



March 2026

Greetings bocce players and supporters, from all of us on the bocce committee at the Methuen Sons of Italy. We are proud to announce that we have been selected to host the 2026 United States National Bocce Championships again, the 4th time in 12 years, and these 4 times are the only Nationals organized on the East Coast. From Tuesday, June 23 – Sunday, June 28, 2026, athletes will compete in 7 events. Teams and players from CA, MI, MO, IL, IA, FL, PA, NY, CT, RI, NH and MA have already confirmed their registrations.

The gold medal winners of both the Women's and Men's Precision Shooting will earn their spot on the USA team to play in the 2026 World Championship in Brazil in October. The champions of Mixed Doubles, Women's Doubles and Men's Doubles Punto Raffa Volo events will qualify to compete in a North American playoff with Canada. If the USA teams win their playoff matches with Canada, they will also play for USA in the Worlds in Brazil.

In early 2013 we completed construction of our 10,000' sq facility with 4 regulation-sized, internationally sanctioned bocce courts. We are proud of the courts Mike Grasser built for us because world class bocce players from across the USA, as well as from Italy, Canada and Brazil have told us they are some of best courts in the USA. In addition, our building is equipped with a full-service kitchen and a bar with a full liquor license. Do you like Clam Chowder, Lobster Rolls, Sicilian style Rice Balls and Gelato? We hope so, because restaurants right next to the club serve them and plenty of other delicious foods for you. Also, dozens of friendly volunteers from our lodge have signed up once again to help make the 2026 US Nationals a memorable and successful event for you.

Many athletes are planning on taking a few days of vacation either before or after the bocce tournaments. That's fantastic! Enjoy our proximity to Boston and other charming New England cities. The weather in June is perfect, typically between 75 and 80 degrees. This area is popular with tourists from around the world for our rich history during the Colonial & American Revolution eras and the Industrial Revolution where New England lead the country in workers' rights protests. Boston, our state capital, and only a 40-minute drive, along with the surrounding areas have fabulous restaurants and tours including some buildings dating back to the 1600s. A tour of Fenway Park, home of the Boston Red Sox is a favorite attraction, and coincidentally, the Italian Heritage game is being played on June 30th. The 2026 FIFA World Cup will be played 1.5 hours away at Gillette Stadium. There are fan experiences there and in Boston. Lastly, there are many special events in New England celebrating the USA's 250 birthday. For your convenience, we have included some popular tourist attractions and websites in this package.

It's extremely exciting to our Sons of Italy Lodge members for this unique opportunity, especially for the 200 bocce enthusiasts who play in our leagues. They are eager to see the best PRV players in the US and compete with them in Open and PRV events.

If you have any questions or need help, contact us. It's going to be an incredible week. Thank you for considering playing bocce with us on the East Coast!

2026 US Bocce Nationals Tournament Dir.

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2026 US Bocce Nationals Chairman:

Jim Sacco

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Travel Information:

Airports:

- Logan Airport - Boston, MA (BOS) 40 minutes from Sons of Italy
- Manchester-Boston Regional - Manchester, NH (MHT) 35 minutes from Sons of Italy
- Portsmouth / Pease Airport – Portsmouth, NH (PSM) 40 minutes from Sons of Italy
 - Limited Flights but usually good deals with Allegiant and Breeze airlines
 - <https://flypsmairport.com/>
- JetBlue and Southwest are very popular airlines in the New England Region

Hotels:

Hampton Inn (1 mile from Sons of Italy, 5 minutes)

- **\$189/Night from 6/21/26 – 6/28/26**
 - Ordering code over the phone is US BOCCE
 - Cutoff date is May 21, 2026 for this rate
- Book online: [View your attendee website](#)

106 Bank Road, Haverhill, MA 01832
Phone: (978) 374-7755

- Complimentary Breakfast
- Pool
- Meeting Room
- High Speed Internet
- Fitness Center
- Pets Allowed
- Hot Tub
- Refrigerator

Double Tree Andover (15 min drive to Sons of Italy)

- **\$189/Night - Available for the nights from Sun 6/21 – Sun 6/28**
- Ordering code over the phone is: Bocce Tournament
- Cutoff date is May 22, 2026 for this rate
- Link to Book: <https://group.doubletree.com/tzms8p>

123 Old River Road, Andover, Massachusetts 01810
Phone: (978) 975-3600

- Heated Indoor Pool, Jetted Hot Tub
- 24-hour Fitness Facility
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Lobby Bar
- Pool Table
- On-premise Restaurant
- On-premise Sports Bar and Club
- Pet friendly
- Coffee/Tea in Lobby

Spring Hill Suites by Marriott in Andover, MA (15 minutes from Sons of Italy)

- **\$199 / night - Sunday, June 21, 2026 - End Date: Monday, June 29, 2026**
- Order Code: US Bocce
- Last Day to Book : Friday, May 22, 2026

550 Minuteman Road Andover, Massachusetts, USA, 01810

Phone: 978-688-8200

- Link to book: [Book your group rate for US Bocce](#)
- Free Breakfast
- Free WiFi
- Restaurant on-site
- Pool
- Fitness center
- Free Parking

Schedule of Events

Monday 6/22/26:

- Scheduled Practices Times, call 978-204-3663
- Social Gathering of Players and Club Members at night
- USBF Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday to Wednesday, 6/23/26 to 6/24/26:

- Preliminary Games of Punto Raffa Volo / PRV:
 - Mixed Doubles, Women's Doubles, Men's Doubles (likely starting with Mixed Doubles at approximately 8:30am Tuesday)

Thursday 6/25/26: Championship Thursday

- Playoffs of Punto Raffa Volo / PRV:
 - Mixed Doubles, Women's Doubles, Men's Doubles

Friday, 6/26/26:

- Finals for Precision Shooting for both Women and Men (if not completed on Thursday)

Friday to Saturday, 6/26/26 to 6/27/26:

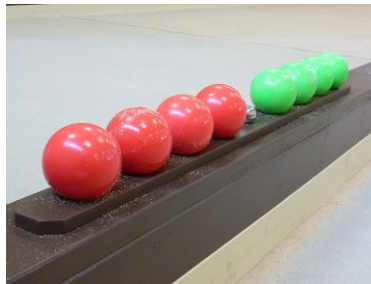
- USBF Open A Division / Money Tournament – USBF Open Bocce Rules

Saturday 6/27/26:

- Awards Banquet (\$55) at the Sons of Italy
- 7:00 PM - Dinner and Awards - Includes appetizer, dinner, dessert and coffee.

Sunday 6/28/26:

- USBF Open B Division – USBF Open Bocce Rules



Registration and Payment are ONLY online:

<https://usbf.us/us-bocce-nationals/2026-us-bocce-national-championships/>

Attractions and Places to Visit:

- Boston - Historic Tours of Faneuil Hall & The Freedom Trail, Duck Tours, MIT and Harvard, Boston Museum of Science, New England Aquarium (40 Min)
- Bocce in the North End overlooking Boston Harbor & the USS Constitution
- Possibly a Red Sox game or Tour of Fenway Park
- Downtown Newburyport - one of New England's oldest Fishing, Whaling and Ship Building villages, and the birthplace of the US Coast Guard (30 Min)
- Salem, MA - Historic Tours, Witch Museum, Peabody Essex Museum (45 min)
- Portsmouth, NH and Kennebunkport, ME (45 min)
- Berkshires in MA (1.5 hours)
- Portland, ME (1.5 hours) or Outlet Shopping in Kittery, ME (45 min)
- Plymouth Rock and Plymouth Plantation (1.5 hours)
- Providence, RI (1.5 hours)

Other Places to Visit that are little further away:

- Cape Cod (2 hours)
- Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket (3 hours with ferries to the islands)
- NH White Mountains (2 hours)
- Encore Casino (40 minutes)
- Casino Resorts in CT (2 hours): Foxwoods Casino and Mohegan Sun Casino
- NYC (4 hours)

Links to Attractions:

- FIFA World Cup / Boston:
 - <https://theworldcupguide.com/2026-world-cup-boston-guide/>
 - (There are fan experiences in the City of Boston and at the Gillette Stadium south of Boston)
 - <https://bostonfwc26.com/fifa-fan-festival/>
 - <https://bostonfwc26.com/>
- USA's 250th Birthday in New England: <https://massachusetts250.org/>
- Fenway Park: <https://www.mlb.com/redsox/ballpark>
- Freedom Trail: <http://www.thefreedomtrail.org/>
- Boston Duck Tours: <http://www.bostonducktours.com/>
- Boston Museum of Science: <http://www.mos.org/>
- Boston Museum of Fine Arts: <https://www.mfa.org/>
- Plymouth Plantation: <http://www.plimoth.org/>
- Newburyport: <http://www.cityofnewburyport.com/>
- Salem, MA: <http://www.salem.org/>
- Salem Witch Museum: <http://www.salemwitchmuseum.com/>
- Peabody Essex Museum: <http://www.pem.org/>

If you need directions, advice on activities or any questions you have to make your stay in New England more comfortable, please reach out to Jim Sacco, Joe Quartarone or any of our volunteers.