



COMPETITION HANDBOOK

3 – 11 August 2026 · Poznań, Poland

Organised by World Boccia and the Polish Boccia Association (Polski Związek Boccia)

Under the honorary patronage of the Polish Paralympic Committee and Poznań University of Technology

22 Nations · 74 Athletes · 8 Competition Courts

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WELCOME MESSAGE

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Welcome to Poznań 2026 World Boccia Challenger!

On behalf of the Host Organizing Committee I warmly welcome you to Poznań 2026 World Boccia Challenger organized by World Boccia and Polish Boccia Association. Honorary patronage over Challenger were assumed by Polish Paralympic Committee and Poznań University of Technology.

Poznań has a rich sporting heritage in many olympic sports. We are proud of the fact that Boccia, the fastest-growing Paralympic sport, is also associated with our city.

We would like to wish all the athletes taking part the very best of luck - keep fighting, play fair, have fun and keep pushing your limits.

Beata Dobak-Urbańska

Chair of the Host Organising Committee

Polish Boccia Association (Polski Związek Boccia)



COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The **Poznań 2026 World Boccia Challenger** is organised by World Boccia and the Polish Boccia Association, under the honorary patronage of the Polish Paralympic Committee and Poznań University of Technology. The event brings together 22 nations and 74 athletes competing across Individual, Pairs and Team divisions.

GENERAL SCHEDULE

	August 3 [Mon]	August 4 [Tue]	August 5 [Wed]	August 6 [Thu]	August 7 [Fri]	August 8 [Sat]	August 9 [Sun]	August 10 [Mon]	August 11 [Tue]
ARRIVAL & ACCREDITATION									
CLASSIFICATION									
TRAINING									
EQUIPMENT CHECK									
OPENING CEREMONY									
INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION									
TEAMS & PAIRS COMPETITION									
MEDAL & CLOSING CEREMONY									
DEPARTURE									

SCHEDULE CONFIRMATION

Exact daily start times, court allocations and match order are confirmed only after the Official Draw at the Technical Meeting on 4 August. The final Competition Schedule will be distributed to Team Managers and published on the Sportity app — please treat the dates above as the framework for planning travel, and always check Sportity for the live daily schedule.

PART 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

TRANSPORT & PARKING

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Airport Transfers

The Host Organising Committee (HOC) provides airport transfers to and from the hotel **on arrival (3rd August) and departure days (9th/11th August)**, based on the flight information submitted by each delegation via the official transport form. During the competition period, a shuttle service runs between the hotel and the venue.

Detailed schedule

A detailed transport schedule will be shared via the Sportity app and will also be available at the hotel lobby and the information desk at the venue.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Delegations arriving via other airports (e.g. Warsaw, Berlin) may request transport arranged by the HOC at an additional cost — this must be agreed in advance directly with the HOC.

Parking

Paid parking is available approximately 1 km from the hotel (payable in Polish Złoty).

- Location: Parking Poznań Główny, ul. Przemysłowa 2, 61-579 Poznań
- Website: <https://www.parkingpoznanaglowny.pl/>

Directions to the car park will be shared via the Sportity app.

ACCOMMODATION



Novotel Poznań Centrum



Standard guest room

All Delegations will be accommodated in Novotel Poznań Centrum Hotel - 3* & Ibis Poznań Centrum Hotel 3*

Address:

Ibis & Novotel Poznań Centrum Hotel, Andersa Square 1
61-894 Poznań

Distances

- Distance from Poznań Airport: 7,5 km
- Hotel → Venue by car: 2,5 km
- Venue → Hotel by car: 2,8 km

HOTEL -> THE SPORTS VENUE BY CAR (distance 2,5 km)



THE SPORTS VENUE -> HOTEL BY CAR (distance 2,8 km)



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What is Included

The entry fee includes accommodation and all meals from dinner on 3 August until breakfast on 11 August. Delegations attending only the Individual Competition are included until breakfast on 9 August.

- **Check-in:** from 3:00pm on arrival day
- **Check-out:** by 12:00pm on the departure day (11 August for the full event, or 9 August for Individual-Competition-only participants) — luggage storage available on request at the hotel.

Accessibility

- A limited number of hoists and shower chairs are available on request
- A limited number of fully-adapted rooms will be assigned according to the number of athletes and disability profiles per delegation
- Two additional adapted rooms are available at the hotel reception on a daily reservation basis for delegations without an adapted room. Every morning a new list to book such rooms will be available at hotel reception. You will need to inform reception about your room number and Country. Please use the rooms sensibly and do not block rooms for a long period of time (please do not book to spare). These two rooms are

dedicated only to countries that do not have a room adapted to their use. Please be advised that extra sets of towels will not be available in this room - please bring them from your own room. Please return the key immediately to reception after use.

Extra costs

Extra nights are possible if confirmed in advance with the HOC (at an additional cost). Extra personal expenses — telephone, minibar, laundry, room service — are not included in the entry fee and remain the participant's responsibility.

MEALS SCHEDULE

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner
3 August	—	—	✓
4 – 8 August	✓	✓	✓
9 August	✓	✓	✓ (last meal for Individual-only participants: breakfast)
10 August	✓	✓	✓ Farewell Dinner
11 August	✓	—	—

Locations & Times

Meal	Location	Time
Breakfast	Hotel, Amsterdam Room	06:30 – 10:00 (on competition days)
Lunch	Lecture Centre (building next to the Venue)	12:30 – 15:00
Dinner	Hotel, Amsterdam Room	19:00 – 22:00
Farewell Dinner	At the hotel	10 August, evening

Meals outside the package

Any meals requested outside this schedule are not covered by the HOC. Additional requests may incur extra costs and are subject to availability — please contact the HOC in advance.

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INSURANCE, HEALTH & MEDICAL SERVICES

Each delegation (athletes + staff) is responsible for arranging its own medical and travel insurance, covering loss of property, injury, medical treatment, travel disruption, luggage loss, and — for international travel — foreign medical costs and repatriation.

ON-SITE MEDICAL CARE

- Water bottles are provided daily at the equipment storage area
- First Aid and an ICU-equipped ambulance are available during training and competition hours
- Contact the HOC directly for emergencies occurring outside training hours or after nightfall
- Athletes should carry a list of their medications and health needs, written in English

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Service	Details
Emergency number (Poland)	112
Nearest hospital with Emergency Services	Wielospecjalistyczny Szpital Miejski im. Józefa Strusia z Zakładem Opiekuńczo-Lecznicznym SPZOZ ul. Address: Szwajcarska 3, 61-285 Poznań Tel. +48 61 873 90 00

CURRENCY

The local currency is the Polish Złoty (PLN). As a guide, 1 EUR = 4.33 PLN — rates fluctuate, so please check current exchange rates before travel.

- It is recommended to exchange currency before arrival, as airport exchange rates are generally unfavourable
- Recommended exchange office: Stary Browar Shopping Centre (≈200m from the hotel), open Monday–Saturday 09:00–21:00 — <https://starybrowar5050.com/en/>
- Most businesses in Poznań accept credit cards

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SPORTITY APP

The HOC will use the **Sportity app** as our main our communication medium during Poznań 2026 World Boccia Challenger in Poznań, Poland.

How to join?

- ✓ Download the Sportity app on your phone (available for Android & iOS)
- ✓ Enter the event code: POLAND2026 (all capitals)
- ✓ That's it! You'll now get real-time updates right on your phone



PART 2 – COMPETITION INFORMATION

WORLD BOCCIA COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

- All Events of the **Poznań 2026 World Boccia Challenger** will run in accordance with the World Boccia International Boccia Rules – 2025 - 2028 (v.1.2.1), the Competition Guide and World Boccia Code of Ethics. In case of doubt or disagreement in the interpretation of the rules, the English version shall prevail. The current World Boccia International Boccia Rules are available at **Rules – World Boccia**.
- Any case not included in this document shall be solved in accordance with the Technical Delegate.
- Each World Boccia Member is responsible for ensuring that its staff and competitors are familiar with the Rules and the Code of Ethics.

Official documents

World Boccia Rules: <https://www.worldboccia.com/about-boccia/rules/>

World Boccia document library: <https://www.worldboccia.com/documents/>

ANTI-DOPING CONTROL

Anti-doping controls at the Poznań 2026 World Boccia Challenger are conducted in accordance with WADA regulations and by POLADA, the Polish National Anti-Doping Agency.

- Minimum of 2 out-of-competition anti-doping tests on 4 August 2026
- Minimum of 4 in-competition anti-doping tests on 8 August 2026

REQUIREMENTS

Prohibited substances list and Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) forms:

<https://www.worldboccia.com/documents/#AntiDopingDoc>

TUE applications must be submitted to the World Boccia TUE Committee prior to competition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All Athletes and Ramp Operators must have completed the WADA ADEL Athlete e-learning course within the last two years to be eligible to compete.

ACCREDITATION

Accreditation is the process that validates the participation of each team member registered for the event. Please be advised that:

- The accreditation of all delegations will start on the 3rd August, **at Info Desk, at the venue** – Ground Floor;
- Team Managers must collect credentials for all their team members;
- Accreditation will be required for access to specific venue spaces exclusively reserved for Participants.

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VENUE

The competition will be held at **Sports Centre of Poznan University of Technology**.

Address:

Sports Centre of Poznan University of Technology
ul. Piotrowo 4, 60-138 Poznań



- 8 Competition Courts
- 2 double-sided warm-up courts



IMPORTANT LOCATIONS

Access to Restricted Areas

Access to restricted areas is limited to authorised personnel only and in accordance with the World Boccia Rules. Authorised personnel are only granted access if they are wearing their appropriate Accreditation Card in a visible place.

Sports Information Desk

Access to the Information Desk is restricted to the Team Manager or designated person. The sports information desk will be located at the Venue.

Competition Office

Access to the Competition Secretariat Office is restricted to members of the HOC and World Boccia officials. All enquiries should be addressed to the Information Desk.

The Information Desk is located at the Venue (next to the FOP entrance/exit). Team leaders should regularly check the Sportity app for updates.

Team leaders should check the **Sportity** for daily communication and updates.

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COMPETITION KEY PERSONNEL

HOST ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Role	Name
Chairperson	Beata Dobak-Urbańska
Event Director	Romuald Schmidt
Competition Manager	Michalina Kasprowiak
Transport Managers	Joanna Sawicz - Wojciech Stachowiak

HOC Contact

Phone: +48 727 931 378

Email: challenger@polskaboccia.pl

COMPETITION OFFICIALS

Role	Name	Nation
World Boccia Representative	Romuald Schmidt	POL
Technical Delegate	Marta Mascarenhas	POR
Assistant Technical Delegate	Gustavo Alvarim	POR
Chief Classifier	Elsa Matthee	RSA
Classifier	Vivian Shieh	TPE
Classifier	Kaiti Spyridaki	GRE
Classifier	Gabriel Perez Burgos	COL
Classifier	Miguel Angel Lopez	ESP
Head Referee	Antonio Javier Echevarrias	ESP
Assistant Head Referee	Eleni Liloglou	GRE
International Referee	Samuel Pacheco	FRA
International Referee	Alexander Fridman	ISR
International Referee	Eleni Stoka Naziri	GRE
International Referee	Dominik Lubczyński	POL
International Referee	Marika Grzelaszyk	POL
International Referee	Sandra Grzelaszyk	POL
International Referee	Carlota Cunha	POR
International Referee	Sandra Monteiro	POR
National Referee	Aleksander Żurawski	POL
National Referee	Aleksandra Russ	POL
National Referee	Anna Kopeć	POL
National Referee	Ewa Gałęziowska	POL
National Referee	Joanna Pietrzak	POL
National Referee	Michał Borne	POL
National Referee	Oliwia Malczewska	POL
National Referee	Sara Grzelaszyk	POL
National Referee	Wiktor Chwyc	POL
National Referee	Robert Krivan	CZE

COMPETITION ENTRIES

PARTICIPATING NATIONS

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	NPC	BC1 Female	BC1 Male	BC2 Female	BC2 Male	BC3 Female	BC3 Male	BC4 Female	BC4 Male	Total
1	Australia		1		1				1	3
2	Austria					1	1			2
3	Belgium		1	1	2					4
4	Brazil		1			1	1		1	4
5	Canada		1			1	1			3
6	Croatia					1	1			2
7	Czech Republic	1				1	2			4
8	Denmark		1							1
9	Finland			1		1			1	3
10	Germany					2				2
11	Great Britain	1	1					1		3
12	Greece		1		1			1	2	5
13	Israel	1	1	1					2	5
14	Italy		1		1	2	1			5
15	South Korea				1			1		2
16	Mongolia		1		1					2
17	Poland	2		1		2	2		2	9
18	Saudi Arabia				1	1	1			3
19	Slovakia	2	2		1					5
20	Sweden			1						1
21	United Arab Emirates						2	1		3
22	Uzbekistan				1			2		3
		7	12	5	10	13	12	6	9	74

TEAMS & PAIRS

	NPC	Team BC1/BC2	Pair BC3
1	Austria		1
2	Belgium	1	
3	Canada		1
4	Croatia		1
5	Czech Republic		1
6	Denmark		
7	Israel	1	
8	Italy		1
9	South Korea		
10	Mongolia		
11	Poland		1
12	Saudi Arabia		1
		2	7

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION

FEMALE BC1

	NAME	NPC	RANKING
1	KINGA KOZA	POLAND	11
2	BAT-EL BRIGHTMAN-HA'COHEN	ISRAEL	21
3	REBEKA HUSVETHOVA	SLOVAKIA	27
4	ANNA VACKOVÁ	CZECH REPUBLIC	39
5	DANIELA DROTAROVA	SLOVAKIA	42
6	WIKTORIA HERC	POLAND	43
7	NICOLA TAYLOR	GREAT BRITAIN	NR

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MALE BC1

	NAME	NPC	RANKING
1	PANAGIOTIS SOULANIS	GREECE	9
2	MUNKHDEMBEREL TOGOTOGTOKH	MONGOLIA	22
3	GIUSEPPE ROLLO	ITALY	23
4	DANIEL QVIST	DENMARK	26
5	HEMERSON RAFAEL DA SILVA	BRAZIL	37
6	DYLAN SCHWARZ	AUSTRALIA	39
7	NIKITA PROKOPENKO	ISRAEL	46
8	ALEX MEDLEY	GREAT BRITAIN	47
9	MIROSLAV VANAK	SLOVAKIA	56
10	STEFAN BARTEK	SLOVAKIA	61
11	SANDER LEENKNECHT	BELGIUM	84
12	JOSEPH PAUL PHILPOTT	CANADA	NR

FEMALE BC2

	NAME	NPC	RANKING
1	SAILA LUUMI	FINLAND	20
2	TINA PINXTEN	BELGIUM	24
3	KIM WAHREN	SWEDEN	38
4	MARIKA FURTAK	POLAND	46
5	OREL YAKOOV	ISRAEL	56

MALE BC2

	NAME	NPC	RANKING
1	FRANCIS ROMBOUTS	BELGIUM	11
2	IRMUUN KHURELBAATAR	MONGOLIA	33
3	NIZOMIDDIN KHAYRIDDINOV	UZBEKISTAN	38
4	BERT VAN DYCK	BELGIUM	40
5	LACHLAN KAVANAGH	AUSTRALIA	49
6	RASTISLAV KURILAK	SLOVAKIA	52
7	MICHAIL LEMONIS	GREECE	70
8	ELIA VETTORE	ITALY	NR
9	SAUD ALSWEED	SAUDI ARABIA	NR
10	OKJON SON	SOUTH KOREA	NR

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FEMALE BC3

	NAME	NPC	RANKING	RAMP OPERATOR
1	EDYTA OW CZARZ	POLAND	20	KRYSZYNA OW CZARZ
2	MARCELA CERMAKOVA	CZECH REPUBLIC	24	ZUZANA ČERMÁKOVÁ
3	CHRISTINE FINK	GERMANY	26	TINA LINDT
4	NANCY POSER	GERMANY	27	AMINA DIOP
5	GIULIA MARCHISIO	ITALY	30	ROBERTO MARCHISIO
6	VIVI VIRTANEN	FINLAND	32	VIIVI POHJASNIEMI-LÄNTELÄ
7	MICHELA MARIA FAVINI	ITALY	33	FRANCESCO CASTRIGNANÒ
8	MAŁGORZATA PERLIŃSKA	POLAND	36	PAMELA KIEREJEWSKA-MAĆKO
9	DÉBORA BARGAS DE JESUS	BRAZIL	42	BIANCA SILVA BARGA DE JESUS
10	DORA LOVRIĆ	CROATIA	49	BRANKO LOVRIĆ
11	FATIMA ABDERRAHMANE	CANADA	58	ADÈLE GAGNON
12	STEFFI PROBEGGER	AUSTRIA	63	SUMMER JOANNA MISKOV
13	RUMIAISAA ALGHAMDI	SAUDI ARABIA	NR	LAYLA NASSIF

MALE BC3

	NAME	NPC	RANKING	RAMP OPERATOR
1	DAMIAN ISKRZYCKI	POLAND	7	DARIUSZ BOROWSKI
2	GABRIELE ZENDRON	ITALY	17	ADRIANO ZENDRON
3	JAROSŁAW PLEWA	POLAND	18	ZBIGNIEW PLEWA
4	ALEXANDRE LEMAIRE	CANADA	27	FRANCIS LEMAIRE

5	VÁCLAV HERZINGER	CZECH REPUBLIC	35	KRYŠTOF AMCHA
6	MICHAEL KIEFLER	AUSTRIA	45	MARIE-THERESE PLASS
7	PAVAO RUŽIĆ	CROATIA	63	MATE GRČIĆ
8	KHALIFA KHALED	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	64	JAMAL ABDALLAH
9	SULIMAN ALRTAIG	SAUDI ARABIA	87	EMAD HAMITHI
10	MAREK DRAHONSKY	CZECH REPUBLIC	NR	STANISLAV CIGÁNEK
11	MOHAMAD ABDALLAH	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	NR	KHALIFA ALJAHORI
12	RAFAEL PEREIRA MELO	BRAZIL	NR	ADRIANO PEREIRA

FEMALE BC4

	NAME	NPC	RANKING
1	MUNIRA ABDULLAEVA	UZBEKISTAN	21
2	RAISA ALFALASI	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	22
3	FOTEINI BOUSIOU	GREECE	35
4	PENNY FROUDE	GREAT BRITAIN	39
5	JUNYI KIM	SOUTH KOREA	NR
6	RAYHONAKHON SAYDAHMEDOVA	UZBEKISTAN	NR

MALE BC4

	NAME	NPC	RANKING
1	JEAN-PAUL LA FONTAINE	AUSTRALIA	26
2	DOMINIK WALCZYK	POLAND	28
3	JAKUB WÓJCIK	POLAND	41
4	GERSHON HAIMOV	ISRAEL	43
5	NIKOLAOS NTOUMANOPOULOS	GREECE	46
6	ARIEL VEKSLER	ISRAEL	54
7	ANTTI HUTTUNEN	FINLAND	62
8	GEORGIOS KALAITZIDAKIS	GREECE	NR
9	FABIO DORNELES	BRAZIL	NR

TEAMS & PAIRS COMPETITION

TEAM BC1/BC2

	NPC	RANKING
1	BELGIUM	21
2	ISRAEL	35

PAIR BC3

	NPC	RANKING
1	POLAND	10
2	ITALY	12
3	SAUDI ARABIA	17
4	CROATIA	24
5	CZECH REPUBLIC	26
6	CANADA	31
7	AUSTRIA	32

Not enough Pairs BC4 entries have been registered for this edition of the Challenger.

Note

Entries and world rankings above reflect the most recent World Boccia World Ranking published two weeks before the event, as provided in the official entry lists. "NR" indicates a not-yet-ranked athlete.

CLASSIFICATION & ASSISTIVE DEVICES

Classification will take place on the **3rd and 4th August**, according to each delegation's arrival time. The detailed classification schedule (by athlete and time slot) will be confirmed and shared directly with Team Managers in the Competition Guide once all delegations have submitted their arrival details.

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CLASSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Arrive at the classification area 15 minutes before your allocated time
- Submit the updated Certificate of Diagnosis and Consent Form for Classification to World Boccia by email before the event, and bring the original documents on-site
- Bring your passport and accreditation card
- Present all medical documentation in English
- Attend the Evaluation Session wearing sports attire and with all competition equipment (ramps, pointers, gloves, splints, etc.)
- Bring an interpreter if the athlete does not speak English

ASSISTIVE DEVICES

Delegations are strongly encouraged to consult the library of approved devices available on the World Boccia website (Documents → Classification) before arrival, in order to avoid delays on site.

TECHNICAL MEETING & OFFICIAL DRAW

The Team Managers' (Technical) Meeting will be held at **20:30** on **4th August** at the Hotel. Each nation may send up to two representatives, one of whom must be the Team Manager.

The Official Draw takes place online, during the Technical Meeting, conducted by the Assistant Technical Delegate, once classification results have been finalised and integrated.

PROTOCOL & CEREMONIES

Ceremony	Date & Time	Location
Opening Ceremony	4 August, 14:00	Field of Play (FOP)
Individual Medal Ceremony	Saturday 8 August, 30 min after the last Individual match	Field of Play (FOP)
Teams & Pairs Medal and Closing Ceremony	Monday 10 August, 30 min after the last match	Field of Play (FOP)
Farewell Dinner	10 August, evening	At the hotel

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Poznań 2026 World Boccia Challenger medals

COMMUNICATION, LIVE STREAMING & Sportity App

SPORTITY APP

The Sportity app is the main communication channel for the Poznań 2026 World Boccia Challenger, delivering real-time schedule updates directly to delegates' phones.

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How to join

- Download the Sportity app on your phone (available for Android and iOS).
- Enter the event access code shown in the official Sportity card above.
- You will then receive real-time updates on your phone throughout the event.

LIVE STREAMING

One court will be filmed live by the HOC and streamed via the official YouTube channel, also accessible through the World Boccia website.

- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@PoznanBoccia>



OFFICIAL SOCIAL MEDIA:



LOCAL SIGHTSEEING

Poznań offers a range of attractions that are accessible for wheelchair users:

- Start your visit at the **Old Market Square** (Stary Rynek), where you can enjoy the historical architecture and vibrant atmosphere. Don't miss the Poznań Town Hall with its famous mechanical goats that appear at noon. Visit the Malta Lake for a scenic stroll or a relaxing boat ride. The **Poznań Palm House** (Palmiarnia Poznańska) is also wheelchair accessible and features a variety of exotic plants. For art lovers, the **National Museum** in Poznań offers accessible exhibits.

Novotel Poznań Centrum is approximately 1.3 km on foot from the Old Town and Market Square.

Tourist information

For more information on accessibility and attractions in Poznań, check out the following links:

<https://www.poznan.pl/mim/main/en/>

<https://www.poznan.pl/mim/turystyka/en/>

Novotel Poznań Centrum is centrally located in the city. We particularly recommend only 1,3 km walk from the hotel to the vibrant Old Town with Market Square. With its charming, colorful buildings, enticing restaurants, lively bars, and the impressive 16th-century Town Hall, this spot is a must-visit.



