



BOCCIA BERMUDA

Promoting the sport of bocchia in Bermuda and facilitating international competition

BOCCIA BERMUDA UPDATE - FALL 2016

Please find below a brief update on Bocchia Bermuda and what we are doing to assist our seniors and people with special needs who are benefiting from your generosity.

Bocchia in our Seniors' Homes

We now have four coaches who go out to our seniors' homes on a weekly basis to facilitate bocchia sessions. We have over 30 seniors a week enjoying bocchia at Lefroy House, Sylvia Richardson Care Facility, Westmeath and more recently House of Esther. As we find and are able to train more coaches, we will be able to serve more of our seniors. Bocchia is a fun game that is particularly suited to seniors who may have limited mobility and assists in balance, coordination and increases strength.

Says one of our senior players, *"I had never heard of the game Bocchia. I now play it on a weekly basis and love it. The banter is good and the games can get quite competitive, but the session is always fun!"*

Bocchia in the Community

Our Saturday afternoon community session held at the BHS Gym continues and is open to everyone; children, seniors, able bodied individuals and people with special needs. In time our coaches are looking to establish a Bocchia League and offer additional community sessions both in the East and West End of the Island. Our focus this year is to attract more students and young people to participate in this sport.

Competitive Bocchia

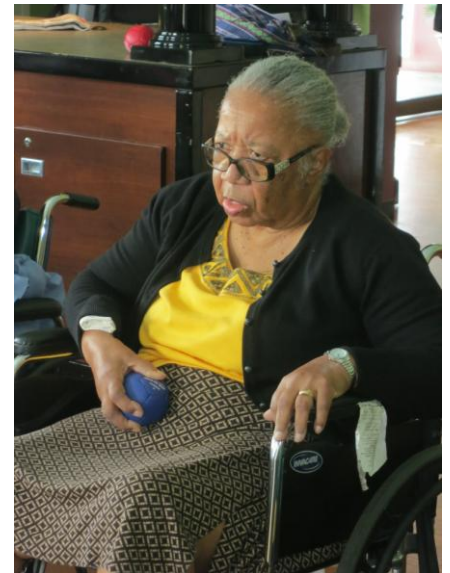
In the last year the Bermuda Bocchia Team have competed on the world stage representing Bermuda at a number of competitions in Colombia, Toronto, Poland and Beijing. Two of our players qualified for a place at the the Bocchia International Sporting Federation (BISFed) 2016 World Individual Championships in Beijing. A result of this achievement led Yushae DeSilva-Andrade qualifying to compete in the most prestigious competition in international multi sport events for people with physical disabilities - the 2016 Rio Paralympics.

Whilst Yushae lost both her games in Rio, she put up a great fight and scores were very respectable against the best in the world. She lost her first game 7-0, but her second game was a nail biter. Scores were tied 2-2 at end of regular time and could have gone either way. Overall Yushae finished 19th out of 24 competitors - not bad for her first Paralympics! 2020 Tokyo Paralympics here we come!!!

Thank you so much for making a difference to the lives of so many individuals, whether it may be some light relief an hour a week, or an amazing life experience at the Paralympics in Rio! Attached are some fun pictures of our seniors and of our National Bocchia Team, which we hope you will enjoy!

With kind regards
Tucker Hall, CHAIRMAN

SENIORS' BOCCIA



THE BERMUDA BOCCIA TEAM

