

# Bridge II Sports Boccia Buzz

August 2020

COVID-19 has impacted a lot of things including the Boccia Buzz Newsletter but now BOCCIA is BACK. I hope you will continue to read the information in the Boccia Buzz. The Flamethrowers are happy to be back on the court and to see each other even with masks on and from a distance.

## History of Murphey School

*Boccia started on Saturday June 13, 2020. It isn't at Bond Park or Chapel Hill right now because of the coronavirus. So practice has been at the Shared Vision Center in the Murphey School right next door to Bridge II Sports. We are so thankful to be able to use this space. Here is a brief history and some fun facts about Murphey School:*

- Do you realize that Murphey School was built 1923, it exemplified the early 20th– Century consolidation movement in public education to bring more students together for better opportunities.
- In the late 40s and 50s Bill Monroe and other country music singers did shows in the auditorium.
- The Murphey School closed in 1959, with the building initially leased to the Mt. Hermon Baptist Church. It was sold and eventually turned into a nightclub in the 80s!
- Jay Miller renovated the school and turned it into a shared space and incubator for non-profits.
- The Murphey School is in the National Register Of Historic Places.
- The Bridge II Sports office behind the Murphey School was actually the 'teacherage' house for the school back in the day.

Info from: <https://indyweek.com/music/features/old-schoolhouse-becomes-outlet-vision-hope-music/>



**FLAMETHROWERS BOCCIA**  
BRIDGE II SPORTS

## USA Boccia Welcomes New Director



David McCann is the new Executive Director of USA Boccia.

Before taking this position he was Director of the Office of Recreation and Park Resources for the University of Illinois. He is one of the nation's leading experts on Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) and sports programming, having created the American Sport Development Model which is used by the US Olympic Committee and numerous National Governing Bodies. He is a proud alum of Wake Forest University right here in North Carolina!

Everyone on the USA Boccia Board looks forward to working with him as well as all of the USA Boccia Athletes as he takes the game of Boccia to new levels. Mr. McCann also looks forward to meeting all of the players of USA Boccia.

Let's give him a big Bridge II Sports Flamethrowers welcome!

## Boccia in These Times

*"It is strange to start seeing Boccia players in-person again because I have gotten so used to seeing the team over Zoom video calls!*

*It has been great to keep in contact with the team and to see the special bond and strong sense of community that the team shares.*

*As we slowly start practice back up with lots of COV-19 precautions, we are continuing our Virtual Boccia practices to keep all members of the team connected.*

*Although these extra precautions make a little more work for the players and the coaches, our top priority is for everyone to be safe."*

**—Daisy, BISS Coach/Program Cultivator**

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

After an end of season break Flamethrower Boccia will start back up at the Murphey School  
On September 19th

register at

[www.bridge2sports.org/boccia/](http://www.bridge2sports.org/boccia/)