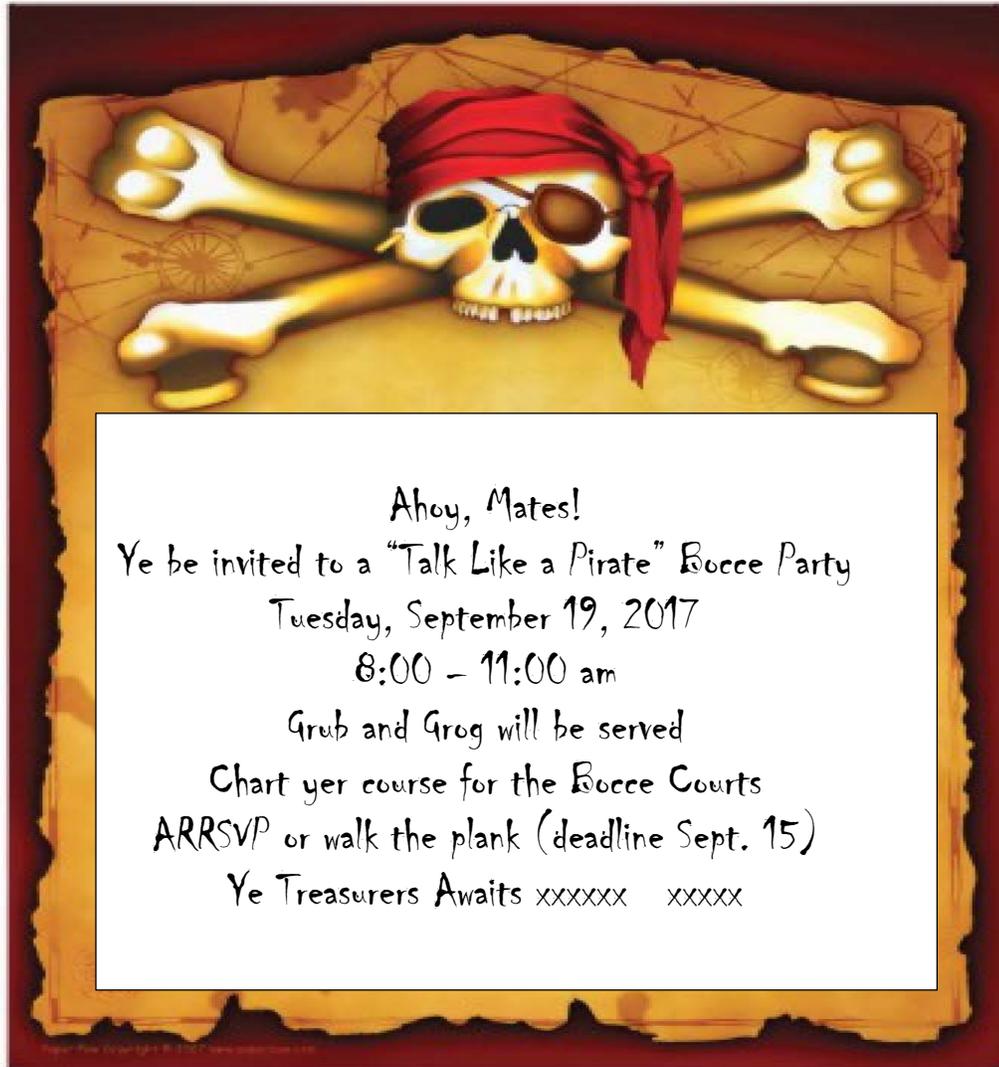
BOCCE BABES TEAM JERSEY EVENT

Wear your favorite team jersey (any sport or any division) to play 3 games of Bocce. Feel like a PRO!

Drink Iced Coffee as you play.

Thursday, September 14th

9:00 - 11:00 am



ORDER YOUR BOCCE CLUB T-SHIRT TODAY!

Just contact Steve Mellinger or Sherry Nogle and we'll order yours today!