

BOCCIA UNITED STATES NATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM STANDARDS HOW-TO



The 2024 Boccia United States National Team Standards “NTS” and Development Team Standards “DTS” are designed to be rigorous. Athletes meeting these standards could currently play in close head-to-head competition with the top 15-25 World Ranked (WR) players in boccia in their sport class. Boccia United States will continue to update these standards annually. No team member may stay on the development team for more than 4 years consecutively. It is expected that those team members within that time frame increase their skills and rise to the ranks of a National Team member. Continuous improvement is expected of all National and Development Team members.

Definitions of terminology within the standards:

Data- the actual points recorded for each performance

Data Collection Date- 1 day when data was collected

Data Set- a specific set of data that was submitted on 1 or 2 different days and in combination complete a full set of data (i.e. data set 1 or data set 2).

Displacement- moving a ball

DTS-Development Team Standards

First Ball- first colored ball thrown after jack has been thrown

NTS- National Team Standards

Sport Class- Paralympic classification division for athlete (i.e. BC1)

Technical Skill Standards- A specific skill that an athlete performs that is likely to be used in game play (i.e. lob, first ball after jack is thrown). The standards for each sport class are set to reflect the top ranked 15-25th players in the world and their performance at competitions.

Score Certifier- a person that watched the athlete perform the technical skills and is certifying that data submitted is true (cannot be another athlete i.e. ramp operator).

Substandard- the subset of a standard (i.e. short, medium, long distances)

Tactical Skills- Specific cognitive skill that an athlete knows/understands that informs their play on court (i.e. the make up of opponents balls and how their balls will react when hitting certain balls)

The National and Development Team Standards Selection Process consists of two (2) rounds - a technical skills assessment in Round 1 followed by an invitation-only selection camp in Round 2. In Round 1, athletes will complete a skill assessment of three (3) technical standards and submit their data for review. If NTS or DTS is met in 2 of the 3

standards, the athlete will be invited to participate at the Round 2 Selection Camp. In Round 2, the athlete will be evaluated on both technical and tactical competencies. Both Round 1 and Round 2 standards will be used to name the National and Development Teams for the 2024 season. To be considered to be named to the National Team you must have 3 of the 4 standards in the National Team Standards after Selection Camp (Round 2). To be considered to be named to the Development Team you must have 3 of the 4 standards minimally in the Development Team Standards after Selection Camp (Round 2).

Final Selection process to be named to the National Team:

If there are two (2) or less athletes per sport class of the same gender that make national standards, one or both will be named to the national team. If there are more than two (2) athletes that make national standards per sport class and of the same gender, then the selection committee will meet and rank-order the athletes based on technical/tactical skills points in both prior submissions in round 1 and at selection camp (round 2). Should there be a tie in rank order the results from head-to-head play in round 2 will be used to break the tie. From that rank order, the top two athletes will be named to the national team.



ROUND 1 – TECHNICAL SKILLS

Required items to complete the Technical Skills Assessment

- Target (please contact Kathy Brinker; Boccia United States High Performance Consultant) at usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com if you need an official target
- Boccia balls (two colors) and 1 jack
- Full size boccia court – flat and hard surface
- Independent score certifier

OVERVIEW

Round 1 is a technical skills assessment of :

1. The first 3 skill standards in the sport class
2. One (1) other skill (per sport class) ** will be completed at selection camp round 2.
See specific sport class technical skills for the 4th technical skill to be completed at selection camp.

Within each of the three (3) skill standards in round 1 there are three (3) sub standards—short, medium and long distances. To meet the National Team Standard “NTS” or Development Team Standard “DTS”, the athlete must meet two (2) of the three (3) sub-skill standards for both red and blue balls.

Both red and blue balls for each standard must be done on the same day for data set 1 and again on a different date (but all within the same day) for data set 2. We want to see you

perform equally with either set of balls on the same day just as if you were in the call room and do not know which colored balls you are playing with.

- Example: If in the standard of serve and first ball the athlete meets two (2) out of the three (3) sub standards in the DTS and 1 in the NTS, that standard is considered in the Development Team.
- OR-**
- Example: If in standard of open space the athlete meets two (2) out of the three (3) sub standards for NTS but the third substandard is not met in either category this would meet NTS. This is the preponderance of evidence (2 out of the 3 sub standards shows where the athlete is in technical skills).

Each of the first three (3) standards within your sport class must be completed twice but on **minimally two separate data collection dates (data set 1 and data set 2)**. However, the athlete does not need to collect data on all three (3) standards on the same day. At maximum the athlete can use two different dates for technical standard #1 and two different dates for technical standard #2 and so on. At maximum athletes can use **4 different dates TOTAL** to submit data on each of the three (3) standards that will be submitted to the selection committee.

EXAMPLES - the athlete can complete the standards over 4 different days in a combination of ways:

MAX. OF TWO DIFFERENT DATES TO COMPLETE DATA SET 1 AND MAX. OF TWO DIFFERENT DATES TO COMPLETE DATA SET TWO.					
Examples below (colors reflect each of 3 possible examples)					
DATE	DATA SET 1	DATE	DATA SET 1	DATE	DATA SET 1
22- July	1, 2	30-July	1,2,3	10d-Aug	1,3
23-July	3			12-Aug	2
DATE	DATA SET 2	DATE	DATA SET 2	DATE	DATA SET 2
15-Aug	1, 3	15-Aug	1, 3	14-Aug	1
18- Aug	2	17-Aug	2	15-Aug	2,3

An athlete must minimally meet two (2) out of three (3) technical standards at the National Team Standard **OR** Development Team Standard to be invited to Round 2.

For each of the four sport classes, there is a link below that contains both instructions for completing the skill standard and a diagram showing the ball setup.

DATA SUBMISSION - TECHNICAL SKILLS

Data collection will be recorded in a preset Excel document. Download the [Data Collection Spreadsheet](#) and navigate to the appropriate sport class tab at the bottom of the document i.e. BC1, BC2, BC3, BC4.

1. Record the dates of data collection
2. Record technical skill data
3. Ask the independent score certifier to sign off on the document
4. Email completed document to Kathy Brinker - usabocciahpmanager@gmail.com
Subject line: NTS2024- "Athletes Name"

The athlete can submit the document in whatever format is easiest: .xlsx, .pdf., .jpeg.

TECHNICAL SKILL STANDARDS

Download the instructions and diagrams for your sport class (i.e. BC4) using the link below:
<https://www.lakeshore.org/activity/boccia-united-states>

ROUND TWO – TACTICAL SKILLS

OVERVIEW

In Round 2 of the selection process the athlete will be evaluated on tactical competencies:

1. Time management on court
2. Can positively reflect with teammates/coaches after a match to improve future play
3. Demonstrates knowledge of opponent's balls
4. Can set up a shot (physically using the full throwing box depending on shot)
5. Knowledge and demonstration of rules
6. Shot selection

Athletes are expected to answer the following questions out loud when playing:

- The shot you are taking – share the best two (2) shot options then pick one
- The percentage shot – how often can you make the shot?
- If you are playing off of other balls – what is the makeup of the ball?
- How many balls does your opponent have left and what is the makeup of the balls left?
- If you make the perfect shot what do you think your opponents next move is and why

Athletes will be evaluated on a rubric regarding the shot selections and order of play based on their responses to the above questions. Additionally, the rubric includes other technical and tactical skills including understanding the use of the throwing box to get the best angle (vector) on a particular shot, time management and reflection (debriefing about a game).

An athlete must minimally meet 22 pts. of tactical competencies at the National Team Standard **OR** 20 pts. of tactical standards at the Development Team Standard.

The following individuals will serve on Boccia United States Discretionary Selection Committee for Round 2 of the selection process:

1. High Performance Director
2. National Team Coach or Team Manager
3. Athlete representative

TECHNICAL SKILLS RELATED TO ROUND TWO

The Round 1 technical skill evaluation is not meant to be all inclusive. At the discretion of the U.S coaches, if during Round 2 there is a discrepancy in visible skill level between Round 1 and Round 2, the athlete may be asked to re-complete any one or more of the technical skills from Round 1 no more than two times in addition to the final skill in each sport class that will be administered at round 2.

SUMMARY
2024 BOCCIA UNITED STATES NATIONAL & DEVELOPMENT TEAM
STANDARDS

TECHNICAL SKILLS

National Team Standard – minimally meet 3/4 technical standards

Development Team Standard – minimally meet 3/4 technical standards

Technical skills in (Round 1) will include:

1. The first 3 skill standards in the sport class.
1. One (1) other skill (per sport class) ** will be completed at selection camp round 2

BC1 TECHNICAL STANDARDS33

BC1	SERVE AND 1ST BALL	Standard	SHORT 2.5-4m	MEDIUM 4.1 - 5.4 m	LONG 5.5 - 6.9m
		NTS	5 pts 55%	4 pts 44%	4 pts 44%
		DTS	4 pts 44%	3 pts 33%	3 pts 33%
	DISPLACE MENT OF OPP. 1ST BALL	Standard	SHORT 3.2 and 1.5m	MEDIUM 3.6 and 1.7m	LONG 4.8 and 2m
		NTS	4 pts 44%	3 pts 33%	3 pts 33%
		DTS	3 pts 33%	2 pts 22%	2 pts 22%
	OPEN SPACE DRILL	Standard	SHORT 3 and 1.5m	MEDIUM 4.1 and 2.5m	LONG 4.8 and 1.5m
		NTS	36 pts 60%	30 pts 50%	26 pts 43%
		DTS	30 pts 50%	26 pts 43%	22 pts 36%
	PUSH	Standard	SHORT 3 @ 1.5m	MEDIUM 4.1 @ 1.5m	LONG 4.7 @ 1m
		NTS	6 pts 66%	5 pts 55%	4 pts 44%
		DTS	4 pts 44%	3 pts 33%	3 pts 33%

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BC2 TECHNICAL STANDARDS

BC2	SERVE AND 1ST BALL	Standard	SHORT 2.5-4.4m	MEDIUM 4.5 - 6.1 m	LONG 6.2 - 9m
		NTS	5 pts 55%	4 pts 44%	4 pts 44%
		DTS	4 pts 44%	3 pts 33%	3 pts 33%
	DISPLACE MENT OF OPP. 1ST BALL	Standard	SHORT 3.2 @ 1.5m	MEDIUM 4 @ 1.2m	LONG 5.3 @ 1.8m
		NTS	5 pts 55%	4 pts 44%	4 pts 44%
		DTS	5 pts 55%	3 pts 33%	3 pts 33%
	OPEN SPACE DRILL	Standard	SHORT 3.2 and 1.5m	MEDIUM 4.4 and 2m	LONG 5.2 and 1.2m
		NTS	36 pts 60%	30 pts 50%	26 pts 43%
		DTS	30 pts 50%	26 pts 43%	22 pts 36%
	PUSH	Standard	SHORT 2.8 @ 2m	MEDIUM 4.1 @ 1.5m	LONG 4.7 @ 1m
		NTS	6 pts 66%	5 pts 55%	4 pts 44%
		DTS	4 pts 44%	3 pts 33%	3 pts 33%

BC3 TECHNICAL STANDARDS

BC3	SERVE AND 1ST BALL	Standard	SHORT 2.5 - 4m	MEDIUM 4.1 - 6.5 m	LONG 6.6m or over
		NTS	6 pts 66%	5 pts 55%	4 pts 44%
		DTS	4 pts 44%	3 pts 33%	3 pts 33%
	DISPLACE MENT OF OPP. 1ST BALL	Standard	SHORT 3.5 @ 1m	MEDIUM 5.2 @ 1.5m	LONG 7.5 @ 2m
		NTS	6 pts 66%	6 pts 66%	5 pts 55%
		DTS	5 pts 55%	4 pts 44%	3 pts 33%
	OPEN SPACE DRILL	Standard	SHORT 3.5 and .5m	MEDIUM 5.2 and 1m	LONG 7.5 and 1.5m
		NTS	38 pts 63%	32 pts 53%	28 pts 46%
		DTS	28 pts 46%	24 pts 40%	22 pts 36%
	PUSH	Standard	SHORT 3.4 @ .5m	MEDIUM 4.6 @ 1m	LONG 6.7 @ 1m
		NTS	6 pts 66%	5 pts 55%	4 pts 44%
		DTS	5 pts 55%	4 pts 44%	3 pts 33%

BC4 TECHNICAL STANDARDS

BC4	SERVE AND 1ST BALL	Standard	SHORT 2.5 - 4.4m	MEDIUM 4.5 - 6.1 m	LONG 6.2 - 9m
		NTS	13 pts 72%	11 pts 61%	8 pts 50%
		DTS	12 pts 66%	10 pts 55%	7 pts 39%
	OPEN SPACE DRILL	Standard	SHORT 2.5-4m	MEDIUM 4.1 - 6.5m	LONG 6.6 - 9.5m
		NTS	42 pts 70%	34 pts 56%	30 pts 50%
		DTS	38 pts 63%	26 pts 46%	24 pts 40%
	BOUNCE LOB & SCORE	Standard	SHORT 2.5 - 3m	MEDIUM 3.1 - 3.5m	LONG 3.6 - 4.5m
		NTS	12 pts 66%	10 pts 55%	8 pts 44%
		DTS	11 pts 61%	7 pts 38%	4 pts 22%
	LOB DISPLACEMENT: Pushing Jack Back	Standard	SHORT 3.1 @ 2m	MEDIUM 4.3 @ 1m	LONG 5.4 @ 1.5m
		NTS	11 pts 61%	10 pts 55%	5 pts 27%
		DTS	10 pts 55%	7 pts 38%	3 pts 16%

TACTICAL COMPETENCIES (assessed in Round 2)

National Team Standard – minimally meet 22 pts. of tactical standards

Development Team Standard – minimally meet 20 pts. of tactical standards

Tactical competencies assessment:

1. Time management on court
2. Can positively reflect with teammates/coaches after a match to improve future play
3. Demonstrates knowledge of opponent's balls
4. Can set up a shot (physically using the full throwing box depending on shot)
5. Knowledge and demonstration of rules
6. Shot selection

RUBRIC

Tactical Competencies

Competency	1	2	3	4
Time management on court	Can state how much time they have left and how many balls they have when asked	Asks appropriate questions of the referee while managing clock.	Comes out onto court when appropriate while managing the clock appropriately	Manages time to their individual team/pair advantage. Knows their teammates needs and can allow enough time for each individual based on the court scenario. Uses stress reduction techniques while managing clock.
Can positively reflect with teammates/coaches after a match to improve future play	Names one shot or situation that they need to improve	Athlete ties their technical training to several instances during the match in which they had success.	Athlete is honest about their strengths and weakness. They cite both technical and tactical training and how that benefitted them in a match.	Athlete is honest and specific about their performance. They can recite most of the match and how they adapted over the course of the match. Athlete can cite specific technical and tactical strengths and weakness specifically during the match. They see and use reflection as one way to improve future performance and not a negative
Demonstrates knowledge of opponent's balls	Plays the game without thought to opponents' balls	Knows type of balls of opponent in the call room and can state makeup of set	Knows type of balls of opponent however uses same shots on all balls.	Considers type of ball of opponent in game scenario before shooting. i.e., Knows that a supersoft ball was used with first ball of the opponent and changes speed to affect displacement of ball.
Can setup a shot (physically in throwing box)	Does not check throwing box lines when stopping or locking breaks	Checks for line violations however does not use clock effectively to get into position.	Uses an appropriate amount of time to get into position, however, does not use length of box to assist in getting proper length on shot.	Uses the entire throwing box to get the right vector and length of shot.
Knowledge and demonstration of Rules	Continually repeats same violations during a 3 match competition	Has basic knowledge of rules and can commit 3 or less infractions during 3 match competitions. Does not repeat infraction again during play.	Makes 2 or less infractions during 3 match competition and does not repeat infractions during play.	Makes 1 or less infractions over course of 3 match competition.
Shot selection	making a shot to score without regard to future shots by opponent(s)	Makes a low percentage shot where high percentage shots would potentially put them in a better scenario	Is looking at the scenario on court and making a low percentage shot (for them) and is thinking 2 shots ahead to ultimately score the end with most points possible	Is looking at the scenario on court and making a high percentage shot (for them) and is thinking 2-3 shots ahead to ultimately score the end with most points possible. Can recite the percentage of shot for them based on submission of technical standards.