

Villager Article March 1, 2024

Bocce News

By Tom Hunt

“Calling All Bocce Enthusiasts: Become a Referee and Shape the Game!”

Mark your calendars! Saturday, March 16th, is an important date for our Bocce community as we are excited to announce our annual Referee Training session, scheduled for 11a.m. near the bocce construction site.

As the Bocce Club gears up for another exciting season of tournaments, we're reaching out to our dedicated players and community members to join our team of referees. Your help is invaluable in ensuring fair play and maintaining the integrity of our games.

This training session isn't just about officiating matches; it's a chance for you to deepen your understanding of the game. By officiating matches, you'll gain valuable insights into gameplay and rules that you might not have noticed otherwise. Your keen eye and fair judgment will contribute to smoother, more enjoyable matches for everyone involved.

If you're new to refereeing, don't worry! We have plenty of support from experienced referees who will guide you through the learning process. You can even request to shadow a seasoned referee during your initial matches to gain confidence and skill.

We provide printed guidelines and hands-on training to ensure you're well-prepared for your new role. Embrace the opportunity to contribute to the Bocce Club while expanding your knowledge of this beloved sport.

There's no need to sign up in advance; simply mark your calendar for Saturday, March 16th, at 11 a.m. and show up at the courts ready to learn and participate. Current referees are encouraged to attend as well, for a refresher and to lend their expertise and support to our new recruits. Let's make this season our best one yet by coming together as a community to support and elevate the game of Bocce!

For the latest updates on Bocce Club activities we encourage you to stay informed by visiting the bocce website, [www.villagesbocce.vgcc.club](http://www.villagesbocce.vgcc.club). We're looking forward to seeing you on the courts soon!

Villager Article March 8, 2024

Bocce News

By Tom Hunt

“Bocce Unveiled: Surprising Fun Facts about the Game!”

Embark on a delightful journey into the world of Bocce with our latest exploration of fun facts! Originating from ancient Rome yet thriving in our modern communities, Bocce is not just a game, but a beloved tradition filled with fascinating tidbits that add depth and excitement to each match. From its humble beginnings to its global appeal, join us as we uncover intriguing facts that will spark your curiosity and deepen your appreciation for this timeless pastime.

- Bocce in its current form was played as early as 264 B.C. in Rome. No one really knows how old bocce is, but stone balls dating back to 9000 B.C. have been found in Turkey.
- Bocce is the third most popular sport in the world, after soccer and golf.
- 25 million people in the U.S. alone play bocce.
- Notable bocce players have included the Roman Emperor Augustus, the ancient Greek physician Hippocrates and the astronomer Galileo.
- Ronald Reagan was introduced to Bocce during his time as Governor of California, and actually installed a Bocce Court at his ranch in Santa Barbara, “Rancho del Cielo” where I played Bocce for the very first time!

For the latest updates on Bocce Club activities we encourage you to stay informed by visiting the bocce website, [www.villagesbocce.vgcc.club](http://www.villagesbocce.vgcc.club). We’re looking forward to seeing you on the courts soon!

Villager Article March 14, 2024

Bocce News

By Tom Hunt

### ***Bocce: A Fun and Health-Boosting Activity!***

As we age, staying active becomes increasingly important for maintaining both physical and mental well-being. While there are many activities to choose from, one that stands out for its accessibility, social aspects, and health benefits is the game of bocce. Originating from ancient Rome, bocce has evolved into a popular pastime enjoyed by people of all ages, particularly seniors. Let's explore why bocce is not just a game, but a valuable tool for promoting health and happiness among older adults.

**Low-Impact Exercise**—One of the greatest advantages of bocce for seniors is its low-impact nature. Unlike more strenuous activities that may strain joints and muscles, bocce involves gentle movements such as bending, walking, and tossing the ball. This helps make it a preferred form of exercise for seniors with mobility issues or those who are recovering from injuries.

**Improved Balance and Coordination**—Bocce requires players to carefully aim and throw a ball toward a target, which helps improve balance and coordination. As seniors engage in the game, they naturally work on their motor skills, spatial awareness, and hand-eye coordination. These benefits are helpful for older adults looking to maintain their independence and reduce the risk of falls.

**Social Interaction and Mental Stimulation**—Beyond its physical advantages, bocce offers seniors the opportunity to socialize and engage in meaningful interactions with others. Whether playing with friends, family, or fellow community members, bocce fosters camaraderie and creates a sense of belonging. The game encourages laughter, friendly competition, and shared experiences, which are all essential for mental well-being. Additionally, strategizing and calculating throws provide mental stimulation, helping to keep seniors' minds sharp and agile.

**Bocce is much more than just a game**—it's a holistic activity that promotes physical health, social connection, and overall well-being among Villagers. By incorporating bocce into their routines, we can enjoy the numerous benefits it offers, from improved balance and coordination to reduced stress and enhanced cognitive function. So, grab a ball, gather your friends, and head to the bocce courts for a day of fun, fitness, and friendship!

For the latest updates on Bocce Club activities we encourage you to stay informed by visiting the bocce website, [villagesbocce.vgcc.club](http://villagesbocce.vgcc.club). We're looking forward to seeing you on the courts soon!

Villager Article March 22, 2024

Bocce News

By Tom Hunt

“Grand Opening of New Bocce Pavilion: Bocce Bash, Boot Camp, and Spring Mixer Dates Set!

Excitement is in the air as the community anticipates the grand opening of the newest jewel in our recreational crown—the state-of-the-art Bocce facility. With its grand unveiling just around the corner, residents are buzzing with anticipation, eager to embrace this beloved Italian pastime and all the joy it promises to bring.

Nestled amidst the tranquil beauty of our community, the new Bocce facility stands as a testament to the enduring appeal of this ancient game. Boasting meticulously groomed courts and top-of-the-line amenities, it offers a welcoming space for players of all skill levels to come together and indulge in friendly competition and camaraderie.

The grand opening festivities promise to be a celebration beginning with the first Bocce Bash of the season on Friday April 19<sup>th</sup> at 3pm, and will feature a ceremonial ribbon cutting, refreshments and time for all to try out our new bocce courts. There will be something for everyone to enjoy regardless of their level of experience we hope to see you there.

The Bocce Boot Camps will be held on April 18<sup>th</sup>, and April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and the much-awaited Spring Mixer will start on April 29<sup>th</sup> and run for 4 weeks, followed by playoffs May 27<sup>th</sup> – May 29<sup>th</sup>.

As we prepare to usher in this exciting new chapter in the Villages history, the New Bocce facility serves as a reminder of the power of community and the enduring appeal of tradition. It is a testament to our collective commitment to fostering spaces where neighbors can come together, forge lasting bonds, and create cherished memories that will endure for generations to come.

For the latest updates on dates for these exciting events and other Bocce Club activities we encourage you to stay informed by visiting the bocce website, [www.villagesbocce.vgcc.club](http://www.villagesbocce.vgcc.club). We're looking forward to seeing you on the courts soon!

March 29, 2024

Bocce News

## **Villagers rallying together on Bocce Fund Raising, achieving almost 50% of goal!**

By Tom Hunt

It is with immense gratitude and excitement that we share with you the progress we've made in our fundraising efforts for the Bocce Project. Thanks to your unwavering support and generosity, we've reached a significant milestone in our journey. However, the road ahead still requires our collective dedication and commitment to achieving our goals.

The Evergreen Villages Foundation (EVF) board has agreed to match all donations raised by the community up to our goal of \$60,000, which means your support goes twice as far.

All donations are appreciated, but as an additional incentive the Club board will be recognizing all donors contributing at least \$1,000 to the project by engraving their names on pavers to be installed at the Bocce courts.

### **Donation Categories:**

<i>Diamond</i>	<i>\$25,000 or more</i>
<i>Platinum</i>	<i>\$10,000 to \$24,999</i>
<i>Gold</i>	<i>\$5,000 to \$9,999</i>
<i>Silver</i>	<i>\$2,500 to \$4,999</i>
<i>Bronze</i>	<i>\$1,000 to \$2,499</i>

The Evergreen Villages Foundation is accepting donations from our residents for the Bocce project. EVF is a tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable organization which means donations may qualify as charitable contributions (please check with your tax planner/adviser first). You can make out a check to the Evergreen Villages Foundation (enter Bocce fundraiser in comments) and mail to EVF at 5000 Cribari Lane, San Jose, CA 95135.

As we look ahead, let us recommit ourselves to the cause and redouble our efforts to ensure the success of the Bocce Project. Together, we have the power to turn our vision into reality and make a lasting difference in the lives of our fellow community members.

Stay tuned to the for updates on the construction progress, our 2024 event calendar by visiting the bocce website, [villagesbocce.vgcc.club](http://villagesbocce.vgcc.club) and most importantly get involved with the Bocce Club, we are having a ball!