

- 3) On top of the sand put three inches of crushed, heavy stone base (this ensures proper water drainage).
- 4) Add 3 inches of tennis clay (fine clay powder used to surface tennis courts).
- 5) Add 1 inch of fine brick dust on top as dressing.
- 6) Now level, the entire surface using a rigid rake.
- 7) At this point wait for nature to contribute to your project by letting a rainfall wet the entire area. Check for low spots (puddles), and if necessary saturate these areas with more clay. (Note: a small hole bored into the end board will help you sweep out excessive water concentration).
- 8) After allowing 24 hours of drying time, spread the entire playing area of the court with 75 lbs. of calcium chloride. Take care that this layer of calcium chloride is evenly distributed by using a broom or a roller to obtain a level surface. Allow this mixture to settle overnight, then use a garden hose to sprinkle the entire court until damp. Once thoroughly moistened, compact the court surface with a heavy roller or hand tamper.

NOTE: At first the court's clay surface will crack and you must roll it and broom it several times. Cracking is good because it means that the court is stabilizing itself and will

provide the very best surface for a long time. Eventually the cracking will diminish and stop. Conversely, a court that won't crack may be too sandy and will require constant maintenance.

## Court Maintenance and Preservation

Once in a while lay down some fine brick dust and calcium chloride to maintain the court surface.

How frequently you do this depends on how much play the court gets.

At the end of the bocce season, remove the fine brick dust layer from outside courts by scraping, and reapply it at the beginning of the new season. This will protect your court and preserve it for a long time! Remember: the more you play, the firmer the court base will become, and this means a better playing surface.

---

Representative  
Costs To Build  
Three Bocce  
Courts (Forest  
Park, Springfield,  
Mass., 1993)

### MATERIALS

15 Yds Concrete (for footings)  
8" thick x 20' wide, @ \$54.64/yd: \$ 819.75

Concrete Block

1600 8x8x16 @ \$1.10 each: 1,760.00  
2400 8x12x16 @ \$1.65 each: 3,960.00

S  
e  
a  
l  
e  
d  
2  
x  
1  
0  
'  
s  
(  
f  
o  
r  
w  
o  
o  
d  
b  
o  
r  
d  
e  
r

s  
)  
5  
1  
6  
f  
e  
e  
t  
@  
1  
.  
0  
2  
/  
f  
t  
.  
:  
5  
2  
6  
.  
7  
5

One Skid of Cement (40 bags): 230.00

---