

COMMON BOCCE TERMS:

CAPO (cop-oh) (pl *capi*, *cop-ee*): a captain, a boss

CAPO DI TUTTI CAPI (cop-oh dee toot-ee cop-ee): THE COMMISSIONER (LITERALLY, THE BOSS OF ALL THE BOSSES)

PALLINO (paul-ee-no): The *pallino* is the small ball which is thrown out first and acts as the target for the larger *bocce* balls.

BOCCE (bow-chay) (plural *bocci*, *bow-chee*) These are the large balls which are thrown with the idea of coming to rest near the *pallino*. There are 8 *bocci* (BOW-CHEE, plural of *bocce*) of at least two colors. Each team gets to play four *bocci*.

BACI (bahh-chee): A *baci* is a kiss. A *bocce* touching the *pallino* is a *baci*. It's awarded two points.

GIRO (jeer-oh) (plural *giri* (jeer-ee): A *giro* is a single frame or set in which the *pallino* and all 8 *bocce* balls are thrown.

MORRA (more-ahh): The *morra* is the choosing of the *bocce* ball colors at the beginning of the match. One *morraman* will represent each team at the beginning of a match. A coin toss determines the winner of the *morra*. The winner of the *morra* will either choose the team colors or choose which team throws the *pallino* first.

RAFFA (rah-fah): This refers to the strong method of smashing an opponent's ball or a whole formation of balls. The *raffa* is usually delivered in the air, but with low trajectory and no back spin.

PUNTO (poon-toe) or **PUNTATA** (poon-tah-tah): The gentle method of rolling the ball with a smooth, slow delivery from a crouched position. This is useful on a smooth surface when there are no blocking balls.

VOLO (voh-low): A high flying delivery, usually with varying amounts of backspin. The *volo* may be used to knock an opponent's *bocce* away from the *pallino* or to move the *pallino* itself.