



Australian Government
Office for Sport



2025 World Boccia Challenger

3 – 11 November



Event overview



Commonwealth funding provided: \$0.25m

Venue: AIS Arena (Canberra, ACT)

Competition days: 9



9 World Boccia reps & technical directors



2 Tournament directors



12 Nations competed



14 Referees



5 Classifiers



51 Athletes
22 Women
29 Men

Australian team performance



9 Australian athletes competed
2 representing Australia for the first time



3 Gold and 1 Silver medal in individual and team events



2 athletes achieved their best international results to date

"Playing for Australia at home, it's one of the biggest honours."

— **Aaryan Shah, Men's BC2 Athlete, silver medalist at event**

Contribution to The National Sport Strategy, Sport Horizon



Socio-economic impacts

Sporting Participation & Excellence

Hosting the event in Australia meant our athletes had:



Reduced travel stress



Reduced costs

"It's really good to have these levels of athletes to play against here. Test our skills, learn from them as well. The more we learn, the more we play international players, even players in our own country, but especially international. It just helps build our skills."

— **Belinda Aitken, Women's BC3 Athlete, National Team Debut**

Classification



25 athletes classified or reclassified at the event, including 2 Australian athletes unlikely to be classified without the event



7 classifiers attended training as part of the event, including 3 Australian classifiers

Jobs & Communities

45+ volunteers, with some keen to continue volunteering in the lead up to the Brisbane 2032 Games.

People volunteered because of:



A love of the sport



A desire to experience an international competition



Wanting to connect with the local community

Infrastructure

New Taraflex flooring used for the event received high praise, being described as the "true Boccia experience." New adult change tables were also installed for the event.

"It's actually been honestly one of the best floors I've ever played on, and it matches what I've played on at the Paralympics."

— **Daniel Michel, Men's BC3 Athlete, gold medalist in individual and team competitions at event**

Inclusion & Equality

The Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) worked with Paralympics Australia to develop workshops on disability inclusion for AIS personnel with a particular focus on Boccia awareness in the lead up to the event.