



How to Play Bocce Ball

Find friends to play with: Grab as few as two and as many as eight people, and divide into two even teams, Team A and Team B.

Get started: A member of Team A throws out the smallest ball — known as the “pallino” or “jack” — which acts as a marker. The same person gets the first chance to throw one of their larger balls as close to the pallino as possible.

Alternate turns: Now, Team B gets their chance to throw a ball as close to the pallino as they can. The play alternates until all the larger balls are gone. Whoever lands closest to the pallino wins that set, making them the “in” team.

Count up the score: After all the balls have been thrown, the “in” team scores one point for every ball that’s closer to the pallino than the nearest ball of the opposing team.

Start another round: After the score is counted, the balls are gathered up and the “out” team throws the pallino to start another round. Play continues until one team scores a set number of points, usually about 13.