



## BOCCE NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2018

Sherry Nogle, Editor and Janet Platteborze, Web Administrator

### FIVE MORE MINUTES WITH STEVE MELLINGER-BOCCE PRESIDENT

Bocce is primarily played for the fun-of-it. Playing Bocce is fun but, as with any physical activity, you need to exercise good judgement. As your Bocce Safety Officer, I would like to remind you of a few Safety Guidelines:

- Wear quality Court shoes, no sandals or open toe footwear.
- For clothing, choose synthetic, wool or silk, materials that wick moisture and dry quickly. There is a huge variety of choices available in outdoor clothing.
- Wear wide brim hats for hot weather, or ball caps. They both help keep the sun out of your eyes.
- Use sunscreen to protect your skin.
- Keep hydrated.
- Remember that this a “game for fun and relaxation.” Know your limits.
- There is a **First Aid Kit** located in the shed on the left-hand side of the door.
- If you witness a serious injury, there are forms behind the first aid kits that need to be filled out and returned to the Desk Monitor in the Texas Social Center.
- If you must **call 911** for an emergency, note the location is **1410 Sun City Boulevard**, Georgetown, Texas.
- **No glass containers allowed on the Courts!**
- **No smoking permitted around the Courts!**
- **No animals allowed on the Court surface!**

To submit a Bocce Safety Tip of your own, please email [stevemellinger8618@gmail.com](mailto:stevemellinger8618@gmail.com)

### TREASURER’S REPORT-DOUG BRUMM

The most current CA report shows that the club balance as of December was \$2,133.00. We have 106 paid members, 30 of which are new, and 76 are returning members.

#### PROPOSED 2018 BOCCE EXPENSES

Office Supplies	300.00
League Trophies	200.00
Maintenance/Bocce	200.00
Yountville Fees	50.00
Socials	1170.00
BBQ	400.00

## ADVANCED LEAGUE-JOHN SHIDELER

Mother Nature and 40 degree temperatures caused us to postpone the first day of our league play on January 18, 2018. We are all getting a little "cabin fever" and are ready to get started on Thursday the 25<sup>th</sup>.

We have 16 players and plenty of subs for this league. It is a five-week event and the points scored will count in qualifying for our Club Championships in October of 2018.

Please come out and watch some of the best bocce players in Texas, playing on the best courts in the state. We will be playing every Thursday afternoon starting at 1:00PM in the month of February.

The following is a list of members who are playing in this league: Mike Byrne, Nick Drury, Larry Hunting, Janet Lull, John Luther, Marilyn Marlar, Stanley Payne, Janet Platteborze, Jim Rankin, George Ryppe, John Shideler, Howard Springer, Al Villar, Don Webb, and Bill Wightman.

See YOU on the Courts!



## LADIES' LEAGUE-LIN VERNIER

Hello from the Ladies League!

Our first Ladies League of 2018 will wrap-up next Monday and we have been having a great time. The first two days the weather was wonderful, especially for this time of year. This last Monday, despite the temperature being above 60, the wind had us feeling much colder.

That wind was known to change the direction and speed of the Bocce balls as well.

We braved it out and got all our games completed in record time.

Quite a few of the scores are close and I'm sure this next Monday will be very competitive. Congratulations to Sherry Nogle, Patti DeGroot and Tricia McCullers for having the top three spots for the last couple of weeks.

Keep in mind that sign-ups for our next league will start soon. Just a reminder: **League play will begin February 27<sup>th</sup> and run for 4 weeks.**

Lin linvernier@gmail.com



# BOCCE TIPS

Volume 3

By Sal Caravello

**New Training Starts:** January 27th, February 23rd, May 18th, August 17<sup>th</sup>, and November 17<sup>th</sup>, come join us.....



**Question from Volume 2:** *Why don't we have lines marking the players box and midcourt, so it is easier to see?*

Well, wait no longer, court one will be done shortly as soon as the weather cooperates. It will have two player boxes and a center court line. Player box means just that, you cannot stand beyond that line and roll the bocce ball. When the courts are resurfaced or even before all courts will be marked. It will look great and just right for International play.

**Question:** *Do you know what they call getting all the points in a play i.e. four points?* It is a standard reference in most sport play. It is called a **"Hat Trick"**. Meaning he pulled it out of his hat. Not what you think, right!

**Question:** *Who starts play?* Well, in most cases it is the toss of a coin. The winner gets to toss the Pallino first and select the Bocce ball color of their choosing. This can and will make a big difference as the game progresses.

**Question:** *Where do I roll the Pallino?* Now remember how the game is played. We are to get as close to the Pallino as we possibly can. Putting ourselves in the better position than our opponent. To do this you must know your opponent and we will talk about that later on. For the sake of this issue we want to simply protect the Pallino. So, rolling the Pallino first is a major advantage, because you get to roll it the distance and position on the court you are most comfortable. The key here is where you are most comfortable, not your opponent's strength area.

Why? Because since you rolled the Pallino you get to roll the first Bocce ball. That first Bocce ball roll establishes the distance between the Pallino and the Bocce ball for all points going forward in the play.

**Question for the next issue.** *How do I roll the Bocce ball?*



## A 33-year Partnership, by Anna Ruth

*In honor of Valentine's Day, I asked Anna if she would share her love story of her late husband, Don. This is her real-life love story that will touch your heart. Sherry Nogle*

Don and I met in the early 80's at work in Houston, Texas. One day I was walking down the aisle, headed to the lounge for a coffee break, when I noticed this well-built man in front of me and I thought, "My what wide shoulders this man has and besides that, he walks like Robert Mitcham." After a few coffee breaks together, a 33-year partnership began. I guess it's true that opposites attract because he was soft spoken and a little introverted. I was loud and a little extroverted. Throughout the years we melted into a little of each.

Within two years, we found ourselves in Las Vegas, where we loved the proximity to neighboring states (California, Utah and Arizona). We traveled and enjoyed discovering sights, landmarks, parks and museums in each state.

We acquired our first little love, Soo Soo, a Shih Tsu. Don had his first heart attack while in Las Vegas. We also lost Soo Soo in 2000. To take Soo Soo place, we acquired two new Shih Tsu's, Wookie and Coco.

We spent 18 years in Las Vegas, but my heart was in Texas where my children lived. So, in late 2003, we moved to Sun City, Texas. It was the best move we ever made! Don enjoyed driving for COPS and together we enjoyed our senior bowling. We loved cooking together. His specialty was tacos and seafood gumbo. In fact, our neighborhood called him "The Taco Man".

Tragically, Don suffered another heart attack and then a stroke. He came through without too much damage, but he was diagnosed with COPD. The oxygen tank restricted his active life. He had to give up a lot of the activities that both of us had always enjoyed. We mourned the losses of Wookie in 2010 and Coco in December 2016. With all the struggles, tears, illnesses, and changes, our love story continued to form.

I joined the Bocce Club where I met some wonderful people. My biggest regret is that I didn't join it sooner.

On November 10, 2017, my life changed forever. Don had his tragic auto accident. Ten awful days spent in the Critical Care Unit in limbo. On November 20, I made the most agonizing decision I ever had to make, to take him off the ventilator. A decision only God should make. I watched as he passed away peacefully and out of pain. A memory that will haunt me forever. The void is there day in and day out. I now realize how seriously his COPD limited him, and I feel guilty for expecting more than he was able to give. I am trying to forgive myself.

The hours spent playing bocce have helped to fill the time and ease the memory. Now, I try to think of only good memories. (I still have a ghost in the house though). I want to stay in this wonderful community where I have great neighbors and of course enjoy my bocce outings and friends. You never know what's around the corner and when something might happen to your loved one.

PS. Don was an ordinary man, who wanted no funeral and no service, but I wanted something to commemorate him by, so he will be remembered by having a brick at the Veteran's Memorial here in Sun City.

*Happy  
Valentine's  
Day*



**HIGH ROLLERS**

**Stanley Payne - 5 points**



**Check out the Bocce Website for more  
information!**

*Playing Bocce on the courts. Feathers. Beads & Masks. What more do we  
need to have a Blast?*

*Come celebrate **MARDI GRAS** with the Bocce Club*

*February 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM*

*Players may dress-up if they wish.*

*We will hand out beads and candy.*

*There will be a King's Cake on the patio following three (3)*

*Games of Bocce.*

*Whoever finds a "baby" in their cake wins a prize!*



# HAPPY PRESIDENTS DAY

**PLEASE HELP US CELEBRATE PAST PRESIDENTS DAY BY  
HONORING RUSS RUFF**

**HE WAS OUR LAST PRESIDENT OF THE BOCCE CLUB  
BEFORE STEVE MELLINGER. WE WANT TO INVITE ALL OF  
YOU TO COME OUT TO THE COURTS TO PLAY BOCCE. WE'LL  
BE USING INTERNATIONAL RULES.**

**Russ has requested we serve hot chocolate and malted milk balls  
on the Patio.**

**Don't Cry Over Spilt Milk and Make Excuses!**

**Make plans to attend this event.**

**February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**1 - 4:00 pm**



# BOCCE EVENT CALENDARS

## FEBRUARY

1	Advanced League Begins, 1-3:00 pm Sun City Rules	
2		
3	New Bocce Member Training, 10-12:00	
4		
5	Ladies's League Play #1, 3-5:00pm	
6		
7		
8	Advanced League, 1-3:00	
9	Mardi Gras-wear costume or mask. Serving King's cake, purple punch, green & purple candy. 1:00 pm	
10	New Members. Serving hot chocolate on the patio. 10:00 am	
11		
12		
13		
14	Valentine's Day	★
15	Advanced League, 1-3:00	
16		
17		
18		
19	Past President's Day-Don't Cry Over Spilt Milk. Serving hot chocolate and malted milk balls on the patio. International Rules. 1:00 pm	
20		
21		
22	New Resident Orientation 8:30-9:15	
23	New Bocce Member Training, 10-12:00	
24		
25		
26		
27	Ladies's League Play #2 begins. International rules, 3:00 pm	

## MARCH

1		
2	New Bocce Member Training, 10-12:00	
3		
4		
5		
6	Ladies League Play #2, 3:00 Intern'l rules	
7	Advanced League Play #2 Begins 1:00	
8	Wear your Bocce Club T-Shirt and play Bocce. You will have a chance to order a T-Shirt and Hat, 10-12:00 pm	
9	New Members-Swirly Pops and Bocce, 10:00 am	
10		
11		
12		
13	Ladies League Play #2, 3:00	
14	Advanced League Play #2, 1:00 pm	
15		
16		
17	St. Patrick's Day-wear green, must wear Bocce Name Badge to be eligible for drawing of lottery tickets. Serving green punch, shamrock cookies, BYOB beer, 10:00 am	
18		
19		
20	Ladies League Play #2, 3:00	
21	Advanced League Play #2, 1:00	
22		
23		
24	Yountville Bocce Tournament Planning Meeting. AC Rooms 3 & 4, 9:00-10:30.	
25		
26		
27	Ladies League Play #2, 3:00	
28	Advanced League Play #2, 1:00	