
WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Waukegan Park District and Waukegan Township Partner to Host Bocce Ball Tournament

Waukegan, Illinois (August 23, 2021) – The Waukegan Park District and Waukegan Township are partnering to host a Bocce Ball Tournament on Friday, September 17 from 2pm to 5pm at Corrine J. Rose Park, located at 412 S. Lewis Avenue. The Bocce Ball Tournament is open to individuals fifty-five (55) years and older.

Participants will have the chance to win prizes for first, second, and third place in the tournament. All participants will be guaranteed two games in the tournament.

According to the United States Bocce Federation, bocce, also known as Italian lawn bowling, is one of the most widely played games in the world and has been gaining popularity in the United States. Best known in Italy, many Sicilians gather in a town square for a daily afternoon game.

Due to bocce's popularity among local adults, the renovation of Corrine J. Rose Park included new courts located near Waukegan Township's Park Place Senior Center.

Jacqueline Herrera Giron, President of the Waukegan Park District Board of Commissioners, stated, "The Waukegan Park District is proud to partner with Waukegan Township to host a Bocce Ball Tournament. Intergovernmental relationships like these are vital to build community. The tournament will give older adults an opportunity to enjoy the new bocce courts at Corrine J. Rose Park in a structured tournament."

Jay Lerner, Executive Director of the Waukegan Park District, stated, "The Waukegan Park District fosters partnerships with other government entities to enhance the recreation and leisure opportunities available for our community. The Bocce Ball Tournament is the result of a collaboration with Waukegan Township to provide an opportunity for older adults to be active in the parks."

Marc L. Jones, Waukegan Township Supervisor, stated, "The partnership with the Waukegan Park District will offer our community's older adults an opportunity to compete in a friendly tournament right next to Waukegan Township's Park Place Senior Center. Keeping older adults active with recreation activities like these are important for their health and wellness. Waukegan Township is thankful to have the Waukegan Park District as a partner."

Registration is now open and space is limited. The fee to participate is \$20 per team or \$12 per player. More details, including registration, are available at waukeganparks.org/adultsports.

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About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 53 properties and more than 742 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. Properties are managed to the highest environmental and conservation standards. Facilities operated by the district include the Field House Sports, Fitness and Aquatics Center, Jack Benny Center for the Arts, Waukegan's Greg Petry SportsPark, Waukegan Skate Park, BMX Track, SplashZone, Percussion Playground, recreational centers, disc golf course, dog exercise area and agility course, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, splash pads, and sports courts including basketball, tennis and pickleball. A full range of programs and services are offered year-round for all ages, from infants to seniors as well as special needs populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Cultural events are provided by the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, and the Waukegan History Museum. We offer something for everyone!

The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA) and the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA). The District employs 64 full-time and nearly 200 part-time, seasonal, and temporary employees and is recognized by the IPRA as an Exceptional Workplace.

Nationally accredited by the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) and State accredited through the IAPD Distinguished Agency Accreditation. The District has received Government Finance Officer Association (GFOA) awards for Distinguished Budget Presentation and Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting for ten consecutive years and received the coveted GFOA Triple Crown Award recognizing the District's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Popular Annual Financial Reporting and Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 2019. The Waukegan Park District was awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013 and named a Gold Medal Finalist in 2012, 2013, 2019, and 2021.

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