

**East Portal Bocce Club Board Meeting
East Portal Park Clubhouse
June 2, 2025**

Club Website: www.epbcsac.com

Officers/Directors Present:

Jay James, President
Joe Pane, Vice-President
Iggy Lopez-Alvarez, Treasurer
Catherine Travers, Secretary

Steve Choe, Director
John Leonard, Director
Romano Luchini, Director/Facilities Manager
Henry Powell, Director
Al Velasquez, Director

Officers/Directors Absent:

Visitors:

Ryan Tracy
Dennis Siebert
Laura de la Rosa
Devin Conklin

The meeting was called to order by President Jay James at 5:30 pm.

Roll Call

The roll call sheet was passed around by the secretary.

Approval of May Minutes

It was moved by Al and seconded by Henry to approve the May Minutes. The motion passed. The approved May Minutes will be posted online.

Treasurer's Report

Iggy reviewed the report and explained that the abbreviations in the Deposits section stand for Summer Team AM League (STAM), Summer Three-Person League (S3P) and Fall Evening League (FEL). Al asked if the expenses for the rebuild (Mark Haley for lighting and

Youngdahl Consulting for weld inspection) could be paid for by the Friends of East Sacramento (FOES) account. Iggy explained that if the invoice is made out to EPBC then we must pay for it. When we want FOES to pay a bill, it needs to be made out to them.

John asked if the Dewey Pest Control expense is monthly. Iggy replied that it is quarterly.

Henry moved to approve the Report and John seconded the motion. The motion passed. The approved Treasurer's Report for May is online.

President's Report

Jay brought an email dated May 16 from the American Cancer Society to our attention. They thanked us for our support.

Henry brought up the calendar and is recommending that a Board member is responsible for the calendar. This person would present past, current and future calendar events at meetings. They would also be responsible for verifying that the City of Sacramento is aware of our calendar and that we're in compliance with the Lease Agreement.

Iggy told the group that there are two occasions when we need to interface with the City: dealing with use of the clubhouse which Steve Choe handles by emailing Jose Barajas and the use of the bocce complex. Iggy is agreeable to dealing with Heather Kopf (Recreation General Supervisor with the Parks Department) when the City wants to use courts. Iggy also wants to give the City a proposed calendar for 2026. Joe is willing to continue to oversee volunteers.

Henry thinks the focus is too narrow. Are we aware of the groups wanting to use the courts for free? Henry believes that we need to give information to the City about the groups using the courts, for free or not. Iggy encourages Heather to consult our calendar before trying to schedule anything.

Catherine asked Henry for clarification, and he said that he wants one Board member to be responsible for the above. She thinks it's problematic to rely on three different people (Iggy, Steve and Joe) to handle the calendar and would prefer that one person does it.

Henry asked if the City has a general calendar which lists all the events going on in the City. Iggy replied no. Henry believes that we are trying to operate as not only a member organization but as a community organization and that the City Council and the community needs to know how the courts are being used. For instance, Henry asked how the City knows that we're doing open bocce once a month?

John said that if we have communication with the City we should be able to schedule their and our events on the calendar. Iggy can continue to put events on the calendar. Jay recommended

that we let the City know about the open bocce days which are supposed to happen once a month.

Joe would like to schedule every third Sunday as an open bocce day. There was some discussion about the Lease Agreement and what it says about this issue. Catherine pulled out the Agreement and read from it. It provides for 12 open bocce days a year.

Calendar Update

Iggy reviewed the June calendar. There are a lot of rentals. If you click on the note on the calendar, it will tell you how many courts are being used.

Fundraising

Catherine reported that more money came in after the April meeting and the total is now \$23,349.03. She cautioned that no one should add that amount to the \$4,780.39 in the Treasurer's Report because Iggy deposited some donations that were made out to EPBC instead of FOES which amounted to \$1,610.00. So that amount is included in the \$23,349.03.

Catherine is working with Lisa Schmidt to put an accounting on the website under the Treasurer's Report. This will include a total less bills paid.

Old Business

New Bylaws Language About Ending Games at 7:00 pm

Steve presented proposed language to address Article 7 of the Bylaws which addresses the concern that some members have about ending play at 7:00 when their new Tuesday league starts at 5:00.

This is the proposed language:

For league games scheduled to commence at **5:00 P.M.**, no new frame shall begin on or after **7:00 P.M.** Upon the conclusion of the final frame, the team that has achieved **15 points** or holds the higher score will be declared the winner. In the event of a tie score after the final frame has been played, a **tie-breaker frame** will be permitted, as games cannot end in a tie.

This is the first reading of new language for the Bylaws. It will be voted on at the next meeting.

Proposal For 4-Player Option

Steve reminded us that we are the only bocce club or federation that has two active players from the same team on the court at the same time on opposite sides. In other bocce leagues, four

players from the same team are playing at the same time. He believes the four-player option is more social. He is proposing that teams have the option of mutually agreeing on one of the formats. He recognizes that the two-player option is a solid, cherished tradition here, however, there are other options. Steve would add a Section 8 to accommodate the idea.

Steve read his proposal that he sent to the Board members. There are two proposals beside the normal two-player option:

- 1) Four team members (two from each team) play on the same side of the court. Each player rolls two balls. After the frame, all four players move to the other end of the court.
- 2) Four team members from each team play on opposite sides of the court. Team members don't move. Each player throws two balls.

He believes that the above options allow for more socialization, variety and strategies.

Catherine pointed out that the proposal involves three options and she feels that there is too much language to put in the Bylaws. She proposes that members try it out for the Fall League so that new teams and members learn about it. She believes it's premature to put it in the Bylaws.

Laure De La Rosa said that there really is no language in the Bylaws that covers how many team members play in each game.

John's concern is that people may be intimidated into choosing an option that they don't really want. Also, it needs to be clarified that each player throws two balls and there is some strategy involved.

Romano thinks we should send this to the members now so they can start asking questions and learn the details.

Dennis asked for clarification of the two options which board members provided. There were many questions about the options which Steve and Al answered.

Change from Nine Board Members to Eleven

This is a Bylaws change which was discussed and voted on in May. Since this is the second discussion it will now be part of the Bylaws for 2026.

New Business

Pops in the Park

Joe reported that the Club will have a table at Pops in East Portal Park this Saturday. Joe, Catherine and Henry will be there. Catherine proposed ordering a reusable 6-foot banner. She got a quote of \$105.00. Al moved and John seconded a motion to purchase the banner and spend up to \$150.00. The motion passed.

Toy Drive

Al introduced Devin Conklin who is a student at California North State. He is proposing a toy drive fund raiser. The idea is to run a tournament in which the entry fee is money or a new toy. He is partnering with WEAVE in Sacramento. John clarified that they are looking for new wrapped toys and he suggested a minimum of \$25 to \$30 for a toy. Steve suggested that the Club partner with the Toy Drive during our Friendship Tournament will be scheduled in July or early August. Devin can get volunteers to help. John moved and Joe seconded a motion to support the event. John asked Devin if he is asking for any monetary assistance to which he replied no. Steve mentioned that we're already providing the food for the Friendship Tournament so that's covered. The motion passed. Al recommended that we ask Club members to donate toys.

Sons and Daughters of Italy Donation

Mr. Louie Lodi from The Sons and Daughters of Italy arrived to give us a donation of \$200. They had scheduled a tournament for which they paid rental fees, cancelled the tournament and Iggy refunded their money. Louie returned the refund check (\$120 that was not cashed) and gave an additional donation of \$200 for a donation. The group thanked him.

Email from Tracilyn Malley Peters

She sent an email to the Board asking how to have a plaque put on the memorial board for her bocce partner of many years, Marie Arnaudo. She is willing to pay for the plaque. Laura said she believes she was a president of the Club in the past. Iggy asked that she contact him about it. John moved that all plaques be the same size. Henry seconded the motion which passed. The plaque for Romano's father is larger than the rest because Iggy got it from a different vendor.

Steve asked and Iggy responded that there is no criteria for how long someone should be a member of the Club before they are given a plaque.

Email Regarding Groups Requesting Discounts for Use of the Courts

There are two groups asking about court fees: a non-profit senior mental support group funded by the County and a single mom's group. Steve pointed out that if anyone is a member they can use the courts. Jay moved and Henry seconded a motion that a group that wants to use the courts for free or a discounted rate must make a presentation to the Board. The motion passed. There is no current policy about free use of the courts by a non-profit.

Email from Michelle Wilson

She volunteers at a children's program and one child did a video about bocce which she sent and is suggesting that we add it to our website. She thanked the Club for the information she got from the website. The Board members will view the video to see where we can use it.

Bocce Storytelling

Steve brought up the idea of storytelling as a way of helping people understand bocce. He would like a section on the website where we could post stories people tell about playing bocce.

Stockton Bocce Tournament

Jay received information from the Stockton Athletic Club about a No Walk Raffa Tournament on July 26. Laura explained that it's a three-person tournament with one person on one end of the court and two on the other end. There's no walking back and forth. She explained that it combines a single-person tournament with a two-person tournament.

Email from Jason Wiesemann

Jason from the Parks Department has requested to use the courts three times a year. Iggy explained that this is for the Access Leisure Program, and he told Heather to look at our calendar and propose some dates.

Maintenance Report

Romano reported that the first bench has been raised. He will work on the kiosk in front. Steve asked that he look at the window framed box next to court 4. Romano will look at it and fix it.

A. Warren McClaskey Adult Education Center

Henry has contacted them about starting play on Friday, September 5 on one court from 12:45 to 2:00. Henry will be there and ask for volunteers. They will come with staff.

Free Court Time

Henry believes we give away a certain amount of court time a year and he would like Iggy to come up with an account of how many hours of court time we give for free each month.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18.