



Maccabi Victoria

2024 MID YEAR IMPACT REPORT

Connecting our Jewish community through sport and wellbeing



Explore More



Message from our Co-Presidents

Looking back at the year so far, we are reminded of the resilience and strength of our community. These past months have showcased some incredible highlights for the Maccabi community, but also brought to the forefront some of the challenges faced by the Jewish communities in Australia and around the world. As we celebrate sporting wins, bask in the excitement on the fields and courts, and continue to drive new programs and initiatives, we are mindful of the growing rise of antisemitism around the globe, and always keep a place in our thoughts and hearts for our brethren in Israel.

With that in mind, we have placed an extra focus on safety and security, working closely with CSG and our clubs to ensure that all Maccabi members have a safe place to play sport. We have seen time and time again how important it is for us to stand strong as a community, and to provide opportunities for Jewish people of all ages to connect.

January saw almost 200 young Team Vic athletes connecting at Junior Carnival in Sydney, as part of the biggest national Carnival we've seen in many years. With the support of team managers, youth leaders, and volunteers, over 400 young Jews from across Australia played sport, socialised, and enjoyed everything Sydney had on offer. Preparations are already well underway for Carni 2025 in Perth.

This year has also seen the introduction of the Solomon Family Maccabi Interschool Cup. Our inaugural event saw eight teams of grade 5/6 basketballers from four of our Jewish schools come together for a nail-biting morning of competition. Watching the students, teachers, and families come together to share in the excitement was so special. We already have six schools on board for our upcoming secondary school soccer comp and we look forward to seeing if Bialik will defend their title.

We recently marked National Volunteer Week by surprising volunteers across our clubs at trainings, meetings, and games. On behalf of the Maccabi Victoria Board, we want to thank everyone who gives their time to ensure that our Jewish community stays connected through sport each and every week.

As we look to the second half of the year, we are excited to see more sporting opportunities, to build more community connections, and to share in many more amazing Maccabi memories.

Sharon Roseman & Dean Mohr

Co-Presidents
Maccabi Victoria



Clubs

23 Maccabi Sports Clubs

In a season - across its clubs,
Maccabi Victoria has approximately:

250 TEAMS

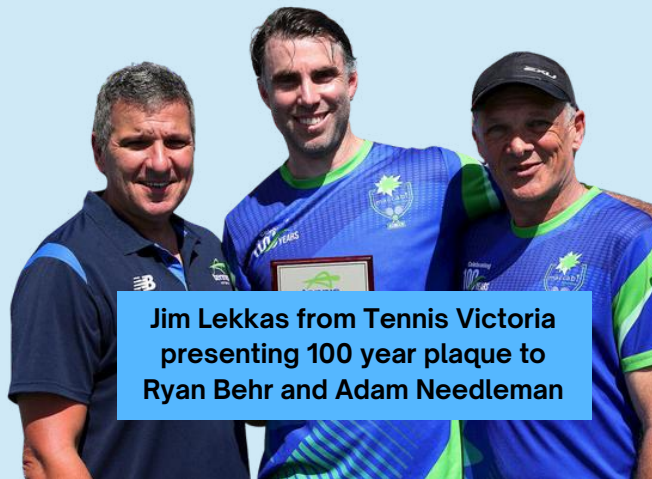
20 SOCIAL PROGRAMS

3000+ MEMBERS

Club Shoutout

MACCABI TENNIS CLUB TURNS 100

It was an incredible milestone and achievement for our beloved tennis club and community. 300 people attended for a BBQ and an exhibition match between former Federal Treasurer Josh Frydenberg, and 2023 Club Champion, James Oklander. The tennis courts were a hive of activity and pop-up pickleball courts also created a buzz. A huge thank you to all who have contributed and generously given their time to our great club over many many years. This would not have been possible without you!



Jim Lekkas from Tennis Victoria presenting 100 year plaque to Ryan Behr and Adam Needleman



Carnival 2024

Junior Carni in Sydney!

The 2024 Maccabi Junior Carnival in Sydney brought together over **400** teens from Australia and New Zealand (**195** from VIC alone!) for a week of sports and social activities. Natalie Dodge, VIC Team Manager, described it as **“jam-packed with fun activities and sport each day into the nights, creating great vibes and energy in the group.”** Junior Carnival continues to bring our Jewish youth together through their passion for sports, creating unforgettable memories and lifelong friendships.

The **Nathan Hofbauer Award** is presented each year to two Victorian Junior Carnival athletes who display exceptional **sportsmanship, teamwork, and Carnival spirit.**

The 2024 award was presented to **Toby Lang** and **Noa Fink.**

MAZAL TOV!



NEXT YEAR - PERTH 2025!

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY THE SOLOMON FAMILY FOUNDATION

Mac Vic Cup

GRADE 5 & 6 STUDENTS | 4 JEWISH SCHOOLS

In 2024, Maccabi Victoria launched the **Maccabi Cup**. Providing interschool sport competition for our Jewish schools, it was a welcome addition to the calendar.

The first Maccabi Cup event saw **Grade 5 and 6** students from Bialik College, King David School, Mount Scopus Memorial College, and Leibler Yavneh College competing in a friendly yet spirited **basketball tournament**.

Bialik were declared the overall winners, and we are eager to see if they will defend their title in the upcoming year 8/9 soccer competition, to be held in September.



"By creating opportunities for children to meet and engage with their peers from other schools, we are building bridges that extend beyond the realm of competition. This event is set to become a pivotal experience for young Jewish athletes across Victoria."
Co-President Dean Mohr



Pathways in Schools

The Henry Jolson Pathways Program bridges the gap between Maccabi clubs and Jewish day schools, providing children from prep to year 12 with opportunities to participate in and learn new sports through subsidised specialised coaching.

Martin Jona has led the Henry Jolson Pathways School Program for the past five years, during which participant numbers have grown by 131%. Since February 2019, prep to year 12 students across 8 Jewish schools have enjoyed sessions in 14 different sports.



SEMESTER 1, 2024

**6 JEWISH SCHOOLS
474 STUDENTS
225 SESSIONS
10 SPORTS OFFERED**

Testimonial

"The Pathways Program has enabled Bialik to provide an excellent before school provision that has seen the number of students participating in physical activity increase dramatically...we are very grateful for the support."

Mick Wheeler – Sports Director at Bialik College



**SEMESTER 1, 2024
SPORTS**

**AFL, Athletics,
Basketball, Cricket,
Golf, Hockey,
Netball, Soccer,
Tennis, Volleyball**



All Abilities

Maccabi Victoria's All Abilities program provides Jewish people with disabilities with opportunities to participate in sport and active recreation. We partner with many of our clubs to offer accessible participation opportunities.

Highlight: The All Abilities April session at Maccabi FC Caulfield, an initiative of Football Victoria.

A new participant's parent wrote, *"Thanks so much for the come and try day...Sophie in particular was very proud and wore her medal to school yesterday!"*

SPORTS:

- Basketball
- Cricket
- Footy (AFL)
- Soccer
- Swimming
- St/roll walking program

FAST FACTS:

- Approximately **60** participants.
- Ages range from **4** to **71** years old.
- Participants are supported by approx. **18** regular volunteers.



Friends of Maccabi

The Friends of Maccabi events embody the Maccabi spirit of connecting our Jewish community through sport and preserving the friendships that continue well beyond the playing field. We are incredibly proud to unite Maccabi former (and current) players across the years.

March Event

Guest speaker Hon. Justice Mordy Bromberg shared stories from his journey, giving attendees insight into life as an Israeli immigrant and passionate footballer, as well as a respected figure in Australia's legal framework.

-- March Event Sold Out! Attended by 100 guests --

Hardship Relief Fund

In these tough economic times, Maccabi Victoria, the Maccabi Foundation, and our major donors are committed to supporting our families in need. Our goal is to ensure that every Jewish athlete can play sport amongst their peers, and we recognise the ongoing need in the community for this support.

Impact

*In the last financial year, Maccabi Victoria gave over **\$21,251** of support to enable **74 families** to participate in **6 Maccabi Victoria Clubs and Junior Carnival.***



Thank You

THE MACCABI VIC BOARD

THE MACCABI VIC TEAM

MACCABI FOUNDATION

LIFE MEMBERS

GOVERNMENT

DONORS & SPONSORS

SIMCHA SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS

PHOTOGRAPHY

TuvsDay Photography
Peter Haskin Photography

The invaluable contribution of **Maccabi Victoria volunteers** credits us with one of the strongest sporting networks in Australia. Maccabi Victoria recognises and appreciates the significant contribution of volunteers in all facets of our organisation.



ALAN SYNMAN FAMILY
CHARITABLE TRUST



TISHER LINER FC LAW

Jolson Family