

Regional and National Boccia Championships Rules and Guidelines 2011/12

Eligibility/Entry

The Boccia England Regional and National Boccia Championships are individual competitions open to England players that meet the CPISRA classification guidelines for Boccia (BC1, BC2, BC3, BC4). Further details can be found on http://www.bocciaengland.org.uk/player_classification.php.

Divisions of Play

- BC3 – Individuals using assistive device
- BC1- CP Class 1 players
- BC2 – CP Class 2 players
- BC4 – Non CP Class 1 or 2 players

Classification

Players are asked to state their classification on the entry form, this will be checked with Boccia England records. If a player does not have a classification they must state this on the form and include any information that may be of use to the classifiers.

Regional Classification

Players are only able to compete in the competition if they have received at least a Regional classification. This is to ensure players are competing in the correct classification group. If a player does not have a classification on the day of the competition, they will be asked to arrive early in order to be seen by a classifier before the start of the competition. Some players may be deemed ineligible to compete, if this is the case we will endeavour to arrange some friendly matches on the day.

National Classification

Players competing in the National Championships must hold a National Classification. If a player does not have a National Classification, they will be seen by a National Classification Panel on the Friday evening before the National Championships start on the Saturday. Some players may be deemed ineligible to compete.

Players' classifications will be reviewed at 18 years of age at the highest level they hold (i.e. Regional, National or International). The complete classification guidelines can be obtained through the Boccia England office or on the Boccia England website.

Regional Championships

Eight Regional Championships will take place this season (North East, North West, Midlands, West, East, London, South East and South West). These act as qualification events for the National Championships. This year, to increase players' opportunity to compete and to increase their chances of qualification, players have the opportunity to enter a maximum of two Regional Competitions. The guidelines for entry are as follows:

- Players will be invited to enter their 'Home' Regional Championships - this is the Regional that is closest to their place of residence (depending on the player's circumstances, this could include home, school, college), and can enter an additional Regional Championships of their choice – their 'Away Regional Championships subject to availability. Entries for the Regionals will close two weeks prior to the competition date. At this point Home entries will be counted up; any remaining places will then be allocated to Away entries (based on max spaces per classification and first come first served).

- Players must enter their 'Home' Regional competition. If a player is unable to attend this Regional due to exceptional circumstances, they may be permitted to nominate an alternative Regional as 'Home' for this season. Boccia England must be notified in writing and the organising committee will make the final decision on whether to allow this.
- Players must also attend their 'Home' Regional Championship even if they have previously qualified through another Regional. If they finish in a qualifying position the next 'home' player down takes the place.

Qualification

The number of qualification places for the 'home' players will be reserved based on the qualification quota per classification group instigated in previous years. This is as follows:

Number of competitors in each classification group	No. of Qualifiers
1 – 4	1
5 – 9	2
10 – 14	3
15 – 19	4
20 – 25	5
25+	6

Any 'away' players finishing above the home reserved qualification places will qualify. Example qualification scenarios are listed in appendix 1.

National Championships

Entry to the National Championships can be achieved by the following criteria:

- Automatic Qualification (appendix 2)
- Qualification through the eight Regional Championships
- The DSE National Championships (this will be the last chance to qualify for the National Championships. Any player from England that reaches the Semi Finals in the BC1-4 categories will qualify for the National Championships. These will be based purely on position and will not be offered down the list when players that have already qualified finish in the top positions.
- In extenuating circumstances, additional players may be invited to compete. This will be at the direction of the organising committee.

Competition Rules

The events will be played under the CPISRA – Classification and Sports Manual 10th Edition (CBC) rules.

Boccia England, in accordance with CBC, recognises that situations may arise that are not covered within the manual. These situations will be dealt with at the time they arise in consultation with the Technical Delegate and/or Head Referee.

Equipment

Players will be permitted to use their own Boccia balls provided that they are of the CBC approved standard. Players must make their equipment available for inspection if the organiser/head referee/technical delegate/referee requests it. Boccia England will provide a set of HandiLife Boccia balls for each court for those players who do not have their own set or their set does not meet with regulations

Competition Format

Depending on the number of entries per classification group, players will compete in a round robin or preliminary round of pools leading to Final Knockout (KO) stages. The process for determining this will be as follows:

Regional Championships

- 1-5 players = round robin
- 6+ = Pools leading to KO

National Championships

- 1-7 players = round robin
- 8+ = Pools leading to KO

Choice of Pool Number and Pool Size

At the Regional Championships the elimination ratio of 33% - 75% is observed. In view of time constraints, the maximum number of pools, based on the criterion of no less than 3 players in each pool, will be chosen. At the National Championships the elimination ratio of 40% - 70% is observed. In view of time constraints, the maximum number of pools, based on the criterion of no less than 4 players in each pool, will be chosen.

Please refer to appendix 3 for the full table identifying the number of pools and KO entry with reference to the number of players in each division of play.

If only two players enter a classification division at a Regional Championships, they will play each other twice, Boccia England will endeavour to arrange some friendly matches on the day. If only one player enters a classification division, they will automatically qualify through to the National Championships, the player must have been seen for classification on the day, or prior.

Matches will consist of 4 ends. In the event of a tie, a tie break end will be played to determine the winner.

Pool constitution at Regional and National Championships will be based upon world ranking initially, and then upon players' previous results (the past three years of results will be referred to, the most recent season will be ranked higher). New players will then be placed randomly. Boccia England will make every effort to spread players from the same school/club/organisation across the pools.

Positions

Round Robin/Pool positions will be determined by:

- The player with the most wins will be placed in the highest position.
- In the event of a tie, the player with the highest points difference will take the highest position – points scored in a tiebreak will not be included
- In the event of there still being a tie, the player with the highest points for will be placed in the highest position – points scored in a tie break will not be included.
- In the unlikely event of there still being a tie then a sudden death playoff will be played.

Progression from Pool Rounds to Elimination Rounds

Apart from the 1 or 2 direct advancers based on pool positions, it may be necessary to determine the highest scoring runners up to progress through to the finals stages. The following criteria are applied to determine the highest scoring runners up. If any players are in an equal position after one criterion has been applied then the next criteria should be used until the sides have been separated into positions.

- Average point difference (the total number of points scored, minus the total number of points conceded, divided by the number of matches played, in descending order; points obtained in tie-breaks will not be counted).

- Average point for (the total number of points scored, divided by the number of matches played, in descending order; points obtained in tie-breaks will not be counted).
- Tie-break end (the winner of the extra end).

Awards

The top three players in each division will receive trophies for their achievements. Trophies will be awarded on a +1 basis in divisions with limited entries (i.e. if three players enter – the top two players will receive awards).

Protest/Appeals

A player who does not agree with the refereeing of a game should not sign the score sheet and has 30 minutes from the end of the game in which to submit a written appeal. Forms will be available from the registration desk and a charge of £50 per appeal will be payable. This money will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

Appendix 1

Qualification per Classification Group – Example Scenarios:

No. of home entries	Home Qualification places reserved	No. of 'away' entries	Total entries (guaranteed qualification quota)	Scenarios	Maximum possible no. of qualifiers
7	2	1	8 (2)	<p>Away player – Qualifies if finishes in top 2</p> <p>Home Player – If away player finishes in top 2, the 3rd place home player qualifies</p>	3
7	2	2	9 (2)	<p>Away player – all away players that finish above the 2nd placed home player qualify</p> <p>Home Player – If 1 away player finishes in top 2, the 3rd placed player qualifies. If 2 away players finish in the top 3 then the home player in 4th qualifies.</p>	4
7	2	3	10 (3)	<p>Away player – all away players that finish above the 2nd placed home player qualify or if the away player finishes in 3rd behind 2 home players they qualify</p> <p>Home player - If 1 away player finishes in top 2, the 3rd placed player qualifies. If 2 away players finish in the top 3 then the home player in 4th qualifies. If 3 away players finish in the top 3 then the 4th and 5th home players qualify. If the home players finish in the top 3 positions then all 3 qualify.</p>	5

Appendix 2

Automatic Qualification Criteria

The Automatic Qualification Criteria for the 2012 National Boccia Championships will be as follows:

- The winner in each classification from the previous season's National Championships
- The Top three in each classification at the 2011 GB Championships.

Appendix 3

Regional Guidelines: Number of Pools and KO Entry per Division of Play

Total Entry	Total Number of Pools	Maximum Pool Size	Direct KO per pool	Total Direct KO	Point Qualifier	Total KO entry	Elimination Ratio	Number of Pool Matches	Total No. of Matches
24	6	4	1	6	2	8	66.67%	36	44
23	6	4	1	6	2	8	65.22%	33	41
22	6	4	1	6	2	8	63.64%	30	38
21	6	4	1	6	2	8	61.90%	27	35
20	5	4	1	5	3	8	60%	30	38
19	5	4	1	5	3	8	57.89%	27	35
18	5	4	1	5	3	8	55.56%	24	32
17	5	4	1	5	3	8	52.94%	21	29
16	4	4	1	4	0	4	75%	24	28
15	4	4	1	4	0	4	73.33%	21	25
14	4	4	1	4	0	4	71%	18	22
13	4	4	1	4	0	4	69.23%	15	19
12	3	4	1	3	1	4	66.67%	18	22
11	3	4	1	3	1	4	63.64%	15	19
10	3	4	1	3	1	4	60%	12	16
9	3	3	1	3	1	4	55.56%	9	13
8	2	4	2	4	0	4	50%	12	16
7	2	4	2	4	0	4	42.86%	9	13
6	2	3	2	4	0	4	33.33%	6	10
5	RR							10	10
4	RR							6	6
3	RR							3	3

Appendix 3 continued

National Guidelines: Number of Pools and KO Entry per Division of Play

Total Entry	Total Number of Pools	Maximum Pool Size	Direct KO per pool	Total Direct KO	Point Qualifier	Total KO entry	Elimination Ratio	Number of Pool Matches	Total No. of Matches
29	7	5	2	14	2	16	44.83%	46	62
28	7	4	2	14	2	16	42.86%	42	58
27	6	5	2	12	4	16	40.74%	48	64
26	6	5	1	6	2	8	69.23%	44	52
25	6	5	1	6	2	8	68%	40	48
24	6	4	1	6	2	8	66.67%	36	44
23	5	5	1	5	3	8	65.22%	42	50
22	5	5	1	5	3	8	63.64%	38	46
21	5	5	1	5	3	8	61.90%	34	42
20	5	4	1	5	3	8	60%	30	38
19	4	5	2	8	0	8	57.89%	36	44
18	4	5	2	8	0	8	55.56%	32	40
17	4	5	2	8	0	8	52.94%	28	36
16	4	4	2	8	0	8	50%	24	28
15	3	5	2	6	2	8	46.67%	30	34
14	3	5	2	6	2	8	42.86%	26	30
13	3	5	1	3	1	4	69.23%	22	26
12	3	4	1	3	1	4	66.67%	18	22
11	2	6	2	4	0	4	63.64%	25	29
10	2	5	2	4	0	4	60%	20	24
9	2	5	2	4	0	4	55.56%	16	20
8	2	4	2	4	0	4	50%	12	16
7	RR							21	21
6	RR							15	15
5	RR							10	10
4	RR							6	6