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## PRESS RELEASE

### United States Bocce Federation Announces Team USA to Compete in World Bocce Championship in Kemer, Turkey

The United States Bocce Federation (USBF) proudly announces that the United States National Champions will represent the USA in the Confederazione Boccistica Internazionale (CBI) World Bocce Championship, taking place October 22–28, 2024, in Kemer, Turkey. Team USA will be competing at the highest level against the world's best bocce players. This prestigious global competition will feature athletes from five continents and 27 countries competing in five disciplines.

Representing the USA are the following athletes:

- Jose Botto (Rochester, Michigan) – Men's Singles
- Courtney Strickland (Chicago, Illinois) – Women's Singles
- Anthony LaBarbera (Elmwood Park, Illinois) and Courtney Strickland – Mixed Doubles
- Tom Holleman (Highland Park, Illinois) – Men's Precision Shooting
- Courtney Strickland – Women's Precision Shooting

The team will be led by Joe Quartarone (Miami, Fla.), USBF International Representative/VP Eastern Sector, who will serve as the head of the American delegation. All the athletes earned their spots on Team USA by winning their respective events at the USBF National Championships, held in St. Louis, Mo., in June 2024. Additionally, Botto, Strickland, and LaBarbera further solidified their status by claiming victory at the North American Bocce Championship in September, defeating Canada's top players in a heated competition to secure their place in the World Competition in Turkey.



**“We are incredibly proud of this group of athletes who have shown exceptional dedication and skill in both national and international play,” said Dr. John Liberto, President of the United States Bocce Federation. “Competing on the world stage is an exceptional honor, and I’m confident our champions will represent the USBF and our country with distinction. Each player has demonstrated their talent under pressure, and we’re excited to see them take on the best in the world. This is a tremendous opportunity for the USA to showcase the growth and competitiveness of bocce in the United States.”**

**The 2024 CBI World Bocce Championship is a prestigious event in which players compete in the internationally recognized Punto Raffa Volo (PRV) style. The PRV format requires more skill and strategy than other formats, requiring players to call their shots with penalties resulting from missed shots.**

**Bocce is one of the most widely played and oldest games in the world and has been gaining popularity in the United States and other countries. Players roll bocce balls toward a smaller pallino ball with the goal of being closest to the pallino. As part of a player’s strategy, raffa and volo shots can also strike other balls. At the end of a frame, a player is awarded a point for each ball that is closer to the pallino than the opponent’s closest ball. The game can be played in teams or singles formats.**

**The US Bocce Federation’s mission is to promote all forms of bocce throughout the United States through youth programming and preparing and supporting elite players for national and international competitions. For more information about the United States Bocce Federation and Team USA’s journey to the World Championship, please visit [www.usbf.us](http://www.usbf.us) or follow us on social media at the United States Bocce Federation.**

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