# Boccia Bonanza <br> Group Games 

 DisabilitySport
boccia games to play with large groups


## BACKGROUND

This section provides some boccia games which can be played with a large class or group. They are fun and build skills. There are some general pointers to help get you started, especially if you are new to boccia and managing bigger numbers. A key consideration is to ensure maximum playing time for everyone - the more time playing, the greater the practice opportunities. Try to encourage the group to think creatively and come up with their own ideas for equipment and variations of games, to share and try out.

## Groupings:

If you are playing these games with a large class or group then decide how many different playing areas you can accommodate in your space and split the players into smaller teams.
It is especially important to split into a number of smaller teams for games where players take turns. This will reduce long waiting times and inactivity.


## Equipment:

If you have boccia equipment then this is a bonus but if you don't there are a range of small objects that can be used as replacements: e.g.
beanbags, rolled up socks, juggling balls.
Ideally you want objects that will easily roll or slide along the floor but come to a stop.
All of the games can be played using ramps if required by players.

## Team Colours:

Boccia teams are usually BLUE or RED and each team member plays with balls in their team colour. It is unlikely that you will be able to have enough balls of red and blue for your whole group and so you could use groups of colours as follows:

- Red or Hot Team - red, yellow, orange balls
- Blue or Cool Team - blue, green, purple balls



## Playing Positions:

Boccia is a seated game. Where possible players should participate in the games from a seated position, e.g. wheelchair, bench, chair. However, there will be times when, depending on the circumstances, it will be most practical for them to play sitting or kneeling on the floor.

## HOW TO USE THESE GAMES

These games can be used in your session in a variety of ways.


## GAME TITLE: DUCK AND DIVE

## You will need:

- A range of small balls, 2 for each player if possible, e.g. boccia balls, beanbags, rolled up socks, juggling balls
- One large light ball per game, e.g. beach ball, gym ball
- 2 benches or rows of chairs, or the players can sit or kneel on the floor.



## How to set up:

- Two teams of 4-6 players
- Sit the teams at opposite ends of the playing area and identify a goal line for each team using a line on the floor or markers or cones
- Give each player 1 ball or 2 balls if possible



## How to play:

- Start with the large ball in the middle of the playing area
- Players aim to score a goal by knocking the large ball over the other team's goal line
- Players should:
- use underarm throws only
- not move from their position until the game is finished
- If a goal has not been scored once everyone has thrown:
- the game stops while the balls are collected and given back out to the players
- The large ball stays in the position it was when the balls ran out


## GAME TITLE: HOOPS CHALLENGE

## You will need:

- Small balls, 2 for each player if possible, e.g. boccia balls, beanbags, rolled up socks, juggling balls
- A red hoop and a blue hoop
- A row of benches or chairs, or the players can sit or kneel on the floor



## How to set up:

- Two teams of 2-4 players
- Place the red and blue hoops level with each other at least 2 metres from the line of players
- Players sit side by side, facing the hoops, in alternating team colours - blue, red, blue, red, etc.


## How to play:

- Players take turns to roll or throw their ball into their coloured hoop - blue balls in blue hoop, red balls in red hoop. Once all balls are thrown the team with the most balls in their own hoop are the winner.


## Variations:

- Red team aim for the blue hoop and blue team aim for the red hoop
- Add a barrier, e.g. bench, row of markers, skittles and canes. Players must throw the ball over the barrier and into the hoop. Players using a ramp can roll the ball under, through or to the side of the barrier, depending on the type of barrier.
- Players aim for either the red or blue hoop and can aim to knock the other team's balls out of the hoops. The team with the most balls in the hoops is the winner.


## GAME TITLE: BETWEEN THE LINES

## You will need:

- Small balls, 2 for each player if possible, e.g. boccia balls, beanbags, rolled up socks, juggling balls
- A row of benches or chairs, or the players can sit or kneel on the floor

- A long strip on the floor, e.g. two parallel lines, a long strip of paper approximately 30 cm wide, a long scarf


## How to set up:

- Two teams of 2-4 players
- Position the players at least 2 metres from the strip on the floor
- Players sit side by side, facing the strip, in alternating team colours - blue, red, blue, red, etc.


## How to play:

- Players take turns to roll or throw their ball to land on the strip. Players can also aim to knock another player's ball off the strip. Once all balls are thrown the team with the most balls on the strip is the winner.


## GAME TITLE: SUPER SHAPES

## You will need:

- Small balls, 2 for each player if possible, e.g. boccia balls, beanbags, rolled up socks, juggling balls
- Flat targets of different shapes and colours, e.g. sheets of paper, throw down spots, carpet tiles.
- A row of benches or chairs, or the players can sit or kneel on the floor




## How to set up:

- Two teams of 2-4 players

- Players sit side by side, facing the targets, in alternating team colours, i.e. blue, red, blue, red, etc.
- Place the targets randomly around the space in front of the players.



## How to play:

- Players take turns and aim to land their ball on any of the targets. Players can also aim to knock another player's ball off a target. Once all balls are thrown the team with the most balls on the targets is the winner.


## Variations:

- Identify a SUPER SHAPE or ACE COLOUR and any balls that finish on a target of that colour or shape score double points for the team total.


## GAME TITLE: KNOTS AND CROSSES

## You will need:

- Small balls, 2 for each player if possible, e.g. boccia balls, beanbags, rolled up socks, juggling balls
- 9 hoops to make a knots \& crosses grid, or you can use coloured spots or tape a grid on the floor
- A row of benches or chairs, or the players can sit or kneel on the floor



## How to set up:

- Two teams of 2-6 players

- Make a knots \& crosses grid by arranging 9 small hoops in a square $3 \times 3$
- Sit the teams at opposite ends with the knots \& crosses grid in the middle



## How to play:

- Players take turns to roll or throw the ball into a hoop.
- Players can knock the other team's ball out of a hoop.
- The first team to get three balls in a row in the hoops is the winner, i.e. three hoops in a row containing only balls of their team's colour.

