

# Approved Unanimously by the Board on 1/6/25

## East Portal Bocce Club Bylaws

### Article 1 - The Club

This Club shall be known as the East Portal Bocce Club (Club) of Sacramento, California. The Club has nine (9) Board members, which are elected by the Club members. The Board Members must also be members of the Club.

#### **Section A. Mission Goals**

The goals and purposes of the organization shall be to protect & further the interest and welfare of its members and the Club as a whole, and to enhance community accord and friendship. A major purpose of the Club is to promote the game of Bocce and associated social functions through its activities.

#### **Section B. Mission Objectives**

- 1.) To promote the game of bocce and to disseminate information pertaining to the same;
- 2.) To educate the public about the game of bocce;
- 3.) To provide social activities for our members;
- 4.) To create awareness of Italian Heritage and Culture.

### Article 2 – Bylaws

As used in this document, all references to the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine and neutral genders and vice versa. All references to the singular shall be deemed to include the plural and vice versa, whenever the context so permits.

These bylaws control the operation and policy of the Club and the Board of Directors and members are bound by its provisions. Changes to these by-laws can occur only after debate at two subsequent Board of Directors' meetings and with an affirmative vote of six (6) Board Members. **There must be a quorum to finalize any vote. A quorum is 50% plus one Director, thus six (6) Directors must be present and voting.**

### Article 3 - Board of Directors

Nine (9) members of the Club are elected as the Board of Directors, to serve a staggered two year term. The members of the Club shall vote for four (4) Board members on odd number years, and five (5) Board members on even numbered years. The Board of Directors shall elect a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer at the next Board of Directors meeting following the election of the Directors.

#### Description of Duties of Elected Officers

The elected officers elected by the Board of Directors are: the President; the Vice-President; the Treasurer and the Secretary.

### President:

The duties of the President are: to be responsible for all activities of the Club. The President shall conduct all of the Board meetings and be responsible to create and make sure all Board members have an agenda before any meeting. Along with the Treasurer, the President shall be required to co-sign the checks to pay the debts of the Club. The President shall also be responsible to provide direction on any project the Club undertakes. The President may, at his or her discretion, name chairmen for any committee the President creates.

### Vice President:

The duties of the Vice-President shall be to stay informed about ongoing projects the Club is involved with. The Vice-President is to be ready to step-in in place of the President, if the President is not able to conduct the business of the Club. To that end, the Vice-President shall work “hand-in-glove” with the President.

### Treasurer:

The duties of the Treasurer are to keep a running account of the Club’s financial status. The Treasurer shall make a complete report of same at each Board meeting. The Treasurer shall make available the financial books of the club to any member of the Board upon request. Along with the President, the Treasurer shall co-sign checks to pay the debts of the Club. The Secretary, the Treasurer, or their designee shall keep the website up to date. The Treasurer shall deposit, into the bank, all funds brought in by the Club. The Treasurer shall be responsible for creating team rosters, membership rosters, to collect and deposit, in the bank, team fees and membership dues. From time to time, the club will have the opportunity to rent the courts to various groups or individuals; the Treasurer shall be responsible for creating a rental agreement and collecting the rental fees. The Treasurer shall conduct any other business that may fall under the Treasurer’s purview.

### Secretary:

The duties of the Secretary shall be all communications to and from members or other entities who may want to do business with the Club. The Secretary along with the Treasurer shall keep the website up to date. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping an historical record of the Club. The Secretary shall also be responsible for taking the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors. The Club web address is: [www.epbcsac.com](http://www.epbcsac.com)

### Directors

The duties of the remaining Directors shall be to work with the President and other elected officers on various projects and committees, etc.

### Article 3a - Election of Officers

The President shall appoint an Elections Committee (EC) from within the Board of Directors. The EC will survey the membership as to anyone wanting to run for the office of Director. This can be done by email via a nomination form. The EC will set a due date for all nominations and create a ballot with the names of those EPBC members who have agreed to be a candidate. On the nomination form, a signed statement by the nominee will be required stating that they will agree to serve if elected. The EC will send another email to the membership to vote on the ballot of candidates for Director(s). The ballot

will contain the due date for submission of the ballot.

The results of the votes by e-mail will then be taken to the annual **End of Year Dinner**. If no nominees are received via e-mail using the nomination form, any member present at the dinner can be nominated for office from the floor. If any member is nominated from the floor, that person shall sign an **affidavit - of – intent** to agree to serve, if elected. The results of the e-mail ballot and any votes taken from the floor at the dinner will be announced to all present.

#### **Article 4 - Meetings**

Meetings of the Board of Directors will be held on the first Monday of each month, unless otherwise changed by a vote by the Board, located in the Clubhouse at East Portal Park, or other suitable place. The meetings will begin promptly at 5:30 PM. unless changed by the Board of Directors. Directors who do not have an excused absence and miss **three consecutive meetings** will be dropped. After two absences, a letter or e-mail will be sent to advise the Board member that they will be dropped.

#### **Article 5 - General Rules**

The purpose of this Club is to promote the game of Bocce and comradeship between members. **Membership is open to all individuals.** Members under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a member 18 years of age or older when using the Bocce courts. Discrimination against any individual or group will not be tolerated. Each active member is entitled to bring guests to the Club. The member can bring no more than two guests at any one time. An individual can only be a guest once and must be sponsored, submit an application, be accepted and pay annual dues prior to enjoying further privileges of Club membership.

#### **Article 6 - Conduct and Discipline**

Proper conduct is to be maintained by all members when participating in Club activities. **Members are to be courteous to each other and any guests.** Any member may report improper conduct to the Board of Directors. The Board has the option of disciplinary action or dismissal if a member acts in a way that is detrimental to the membership at large. In all cases involving disciplinary action or dismissal, a notice in writing including a copy of the specific charges made, shall be e-mailed to the accused member at least fifteen (15) days prior to the next Board of Directors meeting and the member will be given the opportunity to respond to the charges made, either in writing or in person at the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting. The ruling of the Board of Directors is final.

#### **Article 7 - The Rules**

All members must abide by the rules of the Club. Rules must be kept at the Courts at all times and copies made available for all members.

The Official EAST PORTAL BOCCE CLUB LEAGUE RULES are as follows:

##### **I. Teams**

**All league players MUST be members of the Club.** A Team shall consist of a minimum of two (2) players and a maximum of five (5) players. Teams are encouraged to name more than two players on their roster. **NOTE:** A player listed on one team's roster in the current league season cannot play on another team during the same league season. All roster changes shall be made prior

to the first match of the season. Failure to abide by the rule shall be forfeiture of any matches played with this player, not on a roster by the first match of the league season. **EXCEPTION.** If a player(s) on a team can no longer play bocce due to **injury** or for **health reasons**, the Captain may petition the Board to permit a roster change after the first match of season. This petition will be reviewed by the Board on a case-by-case basis. If the Board approves the petition for a roster change, the players that were removed from the roster are no longer members of the team and thus cannot return to the team for the rest of the season.

## **II. Substitutions**

There can only be two (2) players from each team participating in a game, although another player on the team roster, may substitute in after any frame. Any player who substitutes out of a game will not be allowed back in the same game. However, said player may return to play in a subsequent game.

## **III. Make-up Matches**

Matches can be rescheduled **ONLY** due to inclement weather (heat, cold, rain). A rescheduled match must occur within two (2) weeks of the originally scheduled match. The team unwilling or unable to reschedule a match will take a forfeit. If both teams opt not to reschedule, both games will be recorded as a "0" for each team. Before a proposed cancellation, communication must occur between the two captains no later than two (2) hours prior to the scheduled match.

## **IV. Forfeiture**

If a team is not going to be able to play and will be forfeiting both games, as a courtesy, the forfeiting team captain should contact the opponent's team captain as soon as possible. Oftentimes, teams travel from quite a distance to play, and advance notification and courtesy will be appreciated by all players.

## **V. Arrival and Court Preparation (Courts 1-5)**

**After the gate combination lock is opened to gain access to the courts, FOR SECURITY PURPOSES, PLEASE SCRAMBLE THE NUMBERS ON THE OPENED LOCK SO THAT THE COMBINATION IS NOT OBSERVABLE TO ANY NON-MEMBER WHO WALKS UP AND LOOKS AT THE LOCK.**

All teams should report to the courts at least ½ hour prior to the start of their match to see if the courts need attention prior to game play.

Minimum court prep before play should be as follows:

1. Remove any leaves & debris from the court;
2. Squeegee any overt moisture.

## VI. Warm Up

Warm-up is 15 – 30 minutes prior to play. Teams are required to check in with each other and then warm up. Matches are to begin promptly as scheduled.

If a team is not present after five (5) minutes from the start time of the first game, the first game will be forfeited. If a team is not present to play after 15 minutes from the start time of the first game, the second game will be forfeited as well.

If a team knows that it cannot arrive in time for the first game, but can be present for the second game, **AND THE TEAM CAPTAIN CALLS THE OPPOSING TEAM CAPTAIN THE NIGHT BEFORE THE MATCH**, the first game will still be forfeited but the forfeiting team will have 30 minutes from the scheduled start of the first game to begin the second game. If the second game cannot be scheduled to begin promptly 30 minutes from the scheduled start of the first game or earlier, then the second game will be forfeited as well.

## VII. End Goal of the Game

Games will be played until one team has reached **15 points**. There cannot be any ties.

## VIII. General Playing Rules

### **A. Bocce Balls**

The Bocce Balls to be used for league play are composition balls. Bocce Balls provided by the East Portal Bocce Club for league play (“house” balls) are located in the locked ball racks on the courts. Balls brought in from the outside can be used for league play as long as **both** teams are in agreement with their use. If not, the “House Balls” must be used for league play by both teams. If outside balls are to be used in a match, the balls must be composition and be 107 centimeters in diameter and weigh 920 grams.

### **B. Start of Game**

Begin the match with a flip of a coin between captains of each team. The winner of the coin flip may have the first toss of the pallino or choose the color of the balls when “house” balls are used.

### **C. Pallino**

A player may toss the pallino any distance as long as the pallino completely passes the centerline of the court and does not hit the back wall. If a player fails to toss the pallino completely past the center line or if the pallino hits the backboard at the opposite end, the opposing team will toss the pallino and put it into play. If the opposing team fails to properly toss the pallino after 1 attempt, the pallino reverts to the original team, and so on. **Regardless of which team throws the pallino, the player that originally tossed the pallino will throw the first bocce ball.** Should the first ball hit the backboard without touching the pallino, it is a dead ball and removed from the court. The same team must throw again and continue rolling until a valid point is established.

## D. Play of Game

Active players are individuals who are on the court rolling the bocce balls. **ONLY** the four individuals playing the match are authorized to be on the bocce courts during the match. Active players are to remain in the court while a game is being played. The player who has the next roll is not allowed to cross the center court line without permission from the opposing team. If the player who has the next roll wants to walk down to the opposite end of the court to get a closer look at the balls and at the pallino in play, it will be allowed **ONCE** per frame and in a timely manner (**NOT TO EXCEED 1 MINUTE**). When a player steps up to the foul line to throw a ball, all active players should be standing near the backboard. **DO NOT** crowd or disturb players when they are taking their turn.

Players may use side boards at any time. If a ball hits the backboard without first touching another ball or the pallino, it is a dead ball and is removed from the court. If a ball is shot and hits the backboard without touching another ball or pallino and then rolls back and strikes a stationary ball/balls, the shot ball is removed from the court and the stationary ball/balls are placed in their approximate original position/s. If a ball is shot and knocks another bocce ball out of the court, that ball is considered a dead ball and removed from play.

If, during the play of the game, the pallino is struck and either leaves the court or bounces back in front of the center court line, the frame is considered void and the team that started the frame will begin again at the opposite end of the court.

## E. Throwing/Rolling and Shooting

A throw or roll is done with the player's foot placed behind or directly on the foul line. A throw or roll is valid as long as any part of the foot is behind the foul line or touching the line at the moment the ball is released from the player's hand.

**ONE WARNING** will be given to those who step completely over the foul line at the moment the ball is released from the player's hand. After that, if another foul is committed, the tossed ball will be taken out of play. The pallino or any balls struck by the disqualified ball will be returned to their original position on the court prior to the disqualifying throw.

## F. Courts

**Only the active players are authorized to be on the bocce courts during matches.**

## G. Taking Measurements

Balls may be measured at any time. In the event a tie is determined after measurement, the last team to roll a ball must roll again until the tie is broken. If after all balls are played there is still a tie, no points are awarded and play resumes with the team that scored in the previous frame tossing the pallino from the opposite end of the court. At no time will any of the balls be moved during the measuring process. If a member of a team currently playing detrimentally moves the ball to the point that it cannot be replaced for accurate measurement to the satisfaction of both teams, then the point is awarded to the opposing team.

All measurements are to be done in the following manner:

- 1) The players that threw the balls will remain at the end of the court where they were shooting.
- 2) The teammates at the opposite end of the court will do the measuring.
- 3) Hold the measuring tape in one hand, gently slide the end of the tape to the inside edge of the ball closest to the pallino.
- 4) Stretch the tape over the center of the pallino.
- 5) Read the measurement to the center of the pallino.

**AT NO TIME will any of the balls be moved during the measurement.**

## **H. End of Game**

It is the responsibility of the last teams playing to put away all the bocce equipment (balls, pallinos, tapes, etc.) and lock the equipment in the ball racks, turn off the lights, and lock all locks and the gates. Please test all the locks including the equipment shed and league box and make sure they are securely locked. Please change the numbers on the lock tumbler so that the combination is not readily displayed. Team Captains shall enter their match results in the scorebook located in the box next to Court 4. The scorebook shall be placed inside the box to prevent any weather damage to the scorebook.

## **I. Disputes**

In the event a question or dispute arise during a game, any member of the Board of Directors that are present, shall act as referees and their decision **SHALL be FINAL.** At present (January, 2025) the Board **Members are: John Leonard, Jay James, Iggy Lopez-Alvarez, Steve Choe, Catherine Travers, Joe Pane, Henry Powell, Romano Luchini, and Albert Velasquez.**

## **J. Court/League Etiquette**

Please observe court etiquette at ALL times and refrain from any actions or activities that might distract other players. Courtesy & respect to all shall be displayed at ALL times. Profanity and unsportsmanlike conduct **WILL NOT** be tolerated or permitted. The Board should be notified in writing of complaints regarding unsportsmanlike conduct and the complaint will be addressed and responded to at the next scheduled Board Meeting.

- 1.) Smoking is prohibited and illegal on the courts AT ALL TIMES. (It is illegal per the City of Sacramento Youth, Parks and Community Enrichment regulations.)
- 2.) Please limit cell phone usage to EMERGENCY calls only while in or around the court areas, while teams are playing games for league play.
- 3.) NO children are to be on the court during matches unless they are a dues paid team member.
- 4.) All Club members and guests are strongly encouraged to clean and to pick up debris from the courts prior to vacating the premises. Trash, screw caps, recyclables, soda cans, etc. are to be discarded in the appropriate containers.

## **K. Safety:**

The personal safety of each Club member, guest, or visitor is of the utmost and primary importance. The prevention of play or facility induced injuries is of such consequence that it will be given precedence over all other league activities, whenever necessary. To the greatest degree possible, the Board of Directors, in keeping with the highest standards, will attempt to maintain our facility while conforming to the best practices of clubs and facilities of this type.

To be successful, our program must embody proper attitudes toward safety and injury by ALL Club members, guests and visitors. Only through such a cooperative effort can safety, in the best interest of all, be established and preserved. Members, guests and visitors are requested to report all unsafe acts or conditions to the Board members IMMEDIATELY.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND SAFE PLAY

## **Article 8 – Membership Dues and Team League Fees**

The Annual membership dues are currently **\$60.00 per member**, however, the Access Leisure/Special Olympics/VIP Friday members will be assessed dues of \$35.00 per year. There will be no prorating of yearly dues. At the beginning of each year, a new Club Membership Application Form will be available and a new membership roster will be created. The current year Club Membership Application Form will be available on the Club website. Since the Club communicates with its members via email, it is **important** to include a **valid email address on your application**. The combination to the courts and all boxes will also be changed at the beginning of the year. Upon receipt of the membership form and payment of dues, Club members will receive, via e-mail, the new combination for all the locks, and in fairness to all PAID members, the combinations will not be shared with non-members.

**ALL players of a team MUST be PAID members before the team will be considered a legal team for the Monday through Friday Leagues.**

Currently, there are **seven** league seasons per year as follows:

### Team League Fees

• Spring Evening League (February-May)	\$80.00
• Spring Tuesday Morning League (February-May)	\$80.00
• Special Summer Evening League; 3 person Teams (May-July)	\$75.00
• Summer Tuesday Morning League (May-August)	\$80.00
• Fall Evening League (August-October)	\$120.00
• Fall Tuesday Morning League (August-November)	\$120.00
• Fall Friday Morning League (August-November)	\$120.00

The **Team Captain** will be responsible for submitting the complete League Application Package, which consists of:

- Membership Application for each player
- Team League Application Form



- Payment via check or money order for the League fee and all player membership fees

The check/money order shall be made payable to **East Portal Bocce Club** by the due date indicated on the Team Application Form to ensure priority registration. **NOTE:** Play in a previous league **does NOT** guarantee a day/time slot if the application package is received after the due date that is listed on the Team Application Form.

The Club web address is: [www.epbcsac.com](http://www.epbcsac.com)

### **Article 9 – East Portal Bocce Club Friendship Tournament**

An annual open tournament known as The Friendship Tournament will take place in the summer

### **Article 10 - Indemnification of Directors**

Any person made a party to any action, suit, or proceeding by reason of act that he, his testator or intestate, is or was a Director of the Club shall be indemnified by the Club against:

- 10.1 The reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, actually and necessarily incurred by him/her in connection with the defense of such action, suit or proceeding, or in connection with any appeals therein, except in relation to matters as to which it shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding that such Director is liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of his/her duties; and
- 10.2 The reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred by him in connection with or resulting from any action, suit or proceeding, which is settled with the approval of the court having jurisdiction thereof, but only in such amount as a court of competent jurisdiction shall determine and found to be reasonable in the circumstances and except in relation to matters as to which the Club has obtained a written opinion of independent legal counsel that with respect to said matters, such Director did not act in good faith in the reasonable belief that his actions were in the best interests of the Club.
- 10.3 The foregoing rights of indemnification shall not be exclusive of any other rights to which a Director (or his legal representative) may be entitled under any statute now or heretofore in effect as a matter of law.

### **Article 11 – Expenditure of Club Funds**

All expenditures of Club funds must be approved by a quorum of the Board of Directors. Under normal conditions, any expenditure over **\$250.00** must be pre-approved by the Board and the check must be endorsed by **both** the President and the Treasurer. In an emergency situation, where the Board Members cannot be reasonably contacted, any expenditure over \$250 must be approved and endorsed by both the President and the Treasurer.

### **Article 12 – Prohibition Against Sharing Corporate Profits and Assets**

No director, officer, employee or other person connected with the Club, or any private individual shall receive at any time any of the net earning or pecuniary profits from the operation of the Club, provided, however, that this provision shall not prevent payment to any such person of reasonable compensation for services performed for the Club in effecting any of its public or tax-exempted purposes; provided

that such compensation is otherwise permitted by these Bylaws and is fixed by resolution of the Board of Directors; and, no such person or persons shall be entitled to share in the distribution of, and shall not receive, any of the Club's assets upon dissolution of the Club.

All members, if any, of the Club shall be deemed to have expressly consented and agreed to that on such dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Club, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, the assets of the Club, after all debts have been satisfied, shall be distributed to a non-profit fund, foundation or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes and which have established its tax-exempted status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or another bocce club which has established its tax-exempted status under Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The property of the Club is irrevocably dedicated to tax-exempted purposes and no part of the net income or assets of the organization shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer, or member thereof or to the benefit of any private person.

We, the undersigned, are all of the persons elected as the directors of the EAST PORTAL BOCCE CLUB, and, pursuant to the authority granted to the directors by these Bylaws to take action by unanimous written consent without a meeting, consent to, and hereby do, amend the foregoing Bylaws of this association.

*Signature on File*

Jay James, PRESIDENT

*Signature on File*

Joe Pane, VICE PRESIDENT

*Signature on File*

Catherine Travers, SECRETARY

*Signature on File*

Iggy Lopez-Alvarez, TREASURER

*Signature on File*

Romano Luchini, DIRECTOR

*Signature on File*

Steve Choe, DIRECTOR

*Signature on File*

John Leonard, DIRECTOR

*Signature on File*

Albert Velasquez, DIRECTOR

*Signature on File*

Henry Powell, DIRECTOR

## **CERTIFICATE**

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Bylaws of the association named in the title thereto and that such Bylaws were duly amended by the Board of Directors of said association on the date set forth below.

As amended,  
Dated: **January 6, 2025**

*Signature on File*  
Catherine Travers, Secretary