



19th World Maccabiah Games

TEAM USA APPLICATION COVER PAGE

July 2013

ISRAEL

Dear Applicant:

Shalom and thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the United States Maccabiah Team that will compete at the 19th World Maccabiah Games to be held in Israel from July 17-30, 2013! The Maccabiah Games is a celebration of Jewish unity, culture, and heritage through world athletic competition. **Please note that there will be a mandatory program known as *ISRAEL CONNECT* for Team USA members in the Open, Juniors, and Youth divisions (excluding the Masters division) prior to July 17th. This program will be conducted in Israel for 7 days prior to the beginning of the Games.** The actual departure and return dates for Team USA are to be determined. The Maccabiah Games are officially recognized by the International Olympic Committee.

MACCABI USA

Maccabi USA, the sponsor of the USA Maccabiah Team was founded in 1948 only weeks after the dream of a Jewish Homeland had finally been realized. Its purpose was two-fold: (1) to help Israel develop as a nation through physical education and sport; and (2) to promote fitness and athletics among Jewish youth in the USA and in Israel. The organization strives, through sports competitions, to provide American athletes with a Jewish experience - to enrich lives, to heighten their sense of Jewish identity and to strengthen their feelings of Jewish pride. As the official representative of Maccabi World Union in the United States, the organization oversees all Maccabi activities in the U.S. as well as several other projects in Israel and abroad.

MACCABIAH HISTORY...

Since their inception in 1932 the Maccabiah Games have grown in many ways, but the vibrant feelings and the excitement experienced by the participants remain the same. Since 1953, the Games have been held every four years in Israel in the year following the Olympics. In 2013, more than 7,000 world-class athletes from more than 50 countries are expected to participate in the 19th Maccabiah, which promises to be the biggest and most exciting ever held.

YACHAD

In Hebrew, "Yachad" means together. Yachad is a program that requires a shared commitment from all of us to fund the USA Maccabiah Team and to ensure the success of the Games. Every appointed member of the USA Team must contribute a minimum amount in support of the Maccabiah and Maccabi USA. Yachad funds are a contribution to Maccabi USA and are non-refundable. **The money need not be an out-of-pocket expense; it may be raised.** Maccabi USA has a variety of programs that may assist you in your fundraising efforts. Together, we will make this the best Maccabiah, ever.

The required shared commitment amounts for USA Team members are as follows: Open athlete - **\$5000**; Juniors and Youth athlete - **\$8000**; Masters athlete - **\$6000** to sponsor an athlete plus a registration fee of **\$2900** plus the cost of the trip (air/land); Coaches - **\$2500**; Accommodations Managers - **\$2500**; Athletic Trainers - **\$2000**; Full-time Physicians- **\$TBD**; Additional Coaches, Managers or Self-funded Staff: **\$8000**. All costs are subject to change.

The USA Maccabiah Committee may, upon written request, grant a need-based scholarship relief of an athlete's (Open, Juniors and Youth only) Yachad fundraising goal. Details regarding such written requests will be included with the official appointment letters that are mailed to athletes who are selected to the USA Team. This must be submitted in a timely manner.

Maccabi USA Policy Statements for the USA Maccabiah Team include the following:

1. An Open, Youth or Juniors athlete can participate in three (3) Maccabiah Games in the same sport and same category; there is no limit on the number of times that Masters athletes can compete; team, assistant team and accommodations managers in three (3) Games; coaches in two (2) Maccabiah Games, assistant coaches in two (2) Games, and in the aggregate, three (3) Games; and trainers and nurses in three (3) Games. An individual may participate in each category. The USA 19th Maccabiah Executive Committee reserves the right to waive any restrictions set forth.
2. All USA citizens are eligible for the USA Maccabiah Team (even if they competed for another country before becoming a USA citizen). Any non-citizen in possession of a valid USA Green Card may participate as a member of Team USA in one

Maccabiah, and only if approved by the USA 19th Maccabiah Executive Committee. Applicants in possession of a Green Card or in the process of applying for a Green Card will receive a supplementary form to complete. This form will be sent to the applicant after they have submitted their initial application. Appointment of Green Card applicants is subject to the discretion of the USA 19th Maccabiah Executive Committee. This eligibility rule applies to athletes only (coaches, etc., exempt).

The attached application **must** be completed online or by hard copy and the signature page **must** be returned if you are to be considered for the United States Team (team selection may begin as early as April 1, 2012). Applicants for staff please complete the application and the separate sheet titled "Staff Application Addendum." Any questions concerning the application, tryouts, or team selections should be directed to Ami Monson, Program Director **(215) 561-6900 Ext. 116 or amonson@maccabiusa.com.**

* * * *

Swimmers Jason Lezak, Mark Spitz and Lenny Krayzelburg, gymnasts Mitch Gaylord and Kerri Strug (honorary team captain), NBA basketball players Dolph and Danny Schayes and Ernie Grunfeld, tennis star Brad Gilbert, U.S. National Team members like Benny Feilhaber and Jonathan Bornstein and World Cup soccer player Jeff Agoos have previously participated as members of the USA Maccabiah Team. In 2013, the U.S. expects to bring a team of 900+ to Israel.

Please join us in Israel in July 2013 for the 19th World Maccabiah Games.

Shalom,

Jeffrey Bukantz, Chairman
USA 19th Maccabiah Executive Committee

All applicants for all positions must submit a \$40 application fee with the completed application form.

A deposit of \$500-\$1000 will be required by all Team members soon after appointment to the team (price varies on sport level), payable to Maccabi USA (by check, Visa, MasterCard, and Amex).

USA Supporters Program:

There will be a unique travel program designed specifically for families of USA Team participants. The information concerning these programs will be shared with Team members and their families upon appointment to the Maccabiah Team.

General Notes:

1. The selection process may be determined by tryouts, national ranking, verified times, or other means. After applications are submitted, you will be notified about the selection process by the chair of your sport. Any questions about the process should be directed to the Maccabi USA office.
2. Notwithstanding the tryout process described in section 1 above, the USA 19th Maccabiah Executive Committee reserves the right to make final decisions on all appointments to the USA Maccabiah Team.

19th Maccabiah Games Sports

The United States plans to participate in the following sports. All sports and age categories listed are **tentative as of March 2012**, and may be subject to change or cancellation. Other sports, not listed here, may be added. If you are interested in a sport not on the following list, feel free to contact the office by e-mail amonsen@maccabiusa.com or phone, (215) 561- 6900 Ext 116, to inquire about your sport. You are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, with the understanding that application fees will be fully refunded if the U.S. does not participate in your sport for any reason.

OPEN SPORTS COMPETITION (*All Ages, generally 18-35*)

Archery (M,F), Badminton (M,F), Basketball (M,F), Beach Volleyball (M,F), Chess (M,F), Cricket (M), Cycling (M,F), Equestrian (M,F), Fencing (M,F), Field Hockey (F), Futsal (M), Golf (M,F), Gymnastics (M,F), Rhythmic Gymnastics (F), Half Marathon (M,F), Ice Hockey (M), Judo (M,F), Karate (M,F), Rowing (M,F), Rugby (M), Rugby 7's (M), Shooting (M,F), Soccer (M,F), Softball (M,F), Squash (M,F), Swimming (M,F), Open Water Swimming (M,F), Table Tennis (M,F), Taekwondo (M,F), Ten-Pin Bowling (M,F), Tennis (M,F), Track & Field (M,F), Triathlon (M,F), Volleyball (M,F), Water Polo (M,F), Weightlifting (M,F), Wrestling (M)

JUNIORS SPORTS COMPETITION: Date of birth years are indicated below next to the sport.

Badminton	1995-98 M & F
Baseball	1995-98 M
Basketball	1997-98 M, 1995-98 F
Chess	1995-98 M & F
Fencing	1995-98 M & F
Golf	1995-98 M & F
Gymnastics	1995-98 M, 1998-99 F
Rhythmic Gymnastics	1998-99 F
Ice Hockey	1995-98 M
Judo	1997-98 M, 1995-98 F
Karate	1997-98 M, 1995-98 F
Soccer	1997-98 M, 1995-98 F
Squash	1995-98 M & F
Swimming	1997-99 M & F
Table Tennis	1995-98 M & F
Tennis	1995-98 M & F
Track & Field	1995-98 M & F
Volleyball	1995-98 F

YOUTH SPORTS COMPETITION (*The Youth Division is part of the Junior Category*):

Basketball	1995-96 M
Futsal	1995-96 M
Judo	1995-96 M
Karate	1995-96 M
Rugby 7's	1995-96 M
Soccer	1995-96 M

MASTERS SPORTS COMPETITION (*Age categories are listed per sport as of Dec. 31, 2013*):

Basketball (M)	35 and over
Basketball (M)	45 and over
Bridge (M,F)	35 and over
Cycling (M,F)	40 and over, 50 and over
Golf (M,F)	50 and over
Half Marathon (M,F)	35 and over
Ice Hockey (M)	40 and over
Soccer (M)	35 and over
Soccer (M)	45 and over
Softball (M)	35 and over
Squash (M,F)	35 and over, 40 and over, 45 and over, 50 and over, 55 and over, 60 and over, 65 and over
Swimming (M,F)	35 and over
Table Tennis (M,F)	40 and over
Tennis (M,F)	35 and over, 40 and over, 45 and over, 50 and over, 55 and over, 60 and over
Tennis - Grand Masters (M)	65 and over, 70 and over, 75 and over, 80 and over
Triathlon (M,F)	35 and over (International Rules)

PARALYMPIC SPORTS COMPETITION:

Basketball (M,F), Cycling- Road (M,F), Half Marathon (M,F), Swimming (M), Table Tennis (M), Tennis (M,F), Triathlon (M,F)