

UNITED STATES BOCCE FEDERATION QUARTERLY



MARCH 2020

Greetings Fellow USBF Members,

I know right now everyone is probably tired of hearing about the Coronavirus. Unfortunately, **for the first time in USBF history our National Bocce Championship in St. Louis has been cancelled.** After consulting with several officers and the Board of the Italia-America Bocce Club in St. Louis, this difficult decision has been made. The main concern was exposing our membership to possible health issues because of the uncertainty of this virus and the current government mandates deemed this necessary. **I also urge all Bocce players to avoid participating in any events for at least 5-6 weeks or until the local mandates are lifted. Do NOT use "house" Bocce balls and clean your own constantly. Please consider not playing at all!** Most of our membership is in the high risk zone and we want to see everyone next year in St. Louis. May God be with you!



On a brighter note, included below in the newsletter is a great article and press release from New York on the **Monsignor Farrell High School Bocce Complex.** Exactly what we have been hoping for. Hopefully the young students will begin to realize the value of Bocce and the amount of fun they can have playing.

The situation abroad, particularly in Italy, the Bocce scene is totally suspended. For the first time in their history **FIB has stopped everything involving Bocce.** Naturally, soccer, basketball and other sports followed suit.

Recently, USBF Member and Director **Guy De Santis with considerable help from his brother Frank, Teresa Robarge and Jack Bilancia conducted a terrific tournament in Las Vegas.** It was a huge success and speaking with Guy the plans are to increase participation to 56 teams next year. Best of luck Guy!



Winners from the Las Vegas National Open Bocce Tournament

Pictured from left to right: 3rd Place - Volo Rico, 1st Place - Scott's Valley, 2nd Place - Vespucci #1

I want to apologize for the recent problems you may have encountered with the USBF

website. A disgruntled employee from our webmaster created some issues with many sites and disrupted the internet support to many clients. I have confirmed it is now back up and running.

We also have had some difficulty in membership and Club renewals. Many times the problem is ours but you can all help by sending an **email to our Treasurer Mark Holman** and ask him to send out your new cards and Club certificates.

In closing, I ask all of you to be careful and stay healthy! I want to see many of you in St. Louis in 2021!

Ciao for now,

Danny Passaglia
USBF President

Monsignor Farrell High School Bocce Complex

It is with great pleasure that I announce that **Monsignor Farrell High School broke ground this morning on our Bocce Complex, which will be the first and the largest of its kind on Staten Island!** Four regulation-sized courts are currently being installed on the Farrell campus, with plans to add additional courts. Joining me at the groundbreaking ceremony were Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Monsignor Thomas J. Bergin, Principal Larry Musanti, Assistant Principal Dan Fisher '05, Director of Athletics Anthony Garofalo '89, Director of Facilities Joe Holt '85, Director of Institutional Advancement and Development John Cusick '88, Student Government President Frank Scafuri '20 and several of our Faithful Men.

In addition to the construction, **Monsignor Farrell High School has officially become a member of the United States Bocce Federation**, the governing body of Bocce in the country. "We are so excited to welcome Monsignor Farrell High School to our Federation, and we look forward to actively educating them and helping them grow a premier competitive Bocce program," said Guy DeSantis, Eastern Sector President of the United States Bocce Federation.



We look forward to organizing an intramural league for our students, as well as Alumni and Family Association leagues. All alumni will be welcomed to utilize the courts to host their class reunions.

[Click here](#) for the full article.

We are anticipating the first *pallino* being rolled out in April. Please check our **[website](#)** and follow us on **[facebook](#)** for exciting updates on Bocce and all of the exciting things happening at Monsignor Farrell.

Together we can do great things!

Louis R. Tobacco
'90 President & CEO Monsignor Farrell High School



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