

*It has been a busy and valuable few months since I last wrote to you.* In February we held our Working Party Day where our committee came together from WA, Victoria and NSW to share ideas, create strategies for the future as well as be enlightened by other experts, including Lisa Hasker from VicSport and Clint Proctor from Good Sports. There's always plenty to get done and whilst the beginning of many sports seasons are approaching we are working with clubs to provide templates and ideas when it comes to fielding grievances, and collecting the vital information regarding working with children's checks. Our Maccabi MPP online portal is available for our coaches, managers and committee members and we encourage all our members to log in at [learning.maccabi.com.au](http://learning.maccabi.com.au), register and work through this amazing online resource. We invite you also to contact us at any time to discuss member protection especially if you have any ideas that you think may assist us.

*~ Debbie Rutstein, MPP Subcommittee Chair*

*Some highlights of the year so far...*

### Industry recognition: Play by the Rules



The Maccabi MPP program was featured in the Play By The Rules March magazine. Play by the Rules is a unique collaboration between the Sport Australia, Australian Human Rights Commission, all state and territory departments of sport and recreation, all state and territory anti-discrimination and human rights agencies, the Office of the Children's Guardian (NSW) and the Anti-Discrimination Board of NSW. The monthly magazine is a free resource for anyone interested in safe, fair and inclusive sport issues. It was fantastic to have the industry acknowledgement of everything Maccabi is doing to work towards safer environments for everyone involved.

You can see a copy of the magazine here: <https://www.playbytherules.net.au/magazines>. The article is on pages 10 and 11.

### Coming together: Working party day

We recently held our biannual working party day which brought together key personnel from the MPP program from across Australia. The subcommittee was joined by integrity officers and appeals and tribunal chairs and had a day full of robust discussions, valuable case studies and informative presentations. The group was lucky enough to have Lisa Hasker, CEO of Vicsport, and Clint Proctor, Senior Community Development Officer for the Alcohol and Drug Foundation, share their wealth of knowledge.

**VICSPORT**

**ADF** | Alcohol and Drug Foundation

### *Smooth sailing: Junior Carnival review*



Junior Carnival was held in Sydney in January and saw kids from all over Australia (and New Zealand!) enjoy a week of social and sport opportunities. No major MPP matters occurred during Carnival, however a number of recommendations for national and international events have been made to Maccabi Australia to assist with ensuring compliance matters are resolved before the events start.

### **Welcome aboard: Laura Lees**

Laura Lees joined the MPP subcommittee late 2018 in the role of psychologist / health professional.

Laura currently holds a position as a Clinical Psychologist at the University of New South Wales Counselling and Psychological Service (CAPS) and works part-time in private practice. She has worked at CAPS for over 23 years. She is an accredited Mindfulness Instructor and is currently enrolled in a PhD at the Black Dog Institute (UNSW) and is interested in looking at evaluating a mindfulness app in the university population.



### **Where to from here: Next steps**

We have identified a number of focus areas to move ahead with over the coming months. Our reporting process is constantly being finessed and we are looking at how we can keep making it as user-friendly as possible for clubs. We are also looking at what tools and resources we can provide to our clubs to enhance their Maccabi experience. On a broader scale we are looking at how we can better integrate MPP considerations into the experience of national and international events such as the Pan-Am Games and Maccabiah.