

UNITED STATES BOCCE FEDERATION QUARTERLY



AUGUST 2026

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to All Members,

The USBF recently held the [National Championships](#) in [Methuen](#), Massachusetts. The format that was used is the same as the CBI World championships. We qualified players in three modalities, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles, as well as Precision Shooting for Men and Women. The results were as follows:

Men's Doubles PRV - Oscar D'Amore (California) and Jose Botto (Michigan)

Women's Doubles PRV - Jessie Morris (Illinois) and Gina DeBaltzo (Ohio)

Mixed Doubles PRV - Teresa Passaglia (Florida) and Nicholas Imo (Missouri)

Women's Precision Shooting - Ava Della Croce (Missouri)

Men's Precision Shooting - Andy Zimmerman (Illinois)

Open Bocce A - Money Tournament - ABC 606: Brigid Reidy (Illinois), Billy Stripeik (Illinois), James Selvaggio (Ohio), and Jonathan Vivo (Ohio)

Open Bocce B Tournament - Ball-Barians (Massachusetts): Jim Sacco, Bill Letourneau, Ken MacInnis, and Mike Carl Campbell

Precision Shooting – B Division: Jeanne Manousos (Massachusetts)

Congratulations again for their effort and great play!

The Board has decided that next year's Nationals will be sent out for bids from any current USBF Member Club. It will be only an OPEN RULES tournament. A separate PRV qualifier will be scheduled at a different date to qualify any players 18 and under for 2027 Junior Worlds. This year, the [World Seniors Bocce Championship](#) is scheduled to take place in Garibaldi, Brazil from October 13-17!



Some of you may already know that I have returned as your President for the next 2 years. I'd like to thank the Board for their vote of confidence and thank Dr. John Liberto for his effort and time over the past 2 years. I have a plan in mind to increase support from membership as well as the Directors to bring our Federation into a technologically accessible entity for everyone. I'm asking each member to help us increase membership by bringing in 1 new member. Several plans are in place to start youth bocce instruction camps to hopefully capture the enthusiasm associated with being young and curious. The Federation can only progress and exist with membership, individually and Clubs. There have been changes to our current [Board of Directors](#) which can be found on our website. If anyone has anything they would like to see

posted on our website usbf.us, please let us know by contacting any Board member in your Sector. In the meantime, keep playing, stay safe and help us grow!

Danny Passaglia
USBF President

2026 USBF BOCCE NATIONALS

Celebrating Competition, Sportsmanship and the Spirit of Bocce

The [2026 USBF Bocce Nationals](#) brought together players from across the country for six days of outstanding competition, sportsmanship, and celebration of the game we all love. As the premier national event on the USBF calendar, Nationals provides an opportunity for players from across the United States to come together, compete at a high level, and share their passion for bocce.



This year's Nationals showcased the many forms of the sport, featuring both Punto Raffa Volo (PRV) and Open Bocce. From doubles competition to precision shooting and Open Bocce tournaments, the six-day schedule from June 23 to June 28 offered a wide variety of competition and gave spectators an opportunity to experience the different skills, strategies, and styles that make bocce such a diverse and exciting sport.

The competition began on Tuesday and Wednesday with preliminary bracket games in PRV, including Women's Doubles, Men's Doubles, and Mixed

Doubles. The Women's and Men's Precision Shooting preliminary rounds also got underway, challenging players to demonstrate accuracy, consistency, and concentration under pressure.

Thursday brought the PRV playoffs and the continuation of Precision Shooting. On Friday, the remaining Precision Shooting finals were completed, followed by the preliminary games of the Open A/Money Tournament. The Open Bocce competition continued Saturday through its playoff rounds. The Nationals concluded Sunday with the one-day Open B Tournament.

Throughout the six days, the competition was matched by the sportsmanship and camaraderie that make the bocce community so special. Players competed with determination and pride while continuing to demonstrate respect for their opponents and appreciation for the game. It was a wonderful showcase of both the competitive and community spirit of bocce.



Congratulations to the 2026 Gold Medalists

The USBF congratulates all of the athletes who competed in this year's Nationals and especially recognizes those who earned gold medals in their respective events. Three gold medalist Punto Raffa Volo (PRV) doubles teams will represent the United States in the 2026 World Bocce Championship in Brazil this October, representing North America on the international stage.



Congratulations to all of these athletes and teams for their outstanding accomplishments. Their success reflects the talent, dedication, and love for the game that continue to drive the growth of bocce throughout the United States.

Thank You to Our Bocce Community

A national championship event of this size is made possible by far more than the players on the court. The USBF extends its sincere appreciation to the spectators, officials, volunteers, broadcasters, organizers, and host who helped make the 2026 Nationals such a memorable event.

To the spectators who came out to support the athletes, your enthusiasm and encouragement added to the excitement of every match. To the broadcasters who brought the action to those unable to attend in person, thank you for helping share the competition with the broader bocce community. And to everyone who worked behind the scenes to organize, manage, and host the event, your dedication helped create an outstanding championship experience.



For those who want to watch the action or relive some of the memorable matches, the 2026 USBF Nationals broadcasts are available on the [Bocce Brothers YouTube](#) channel, [2026 USBF Bocce Nationals](#).

Never Give Up: *An Incredible PRV Women's Doubles Finish*

The Women's Doubles Punto RAFFA Volo (PRV) finals delivered everything a championship match should, a see-saw battle, tremendous pressure, and a finish that came down to the very last ball.

Megan Molz and Martha Crosley of California faced Jessie Morris (Illinois) and Gina DeBaltzo (Ohio). The match was played to 10 frames or 12 points, with the winner earning the opportunity to represent North America in the 2026 Worlds to be held in Brazil.

Megan and Martha came out strong, taking an early lead. After four frames, the score was tied 3–3, but they gradually built their advantage, moving ahead 8–4 after seven frames. After nine frames, Megan and Martha held a strong lead, with a score of 9–5.

It appeared the match was nearly over.



But never give up!

Going into the 10th and final frame, Jessie and Gina needed four points to tie the match and force an 11th-frame tiebreaker. With California having used all four balls and one of Gina's two rolled balls with the point, the door opened. Jessie called the pallino and took a raffa shot; it was a precisely placed shot to the back wall that gave Jessie and Gina two points. Then, with one ball remaining, Jessie made an extraordinary shot, hitting their front ball without disturbing the other four California balls to earn the additional two points.

Four points to Jessie and Gina. The match was tied. An 11th frame was coming.

The tiebreaker brought even more pressure. Gina's pallino throw went beyond the back line, giving the opponents the opportunity for pallino placement to open the frame. The pallino was placed in the middle of the Volo zone. Gina rolled her first ball followed by Martha's ball which beat the roll and made point.

After Gina missed getting the point with her second ball, Jessie then made a beautiful point with their third ball.

Megan attempted two back-to-back Volo shots but missed. With California's final roll, Martha bumped the point ball away, leaving her original ball as the point.

Now, everything came down to Jessie's final ball.

With the pressure at its highest, Jessie delivered and rolled in two points to win the tiebreaker and the match.

What made this match so memorable was not simply the final score. It was the reminder that **you can never predict what you are capable of under pressure, and you can never assume a match is over.**

Sometimes you need the other team to give you an opening. Sometimes you need every ball to fall into place. And sometimes, you simply need to believe that the opportunity is still there.

Never give up. Until the final ball is played, anything is possible.

A Team That Wasn't Supposed to Happen ***Jessie Morris' Experience***

For Jessie Morris (Illinois), the road to the PRV final was almost as remarkable as the final itself.

Jessie had originally planned to play with her longtime partner, Peyton Bockholt (Illinois), but when Peyton was unable to attend the Nationals, Jessie suddenly found herself without a partner and was not even sure she would compete. Then, months before the Nationals, Margaret Shindelus (California) asked her to play.

"I was like, of course, of course, of course, I'm going to play with you," Jessie recalled. "It was such an incredible honor for her to ask me. It was a big confidence boost."

But Nationals had another surprise in store.

On the Saturday before Women's Doubles began, Jessie learned that Margaret's partner had a medical emergency at the airport which would prohibit Margaret from attending the Nationals. The next day, Jessie started making calls and sending texts, hoping to find a partner. She learned that Gina DeBaltzo (Ohio) was available, reached out, and Gina agreed.

The new team met for the first time on Tuesday morning, the day the tournament began. "We met 48 hours before we were scheduled to play," Jessie said.

What followed was an exciting run through the tournament. Jessie and Gina defeated highly regarded opponents in group play, then came from behind in their quarterfinal match against Vanessa Garippo (Illinois) and Brigid Reidy (Illinois). Down 7–1, they steadily chipped away at the deficit, eventually tying

the game at 9–9. With the match on the line, Jessie made a pressure-filled pallino shot that helped secure the victory.

By the time they reached the semifinal, they were completely locked in.

Then came the final against Megan Molz and Martha Crosley of California.

Jessie remembers the match with a smile because, after the seventh frame, she had been thinking the match was being played to 12 frames, rather than 10 frames or 12 points. With Jessie and Gina trailing 8–4, she was still thinking there was plenty of time to come back.

“I was like, ‘We’re fine. There’s so much time. We’ve got all the time in the world,’” Jessie recalled.

Then she realized there were only three frames remaining.

“Oh, no,” she thought.

That realization suddenly changed the urgency of the match. But Jessie also believes that initially thinking she had more time may have helped keep both her and Gina relaxed. They continued to fight, chipping away at the deficit.

By the time they entered the 10th and final frame, Jessie and Gina were down four points. They needed to score all four points, the maximum possible in a single frame, to tie the match and force an 11th-frame tiebreaker.

There was absolutely no room for error. And somehow, they found a way.

With the pressure at its highest, she and coach Rob Schroeder (Illinois) decided to shoot the pallino. Jessie executed the shot, and something clicked.

“Once I hit that pallino, I was like, well, if I hit the point, I’m hitting this ball. Not a doubt in my mind.”

Jessie made the remarkable shot needed to create the additional two points.

Four points. The match was tied. An 11th frame was coming.

For Jessie, the momentum had shifted.

That confidence carried Jessie through the final point.

As she prepared to throw the ball that would decide the match, Jessie said she had to quiet everything around her. She remembered other balls she had missed by inches and other moments when pressure had gotten to her. Then she took a breath and reminded herself: I just threw this ball two minutes ago in this exact same spot. Just throw the ball.

She did.

For a moment, Jessie thought the ball might be short. Then it rolled into position and the realization hit that they had won.

“I don’t remember the crowd at all,” she said. “But watching it back and seeing my friends and the people I’ve been playing with for years made me realize the ball was in before I did; that was really cool.”

Then came the celebration: a huge hug with Gina and the realization that this team, formed only 48 hours earlier, was heading to play internationally.

For Jessie, the victory was more than a championship result. It was a tremendous boost of confidence and a reminder of what can happen when you trust your game, trust your partner, and stay in the moment.

And perhaps most importantly, she discovered that she didn't need a spectacular shot to win the biggest point of the tournament.

She won it doing what she does best: pointing.

A Partnership Across Generations

At this year's USBF Nationals, there were many exciting and memorable moments. Some teams were made up of longtime partners who had competed together for years, while others came together only days before the first match. Among the most inspiring was the partnership of experienced player, Teresa Passaglia (Florida) and young player, Ava Della Croce (Missouri).



Teresa and Ava competed together in the Women's Doubles Punto Raffa Volo (PRV) event at the USBF Nationals. Their story was about more than simply competing together. It was a wonderful example of how bocce can bring generations together, creating an opportunity for experience to be shared, confidence to grow, and both players to learn from one another. Teresa brought years of knowledge and experience to the court, while Ava brought the energy, enthusiasm, and perspective of a young player eager to compete and learn. Together, they demonstrated one of the things that makes bocce special: the ability to connect players of different ages and experience levels and create meaningful relationships through the game.

Their partnership also offered a powerful reminder that sportsmanship is about more than wins and losses. It is about being willing to share your knowledge, encourage others, and help create opportunities for the next generation. Teresa's willingness to play alongside younger players reflects a genuine commitment to helping them grow, not only as athletes, but in the patience, concentration, etiquette, and mental toughness that bocce demands. For Ava, having an experienced partner provided reassurance and the confidence to compete, while giving her the opportunity to learn from someone who has spent years mastering the game.

In separate conversations, Teresa and Ava reflected on their experience and on each other, sharing what they learned, what surprised them, and what made their partnership so meaningful. Their perspectives offer a glimpse into the special connection that can develop when experience and youthful enthusiasm meet on the bocce court and a reminder that when players invest in one another, the entire sport becomes stronger.

A Champion Who Measures Success by the Next Generation

Teresa Passaglia's Experience

At the 2026 USBF National Championships, one of the most accomplished players in American bocce once again demonstrated that her greatest legacy extends far beyond medals. World medalist and longtime Team USA competitor Teresa Passaglia (Florida) partnered with 17-year-old Ava Delacroce (Missouri) in the Women's Doubles Punto Raffa Volo (PRV) competition, continuing a tradition that has become a hallmark of her career, investing in the next generation of athletes.

Over the years, Teresa has chosen to compete alongside numerous young players, including Gina Imo (Missouri), Navina Bernardi (California), Nick Imo (Missouri) and Ava Della Croce. While many elite athletes seek the strongest possible teammate in pursuit of another championship, Teresa has consistently chosen a different path. She believes that developing young players is just as important as winning.

"I don't go to a tournament thinking, 'I have to win,'" Passaglia said. "I tell my partner, 'We're here to play, enjoy ourselves, and learn. If we win, wonderful. If not, we take something valuable from the experience.'"

For Teresa, mentoring extends well beyond teaching strategy or shot selection. She emphasizes patience, concentration, sportsmanship, etiquette, and mental toughness. Her message to young players is simple: relax, enjoy the game, and never let one mistake define the match.

"If your first ball isn't good, don't worry," she tells them. "You have another opportunity. Never give up."

That philosophy comes from decades of experience representing the United States at the highest levels of international competition. Teresa became the first American woman to earn a medal at the World Championships, yet she speaks with equal pride about seeing young athletes gain confidence and discover a love for the sport.



She believes bocce offers something unique. Success is not determined by size, strength, or speed, but by focus, discipline, and thoughtful decision-making. More importantly, it teaches respect for opponents and the honor of representing your club, community, and country.

Young players, she says, bring fresh energy to the court while reminding veteran competitors why they fell in love with the game in the first place.

"They make me feel young," she said with a smile.

Teresa also hopes the bocce community will continue creating opportunities for youth through mentorship, junior tournaments, and mixed-generation competitions. She believes that inviting young players onto the court alongside experienced competitors is one of the best ways to preserve the sport's traditions while building its future.

As long as she is able, Teresa plans to continue answering the call whenever a young player asks her to be a partner.

"As long as I'm healthy and they want me," she said, "I'll be there."

Teresa's legacy is not only written in medals, but in the confidence she builds, the lessons she passes on, and the future she helps shape with every young player she welcomes onto the court. Through her generosity, leadership, and unwavering belief in the next generation, she is ensuring that bocce's spirit, values, and traditions will endure long after the final point is played.

Youth, Energy, and Learning

Ava Della Croce, A Young Player's Experience

For 17-year-old Ava Della Croce (Missouri), playing alongside Teresa Passaglia (Florida) at the 2026 USBF National Championships was much more than an opportunity to compete at a high level. It was a chance to learn from an experienced player she admired while gaining confidence in her own abilities. Teresa's knowledge, encouragement, and sense of fun made a lasting impression on Ava, who came away from the experience with not only new skills, but an even greater appreciation for the value of mentorship and the special connections bocce can create. To follow is Ava's experience, in her own words.

"At the 2026 USBF National Championships, I had the opportunity to partner with one of the most respected players in US bocce, Teresa Passaglia, in the Women's Doubles Punto Raffa Volo (PRV) competition. It was an experience I will always treasure, not only because of the level of competition, but because of the generosity, confidence, and kindness Teresa brought to the court.

The opportunity came about through my family and the bocce community. My dad first mentioned the idea of playing with Teresa, and I was immediately excited. I have always admired her as a player, especially her confidence and precision as a pointer. Later, at the Aldo Della Croce Open Bocce Tournament, Danny Passaglia (Florida) encouraged me to pursue the opportunity, and when I reached out to Teresa, she graciously agreed. I was thrilled.

What stood out to me most was how comfortable she made me feel. Teresa is incredibly confident in her game, and that confidence is contagious. If she believed she could make a point, I trusted her completely. That trust helped me relax and play with more confidence myself. I also had the chance to shoot, which was a new role for me in competition and made the experience even more memorable.

Teresa was also one of the funniest people I have ever played with. Between shots, she kept us laughing, smiling, and enjoying the moment. That balance of seriousness and joy made the tournament feel special.

One of the most valuable parts of playing with Teresa was learning from her experience. She helped me focus on technique, especially in shooting, and reminded me how important it is to repeat the same motion with consistency. She also encouraged me to think carefully about my form, my follow-through, and the details that make a difference in performance. Her advice stayed with me throughout the tournament.

I also learned a great deal about teamwork and communication. When I started to doubt myself, Teresa was always there to reassure me. She reminded me that I had done it before and could do it again. That kind of support is powerful, especially for a younger player still building confidence at this level.

One of my favorite memories from the tournament was how hard we worked together. We spent hours practicing, studying the courts, and adjusting our strategy. Teresa knew the courts so well and could read them almost immediately. Her experience and intuition were incredible to watch.

Our match against the top seed from the other group was especially memorable. After a difficult start in group play, we fought our way through and ended up facing a strong team from Ohio. In that match, everything came together. I was hitting my shots, Teresa was making her points, and together we pulled off a win that I will never forget.

Playing with Teresa reinforced for me how valuable it is for younger players to compete alongside experienced athletes. A veteran player can serve as both a mentor and a source of confidence, while younger players bring energy and enthusiasm to the court. It is a combination that benefits everyone and strengthens the sport as a whole.

This experience has made me even more excited about bocce and about the future. I hope that one day I can be the kind of seasoned player Teresa is now, someone who can pass on knowledge, confidence, and love for the game to the next generation.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to play with Teresa. Her leadership, humor, and generosity made this tournament unforgettable, and her example will stay with me for years to come."

SUPPORT OUR ATHLETES

This October, eight talented athletes, along with a Head of Delegation and Head Coach, will proudly represent the United States on the international stage at the 2026 World Bocce Championship in Garibaldi, Brazil. Coming from Michigan, California, Illinois, Missouri, Ohio, and Florida, these athletes will come together as Team USA to compete among the best bocce players in the world and showcase the growing strength of American bocce.

Representing your country is an extraordinary opportunity, but international competition also comes with significant travel and lodging expenses. The United States Bocce Federation is committed to supporting our athletes and subsidizes a portion of their travel and boarding costs. However, this support does not cover all of the expenses associated with representing Team USA.

This is where our bocce community can make a difference.

There are two ways to support our athletes: through a [direct donation](#) or by becoming a Team USA sponsor. Every contribution, regardless of size, helps offset the costs for our athletes and allows them to focus on what they do best, representing the United States and competing at the highest level of our sport.

Donations can be made directly through the USBF website at usbf.us/donate.

We are also inviting businesses, organizations, clubs, and individuals, both within and beyond the bocce community, to consider becoming sponsors. Sponsorship provides an opportunity to support these dedicated athletes while connecting your organization with a passionate and growing community and helping bring greater visibility and recognition to the sport of bocce. Details about sponsorship opportunities are below or contact Nicholas Imo at nickimostl@gmail.com.

★ ★ ★ 2026 BOCCE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ★ ★ ★

SPONSORS NEEDED!

YOUR IMPACT!

- **YOUR COMPANY ON THE OFFICIAL USA JERSEY!**
- **INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE!**
- **HELP GROW USA BOCCE**
- **HELP OFFSET THE COST OF THE PLAYERS**



★ **TIERS OF SPONSORSHIP** ★

 3 SPOTS	GOLD WHATS INCLUDED: NAME ON THE BACK OF THE JERSEY (MOST VISIBLE). SOCIAL MEDIA RECOGNITION (MENTIONS AND TAGGED). HIGHLIGHTED AS A SPONSORER ON THE USBF WEBSITE MAIN PAGE. AND MORE! COST: \$2,000
 2 SPOTS	SILVER WHATS INCLUDED: NAME ON SLEEVE OF THE JERSEY. SOCIAL MEDIA RECOGNITION (MENTIONS AND TAGGED). HIGHLIGHTED AS A SPONSORER ON THE USBF WEBSITE MAIN PAGE. COST: \$1,000
 UNLIMITED SPOTS	BRONZE WHATS INCLUDED: NAME ON THE BACK OF PRACTICE JERSEY. SOCIAL MEDIA RECOGNITION (MENTIONS). HIGHLIGHTED AS A SPONSORER ON THE USBF WEBSITE MAIN PAGE. COST: \$500

CONTACT INFORMATION: NICHOLAS IMO
NICKIMOSTL@GMAIL.COM OR 314-681-2393

Sending Team USA to the World Championship is a reflection of how far bocce has come in the United States and how much further we can go together. **Your support helps our athletes represent our country with pride and helps build opportunities for the players who will follow them.**

Let's come together as a bocce community to support Team USA in Brazil, celebrate their accomplishments, and continue growing the sport we love.

Looking Ahead to 2027: Exciting New Opportunities for Bocce

The excitement of the 2026 season may be winding down, but the USBF is already looking ahead to an exciting 2027. The coming year promises to bring new opportunities for players of all ages, with expanded competition, new venues, and exciting possibilities for the continued growth of bocce across the country.

More Opportunities at the USBF Nationals

The 2027 USBF Nationals will once again provide a national stage for our athletes, including the Junior Qualifiers for Punto Raffa Volo (PRV). This will give our young players an opportunity to compete at a

high level while pursuing a path toward representing the United States in international competition.

The USBF is also exploring an exciting expansion of the Nationals to include an Open Bocce tournament. While details are still being developed, the addition would create another opportunity to bring even more players together and showcase the different ways our sport is played and enjoyed. More information will be coming as plans develop.

A New Opportunity for Players 50 and Over

Perhaps one of the most exciting developments for 2027 is that bocce will once again be part of the [National Senior Games](#).

The National Senior Games brings together thousands of athletes from across the country and celebrates competition, fitness, camaraderie, and active living at every age. The USBF is working with the National Senior Games Association to help bring bocce back to the Games in 2027, providing an exciting opportunity for players to compete on a national stage and introduce the sport to a broader audience.

The return of bocce to the National Senior Games is especially exciting for players age 50 and over. It offers experienced bocce players another opportunity to compete while also inviting athletes who may be new to the sport to discover the enjoyment, strategy, and camaraderie that bocce offers.

The opportunity to bring bocce back to the National Senior Games is an important development for the USBF and another step in expanding the reach of our sport.

Be sure to read the National Senior Games announcement included at the end of this newsletter for more information about this exciting opportunity and how you can participate.

A Year to Watch

From our youngest players pursuing opportunities through the Junior PRV Qualifiers, to the continued growth of Open Bocce, to the return of bocce to the National Senior Games, 2027 promises to be a year of growth and opportunity for the entire bocce community.

These developments reflect the USBF's commitment to expanding the sport, creating opportunities for players at every stage, and bringing bocce to new audiences across the country.

There is much more to come, and we look forward to sharing additional details in the months ahead.

The future of bocce is bright—and 2027 is just the beginning.



Get Ready: *Bocce Is Coming to the National Senior Games!*

A new competition opportunity is coming for bocce players 50 and over next year - the [National Senior Games!](#)

The National Senior Games Association (NSGA) has worked with the U.S. Bocce Federation to add bocce to its sport offerings. The Games attract over 12,500 athletes ages 50 to 100+ and rotate to a new host city every two years. The event heads to Tulsa, Oklahoma, in the summer of 2027, where bocce will join 27 other sports.

“Bocce’s accessibility and strong sense of community make it a perfect addition to the National Senior Games,” said Erica Peterson, NSGA Operations Manager. “We offer events for athletes of all levels, and we’re excited to introduce a sport that is as inclusive as it is engaging.”

The coordination, balance and strategy required in bocce support healthy aging, the goal of all Senior Games sports.

“Bocce has been on our radar as its popularity continues to grow, and we are grateful to the U.S. Bocce Federation for helping us bring this sport to the National Senior Games,” added Peterson.

Bocce competition - singles and open doubles - at the 2027 National Senior Games presented by Humana will be held June 30-July 5. Athletes will compete in five-year age divisions.

Participants can also enjoy special events, watch other sports, meet new people and experience all Tulsa has to offer.

Bocce will be an Open Sport for the 2027 Games. This means anyone at least 50 years old by Dec. 31, 2026, can participate, no qualification required. If you'd like to be notified when registration opens this fall, sign up for the [NSGA's newsletter](#).

What makes the National Senior Games unique is the opportunity to be part of something much bigger than a bocce tournament. The Senior Games movement is powered by 100,000+ older adults across the country who are rewriting the script on aging and proving it's never too late to pursue your passions.



One thing you'll find at every Senior Games event is camaraderie and support among the athletes. It often feels like a family reunion as much as a competition!

Some state-level Senior Games also offer bocce competitions, so be sure to check out what's available near you.

We hope you'll help us kick off bocce with a bang at the 2027 National Senior Games presented by Humana! Learn more at [NSGA.com](#).

USBF Board Election Results

New Leadership and Continued Commitment

During the 2026 USBF Nationals, the United States Bocce Federation held its Board elections, establishing the leadership team that will guide the organization in the coming year. The USBF election resulted in the following board officers: Danny Passaglia, President; Joe Quartarone, Vice President; Nicholas Imo, Secretary; and Natalina Bernardi, Treasurer.

A Leadership Opportunity in the Midwest Sector

Shortly after the Nationals, an opportunity also arose within the Midwest Sector of the USBF, requiring the sector to fill its President and Vice President positions. In considering where his time, experience, and commitment could best serve the organization, Nicholas Imo made the decision to step into the role of President of the Midwest Sector Board and vacate his position as USBF Secretary.

With Nicholas taking on this leadership role, the USBF Treasurer, Natalina Bernardi, assumed the responsibilities of Secretary at the national level, ensuring a smooth transition and continued leadership for the Federation.

The Midwest Sector is fortunate to have Nicholas serving as President, alongside Dante Lovell as Vice President. Their enthusiasm, energy, and commitment to the sport will be a valuable addition to the Midwest Sector and the USBF as a whole.

Congratulations to the newly elected Board and to all of our leaders stepping into new roles! We look forward to continued collaboration with our clubs, sectors, athletes, and the entire USBF community as we work together to strengthen and grow the sport of bocce throughout the United States.

Leadership transitions such as these demonstrate the strength of a volunteer organization. They reflect a willingness among our members to step forward, take on new responsibilities, and serve where their contributions can have the greatest impact.

The USBF extends its congratulations and appreciation to all of our leaders. We look forward to the year ahead and to working together with the bocce community to build on the momentum of the 2026 Nationals and continue creating opportunities for players, clubs, and the sport we all love.

2026 - 2028 USBF LEADERSHIP



Danny Passaglia
President



Joe Quartarone
Vice President / International Rep



Natalina Bernardi
Treasurer & Secretary

With Appreciation: Dr. John Liberto

The USBF extends its sincere and heartfelt appreciation to past President Dr. John Liberto for his leadership and dedicated service as President of the United States Bocce Federation. During his tenure, John challenged the Board to embrace inclusion and to recognize the importance of promoting both Punto Raffa Volo and Open Bocce, ensuring that the Federation continues to represent and support the many forms of our sport. He also emphasized the importance of growing bocce among our youth and expanding the reach of the game through streaming, social media, and other avenues that introduce bocce to new audiences. We are deeply grateful for John's selfless dedication of his time, his enthusiasm for the game, and, above all, his genuine love for bocce and the community that surrounds it. His leadership has helped broaden the conversation about where our sport can go, and his commitment will continue to be an important part of the USBF's growth and future.



Follow the USBF on [Facebook!](#)



Try email marketing for free today!