

**MEDIA RELEASE: 2 December 2013
For Immediate Publication**

Maccabi Australia Update

AGM – New Board members appointed



At the recent Maccabi Australia AGM held on November 24, 2013, a number of changes were made to the Board as part of a succession planning process orchestrated by Chairman Barry Smorgon OAM.

Long term Maccabi Board members Tom Goldman OAM, Sam Parasol OAM did not stand for re-election, however have offered to contribute in other areas of the organisation. Sam Parasol was nominated as a Life Member of MAI, a worthy recipient after nearly 40 years of dedicated service. In addition Yvonne Fayman and Jeff Houseman also stepped down from their positions on the Board. Each of the retiring board members have provided valuable contributions and the Maccabi organisation has deeply benefited from the input.

The State bodies of Maccabi unanimously voted in two current Board Members in Harry Procel OAM and Barry Smorgon OAM who were on Board rotations, along with two fabulous new additions in Lauren Ehrlich from New South Wales and Mikki Silverman from Victoria. Lauren and Mikki are certainly no strangers to Maccabi, with both having quite extensive experience across the various levels of the Maccabi organisation. They bring to the table great skills across strategy, international sport, management and process.

We are also pleased to welcome Danny Hochberg, who, as the new President of Maccabi NSW also joins the Maccabi Australia Board.

In addition we are pleased to announce that Philip Sheezel has been co-opted onto the Board to facilitate the implementation of our Member Protection Policy across all areas of the organisation. Philip's legal background and understanding of Maccabi from his countless years of involvement will provide the insight and understanding necessary to ensure that MAI and its affiliates appropriately implement the reforms.

The complete Maccabi Australia Board is Lisa Borowick (President), Barry Smorgon OAM (Chairman), Joe Dorfman, Lauren Ehrlich, Danny Hochberg, Sydney Kahn, Harry Procel OAM, Philip Sheezel, Jeff Sher and Mikki Silverman.

At the Annual General Meeting it was also agreed to reinstate the Maccabi Australia Board of Governors in an advisory capacity to the Board of MAI, providing support and counsel to its board members. More details will be forthcoming in the new year.

Independent Review

As noted in our previous release, Maccabi is undertaking a formal, independent review into its systems and protocols around member protection policies and procedures. This process of review is being chaired by Nina Bassat AM, along with Harry Rosenberg and Daniel Aghion. The Committee has only just completed the interview stage of its review.



Given the enormity of the task and the number of interviews conducted the Committee is now planning to have the final report complete by the end of January 2014. As noted above Phillip Sheezel will be responsible for its implementation. However, in the interim action has been taken to ensure the organisation responds quickly and sensibly to some initial recommendations.

These include:

- An Integrity Officer has been appointed for the forthcoming Junior Carnival in Perth
- A Grievance procedure and policy will be finalised and implemented by the middle of December.

Once the full report is completed, MAI will communicate further on this matter .

2012 Maccabi Australia Awards

Maccabi awards and recognises both outstanding achievements by Jewish Sportsmen and Women as well as those achieved by its own Members. We are proud to announce all the category winners for 2012 as listed below. We congratulate all award winners on their successes of 2012 and their continued success in 2013 and beyond.

OUTSTANDING MACCABI SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR	• David Fayman, AFL
OUTSTANDING MACCABI JUNIOR SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR	• Mitchell Maloon, Tennis
OUTSTANDING MACCABI JUNIOR SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR	• Jamie Brown, Football/Soccer • Lara Kaplan, Tennis
OUTSTANDING MACCABI MASTERS SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR	• Jack Kampel, Lawn Bowls
OUTSTANDING MACCABI ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR	• Adam Needleman, Tennis
OUTSTANDING MACCABI JEWISH SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR	• Steven Solomon, Athletics
OUTSTANDING JEWISH SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR	• Jessica Fox, Slalom Canoeing
OUTSTANDING JEWISH JUNIOR SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR	• Jordan Brown, Football/Soccer
OUTSTANDING JEWISH JUNIOR SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR	• Elizabeth Baral, Athletics • Jemima Montag, Athletics
OUTSTANDING JEWISH MASTERS SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR	• Norman Same, Field Hockey
OUTSTANDING JEWISH MASTERS SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR	• Carole Schlessinger, Karate

For further information, please contact Maccabi Australia President, Lisa Borowick on 0407 7440299 or via the Maccabi Australia office on (03) 9563 5865.