

Prospective Board Member Information Pack



maccabi
AUSTRALIA
*connecting our Jewish
community through sport*





WELCOME TO MACCABI AUSTRALIA.

Maccabi Australia together with our member States and affiliated Clubs exist to promote Jewish identity and continuity – connecting our Jewish community through sport.

We are the largest Jewish grass-roots organisation in Australia, boasting a 90-year heritage and 9,000 members ranging in age from 5 to 85 years across over 50 clubs.

Sport has enriched the life of the Australian Jewish Community for more than one hundred years, culminating in the establishment of Maccabi Australia in 1957.

Over the years many events have been associated with Maccabi Australia, including at a national level Carnivals, both Senior and Junior and Maccabi Australia International Games (MAIGS), and internationally, the Jewish Community Centre (JCC) Games, Pan American Games, European Games, and the focal point - the Maccabiah Games.

Maccabi Australia has been sending a team to the Maccabiah since 1950 as well as playing a significant role in developing sport locally through carnivals. Importantly Maccabi Australia is a Zionist sports organisation and is focused on strengthening its links with Israel and the Jewish community generally. MAI is part of Maccabi World Union (MWU) who represents some 450,000 members in over 60 countries.

Whatever the nature of the event, a common thread runs through the history of Maccabi—the thread of connecting the community. Maccabi Australia symbolises community, friendship and the competitive spirit. Just as sport maintains an important role in society, Maccabi Australia has and will continue to play an intrinsic part of the Australian Jewish Community.

Every week our many members connect and form lifelong friendships via their participation in a Maccabi Club. Opportunities exist for all -from Juniors, through to Open athletes and Masters – the State based Club structure has been set up to support all ages and all skill levels.

As a Board Member of Maccabi Australia you will play a key role in assisting the organisation achieve its main purpose - best described as “connecting our Jewish community through Sport”.

This document has been designed to help you gain an insight into the Maccabi organisation, its values, structure and your responsibilities as a Board Member.

We look forward to your involvement and hope you enjoy the experience that Maccabi offers.

OUR VALUES

Maccabi honours the following values:

Respect

This value incorporates respect for oneself, one's body, for others, for the rules and regulations, for sport and the environment. Related to sport, respect stands for fair play, to win with humility and for the fight against discrimination and any other unethical behaviour. Treat others as you wish to be treated.

Teamwork

We recognise that success and excellence can only be achieved and sustained by a deep commitment to working as a team and the practice of focusing on collective rather than individual effort and rewards. Compete with passion and have fun.

Community

We act consciously to inspire the trust of everyone whose lives we touch by modeling the highest standards of honesty and integrity. We carry our Jewishness with pride and behave in ways that make the Jewish community proud.

Volunteerism

We remain accountable to our members and value the work of the volunteers who define our organisation. We will promote open and transparent management processes and always engage in authentic consultation with our stakeholders.

All Board Members are required to commit to uphold these values and indeed promote them and the Maccabi brand in a positive light.

Beyond the Values – the Board has determined that some Principles of behaviour to be used to guide the interaction and engagement of its members. These broad principles are noted below. These guiding principles provide a framework in which to work. This is considered important given that most people are volunteers who come to Maccabi with a different perspective, culture and way of achieving and resolving issues.

Our desire is to set up an organisation that seeks to resolve issues through dialogue...

- **Ask First – seek to understand rather than be understood.**
In other words listen to the views of others and don't prejudge. Try and avoid a predetermination of outcome.
- **Acknowledge the other persons feelings/views**
Be respectful of others and their views. Recognise and reward diversity
- **Recognise that two heads are better than one**
Seek out the opinion of others and ensure that the right people are informed of decisions, outcomes and issues
- **Engage in open/honest dialogue – give constructive feedback at the time**
Seek out feedback and provide constructive input so that issues remain on the table – avoid politics. Deal with issues as they emerge

MAI MISSION

Develop and strengthen the Australian Jewish community through sporting, cultural and social activities.

MAI OBJECTIVES

- To perpetuate and preserve the Australian Jewish community by developing and promoting the opportunity for Jewish athletes to share their identity through sport
- To promote participation in sport by providing the opportunity for Jewish athletes to compete in a range of carnivals and sporting events at the state, national and international level.
- To work actively to support programs that embodies the Maccabi ideals of Jewish continuity, support for the state of Israel and excellence in sport.
- To engender community support and trust through a framework of open, transparent and accountable management practices whilst maintaining a “not for profit” objective.

MAI BOARD STRUCTURE

Maccabi Australia’s Board consists of a President, a Treasurer, the President of Maccabi NSW, the President of Maccabi Victoria, the Chair of the Board of Governors, five additional elected Directors and the option of two further board members co-opted by the Board.

Board Members are generally elected for a 2 year term. It is the Maccabi States who vote on Board Membership.

The full Board of Maccabi Australia meets a minimum of six times a year, continuing its commitment to strong governance, sound decision-making and national Jewish strategic leadership.

A portion of the Board will form the Executive team. They will meet on a fortnightly basis to deal with the office administration, detail behind the various projects on foot and to review the priorities of the organisation.

Also, the Board recently recognised the need to maintain the vast Intellectual property that resides with life members and past presidents and as such established the Board of Governors (BOG) – details are noted below.

Finally, the MAI office is run by an Executive Director and one support staff member. Both are full time and are charged with the operational responsibility for all matters of MAI.

MAI Board Positions and Portfolios

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| President | The formal public face of the organisation for all important matters and the Board’s “orchestra leader”- chair of Board meetings, overviews all portfolios and ensures that the organisation is achieving its objectives and that the board members are working in harmony. Responsible for the organisation’s ongoing MWU relationship. |
| Strategy & Policy | Responsible for the Mentoring of the ED, management of the MAI office and its various activities, prioritising the Board’s objectives, the development and implementation of the Board’s “one voice, one organisation” policy development. Also responsible for the recruitment of new board members and a succession plan to ensure the continuity and mentoring of new board members. |
| Finance & Admin | Responsible for all accounting functions, preparation of monthly financing statements, for funds management and for the development, implementation and management of a national insurance program for MAI and its affiliated entities and clubs. Also responsible for all admin., policy management, governance and legal matters. The Treasurer is the Secretary of Maccabi Australia. |
| International Sport | Responsible for Maccabiah, JCC, Pan-Am Games, European Maccabi and all other international sporting events, including policy development, recruitment of management/volunteers and HOD’s. In addition responsible for the development of leaders and succession planning for future events. |
| National Sport | Responsible for all national sporting events undertaken by Maccabi organisations and clubs in Australia. Also responsible for the development of National councils where appropriate, assisting States with national sport programs and responding to the needs of the States. In addition responsible for the development of leaders and succession planning for future events. |
| Fundraising | Responsible for all fundraising undertaken by Maccabi organisations (both National & State) to ensure that a co-ordinated and planned approach is taken to enhance the Maccabi brand at all levels of the organisation and that fundraising opportunities are maximized. Also responsible for developing and implementing strategies to maximize donations from major families and for developing increased income streams for the organisation. |
| Marketing and communications | Responsible for development and implementation of an effective Maccabi marketing & communications strategy on both National. Responsible for enhancing the Maccabi brand and ensuring that it has universal application across the country. Also responsible for developing and implementing an effective social networking strategy to improve links to and benefits for Maccabi members. |

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| MPP | Responsible for the overseeing and implementation of MAI's MPP project and to chair the MPP Sub- Committee. |
| Leadership | Responsible for the development of leadership programs in concert with the States that enable MAI to add value to its members and the broader club base. The programs are to be centred on youth leadership, reconnecting the 25-40s and the establishment of leaders who can take up broader management roles in the Maccabi organisation. |
| Maccabi NSW | Responsible for management of their State's Maccabi organisation and the development of their affiliated clubs. In addition responsible for the implementation of leadership programs developed through the MAI board portfolio and the establishment of clear succession plans for the State Body and Clubs. |
| Maccabi Vic | Responsible for management of their State's Maccabi organisation and the development of their affiliated clubs. In addition responsible for the implementation of leadership programs developed through the MAI board portfolio and the establishment of clear succession plans for the State Body and Clubs. |
| Board of Governors | Responsible for the management of the Board of Governors |
| Maccabi Qld (Board Invitee) | Responsible for management of their State's Maccabi organisation and the development of their affiliated clubs and will be able to attend Board meetings as required as an invitee. |
| Maccabi WA (Board invitee) | Responsible for management of their State's Maccabi organisation and the development of their affiliated clubs and will be able to attend Board meetings as required as an invitee. |
| Co-opted Positions | There are 2 Co-op positions available. These positions to be assigned for specific board determined projects. The person appointed to this position is to have the same voting rights as other board members. The need for the project and therefore role will be reviewed on an annual basis. If the role has continuance beyond the year, the board may agree to make the position a permanent portfolio and subject to the normal voting conditions. A process of appointment for a co-opted positioned is to be defined. |

At the first Board meeting after the Annual General Meeting, the Board will confirm the specific accountability of each Board Member across each of the portfolios noted above.

OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Reporting

Each Director is to provide a report to the ED one week prior to a Board meeting with a brief summary of activities undertaken and a draft of any resolution or action point they wish to bring to the Board for decision. The ED will circulate Board reports at least 5 days before a Board meeting.

Each Board member is also required to submit a report for the annual AGM.

Term

Each Board Member, other than the Presidents of Maccabi NSW Incorporated, Maccabi Victoria Incorporated and Maccabi Western Australia Incorporated and the Chairperson of the BOG (if any), shall hold office for a period of two years and shall be eligible for re-election after that period subject to other conditions stated in the Maccabi Australia constitution.

This is managed on a rotation basis, so there are four board positions in the current rotation that will be elected at the 2015 Annual General Meeting.

Meetings

- Board meetings – every 6 weeks
 - Meetings of the complete Board will focus primarily on sport, but not be limited to sport. These meetings will deal with matters affecting the broader organisation. As issues arise, where decisions and mandates are required they will be noted on the agenda for decision. All appointed Board Members must attend board meetings in person.
 - The meeting can be held via video conference (Melbourne and Sydney locations) or in one location and usually start t around 4:00pm. In the event of a single location, members are required to attend and will have return airline tickets made available to them form MAI.

Application Closing Date:

Nominations, including resume need to be received by COB Monday 22th November 2015

Further Information

For further information, please contact Ellana Aarons:

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