



February 2024 | Official Newsletter of the Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District



Futsal Providing Boca Raton's Latest Kick

Boca Raton children are among the rapidly growing number of kids across the nation having a ball with futsal.

First developed in the 1930s as a training exercise for soccer players, futsal joins pickleball on the list of the world's fastest-growing sports.

Played on courts roughly the size of basketball courts – and often indoors – futsal is a five-man soccer game that uses a smaller, heavier ball. Tighter parameters ensure constant activity.

“You're always near the action,” said Daniel Cavalcanti, futsal director for the Soccer Association of Boca Raton and Team Boca. “In soccer, because of the dimensions of the field, if the ball is in one place, you can be very far, very distant, from the epicenter of the game - which is where the ball is. In futsal, wherever the ball is, you're not too distant and you're still involved in the action.”

[MORE ABOUT SUGAR SAND FUTSAL](#)



Securing Sugar Sand Fun

Come to one of the District's parks for the fun and sun. Stay because they are safer than ever.

The District recently completed significant security upgrades at Sugar Sand Park, and similar improvements are coming to other District parks.



Commissioners' Corner

District Commissioners are tasked with many duties that directly improve the Boca Raton community.

They decide where to build parks, what to put in those parks, how to fund parks and ensure they are maintained properly.

"The District considers security in our parks a top priority," Commissioner Craig Ehrnst said.

Before making those upgrades, District officials consulted with a highly qualified source – the Boca Raton Police Dept.

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Boca's Pickleball Champs

January's professional pickleball tournament at Patch Reef Park saw one of Boca Raton's own claim a title. Hometown pickleballer Brandon Hubschman (photo, left) paired with Heather Nobler to claim the professional mixed doubles title. Fellow Boca resident Brian Levine paired with former tennis great Ivan Lendl to claim the 5.0 level amateur medal. The Boca Raton Master's was the first to play on the six newly created pickleball courts at Patch Reef. The District is currently navigating the pre-construction process for building 18 covered pickleball courts within the park.



Opening Day Extravaganza

In a sure sign spring is near, Boca Raton Little League is preparing for its season's first pitch. Boca Little League's opening day celebration is scheduled for March 1 from 5-8 p.m. at Sugar Sand Park. The event will include a parade of teams, introduction of players, fireworks and the season's first game. More than 50 teams comprised of 550 children aged 6-16 are slated to play this season.

There's also the human interaction. Commissioners are constantly talking with - and listening to - Boca Raton residents about ways to improve our community.

This made us wonder: "What is the best part about being a Boca Raton Beach & Park District Commissioner?"

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Love With Love Mixer

The Boca Raton Swim and Racquet Center celebrated Valentine's Day a little early with Sunday's Valentine's Tennis Mixer. Peggy Marcoe (photo) joined some three dozen players on the Har-Tru courts at 9 a.m. for serves, smashes and sets in a series of mostly mixed doubles matches. Afterward players swapped stories over food and drinks. The Racquet Center attempts to hold differently themed tennis mixers every couple of months. Follow the link below for a photo gallery from the event.

[Valentine's Mixer Photo Gallery](#)



Achieving New Heights

Construction of the Jacob's Outlook tower at the Gumbo Limbo Center continues to reach toward the sky. The tower, made possible by a gift from the [Kosowsky family in honor of their late son, Jacob](#), will climb 40 feet high and offer a 360-degree view of Boca Raton, including the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal. Jacob's Outlook is expected to open this summer.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

TUESDAY FEB 20

Commissioners' General Public Meeting, 5:15 p.m.

MONDAY MARCH 4

Commissioners' General Public Meeting, 5:15 p.m.

MONDAY MARCH 18

Commissioners' General Public Meeting, 5:15 p.m.

**Meetings at Boca Raton Swim & Racquet Center
21618 St. Andrews Boulevard Boca Raton, FL**

Ode To Open Space

"I like to take walks in the park by myself, where no one can bother me and I can think."

– Magic Johnson



LINKED INTO BOCA RATON

Are you a parent wondering what to do with your child during Palm Beach County schools quickly approaching spring break? The Boca Raton Racquet Center will conduct kids tennis camps March 18-22. Children aged 4-16 can spend a half day or full day improving their tennis skills.

[Camp Information](#)

**GREATER BOCA RATON
BEACH & PARK DISTRICT**
Phone: (561) 417-4599

[Send Us A Message](#)

Keep in Touch!



Greater Boca Raton Beach and Parks District | 21618 St Andrews Blvd, Boca Raton, FL 33433

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