



Maccabi USA
BUILDING JEWISH PRIDE THROUGH SPORTS



sportscene

2023 | Vol. 1

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MACCABI USA



Celebrating **75** Years of **Maccabi USA**

2023 marks the 75th anniversary of the birth of Maccabi USA and the State of Israel. The organization continues steadfastly in its mission to build Jewish pride through sports and looks to usher in the next 75 years with new branding, strategic growth, and a re-commitment to our core values. Enjoy a look back at Maccabi USA's history and a peak into our future.

President & CEO's Message

When the United States Committee Sports for Israel was founded in 1948, the Minneapolis Lakers had recently beaten the Rochester Royals for the National Basketball League championship while the Baltimore Bullets did the same to the Philadelphia Warriors for the Basketball Association of America title (in what would later become the NBA). Citation had recently won the Triple Crown, a feat that would not be achieved again until Secretariat came along 25 years later.

In that summer of 1948, Babe Zaharias and Ben Hogan would capture the Women's and Men's US Open in golf while London would host the first Olympic Games since the Berlin Games of 1936. In October, the Cleveland Indians would go on to win the World Series over the Boston Braves, and in December, the Philadelphia Eagles would win the NFL Championship 7-0 over the Chicago Cardinals.

Beyond the sports world, 1948 would see the opening of New York's Idlewild Airport (later renamed JFK), the introduction of a new board game named "Scrabble", and the reelection of President Harry S. Truman (despite the famous "Dewey Defeats Truman" headline).

Most importantly, in late spring, the State of Israel was just a few weeks old. As we celebrate our joint 75th birthdays, 2023 is a great opportunity to look back on what Israel and Maccabi USA have accomplished and look ahead to what's in store.

Much like Israel's initial fight for international recognition, so too was US Committee Sports for Israel's initial mission to help the fledgling homeland for the Jewish people gain representation in the international sports arena. Within four years, that mission was complete with an Israeli team competing at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics and every Summer Games since (aside from the boycotted 1980 Moscow Games) as well as every Winter Games since Lillehammer in 1994.

In short order, we became the official organizer of the US delegation to the Maccabiah, which returned in 1950 after a 15-year hiatus due to the Holocaust. Israel played a critical role in creating a haven and center for the Jewish people, while the Maccabiah

offered an opportunity for the world's Jewish athletes to join together every four years on the field of play.

From those early years to now, Maccabi USA has developed a vision of a world where sports serve as a galvanizing force in strengthening Jewish pride, connection, and community. We do that by promoting support for Israel, Zionism, and Jewish continuity through athletic, educational, and cultural experiences for participants of all ages.

As we begin our next 75 years, we are still riding high from last summer's record-breaking Maccabiah and are busy preparing for what is shaping up to be our biggest-ever delegation to the Pan Am Maccabi Games this winter in Buenos Aires.

We are also still in awe of the generosity of Stuart Weitzman and all those who contributed to his match. Through his and their contributions, Maccabi USA has a game-changing \$7M endowed scholarship fund that will help ensure the financial accessibility of the Maccabiah in perpetuity. And stay tuned – Stuart's generous match will extend by another \$1M through the end of 2023!

So while a lot has changed since 1948 – the names of teams, leagues, and airports along with Maccabi USA's name, mission, and logo – much remains the same: the central importance of Israel to the Jewish people and the power of sports to bring Jews together on and off the playing field.

Happy birthday to Israel and Maccabi USA – we are excited to see what the next 75 years have in store!

Chazak v'Ematz! Be Courageous and Strong!

Jeff Buhst Marshall Eylon





Birth of Israel & the organization under its initial name: United States Committee Sports for Israel (USCSFI).



Maccabi USA hosts a domestic Pre-Camp at Rutgers University prior to sending 520 members to Israel for the 12th Maccabiah.

1948

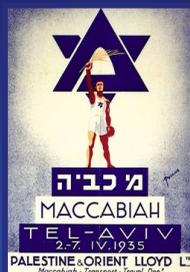
1950

1985

A 38-member American delegation competes in the 3rd Maccabiah.



1st Maccabiah
1932



2nd Maccabiah
1935



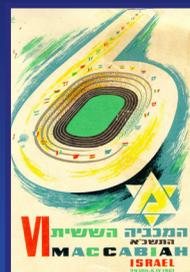
3rd Maccabiah
1950



4th Maccabiah
1953



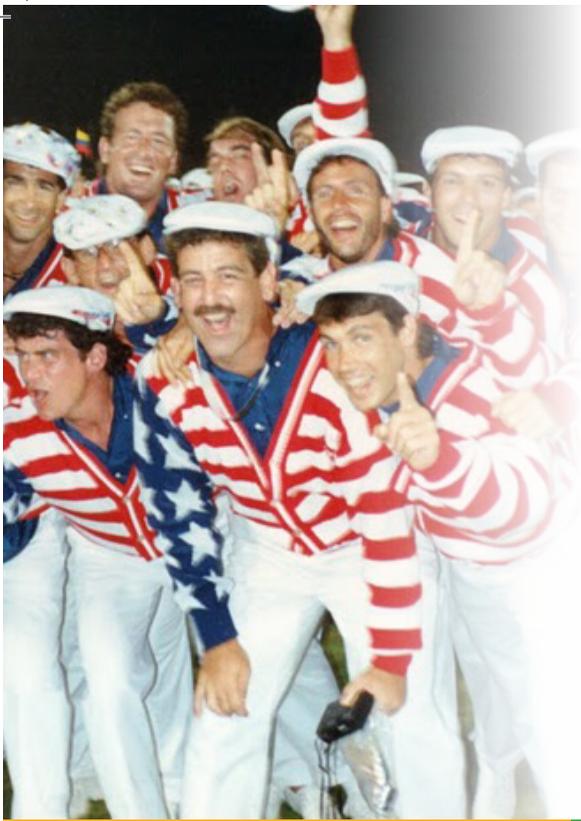
5th Maccabiah
1957



6th Maccabiah
1961



7th Maccabiah
1965



USCSFI changes its name to Maccabi USA.

1989

1994

2001

A 4-day Pre-Camp in Israel takes place prior to the 13th Maccabiah.

The annual Pre-Camp before the Maccabiah is renamed *Israel Connect*.



8th Maccabiah 1969



9th Maccabiah 1973



10th Maccabiah 1977



11th Maccabiah 1981



12th Maccabiah 1985



13th Maccabiah 1989



14th Maccabiah 1993



Maccabi USA tops 1K participants as 1,109 Americans descend upon Israel for the 19th Maccabiah.

The 21st Maccabiah is postponed due to the global pandemic. It's the first disruption of the 4-year cycle in the modern era.

2013

2021

2022

Maccabi USA sends 1,350 members to Israel for the 21st Maccabiah. President Joe Biden meets a contingent of USA athletes during the Opening Ceremony. Maccabi USA launches Maccabi Media with 14 students selected for the inaugural program.



15th Maccabiah
1997



16th Maccabiah
2001



17th Maccabiah
2005



18th Maccabiah
2009



19th Maccabiah
2013



20th Maccabiah
2017



21st Maccabiah
2022

In celebration of our 75th anniversary, we invited several Maccabi USA alumni born in or before 1948 to reflect on the organization's mission, impact, and future.



“Maccabi USA changed my whole outlook. When you are in Israel as part of a team, working with other people and everyone is Jewish, it’s just a different feeling. The strength of Maccabi USA is that it confronts antisemitism

by making our teen athletes and future Jewish leaders proud to be Jewish.”

Susan Penn - Tennis
Maccabiah - 1997, 2001
Pan American Games - 2003



“Competing in the Maccabiah affected my life in a lot of good ways. One of the best things was meeting lifelong friends. Some of those relationships are so incredibly special to me. It’s a powerful experience to be at the Maccabiah,

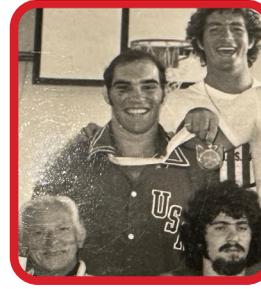
knowing that everyone else is Jewish.”

Irwin Shorr - Tennis
Maccabiah - 2013, 2017, European Games - 2015
Pan American Games - 2019



“I was floored by my experiences with Maccabi USA. It’s a terrific organization. Many adults, including myself, were overwhelmed with how big and terrific the organization was. The effect on the people around me was very impactful.”

Nancy-Joe Feinberg - Golf
Maccabiah - 2013, European Games - 2015



“Wrestling in the 1973 Maccabiah was a real thrill, truly one of the highlights of my life. Marching into Ramat Gan stadium for the Opening Ceremony, and seeing the flags of 30 countries being represented was memorable. Bringing athletes from all

over the world to Israel is something I hope can continue for years to come.”

David Pottruck - Wrestling
Maccabiah - 1973



“The people at Maccabi USA are there to help promote Jewish athletes from around the world. The organization has grown to extend an arm greatly to paralympians, and expand its horizons, giving us all an opportunity to see Israel. Maccabi USA is a way

of life for me, and I have a special love for it. It’s truly awe-inspiring and I hope people realize it is a gift to be involved.”

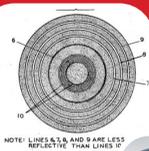
Lawrence Levin - Judo
Maccabiah - 2013, 2017, 2022



“My passion is Israel and sports. There’s no feeling like walking into Teddy Stadium for the Opening Ceremony as part of the Maccabi USA Team. It’s like being a kid watching the Olympics, and then all of a sudden, you are doing it, as part of the Jewish world!”

Geoffrey Thaw - Triathlon
Maccabiah - 2013

Fun Facts from 1948



The first bar code is designed by 2 Drexel University students.



The game of Scrabble is patented.



Harry Truman elected U.S. President.



Ford introduces the F-series truck.



Citation wins the Triple Crown.



Cheetos are introduced.

Pan American Maccabi Games Through the Years



The first Pan American Maccabi Games were held in Buenos Aires in 1964 and this year we'll return to Argentina for the 15th rendition of the Games. Previous events have been held in Mexico, Venezuela, Uruguay, Chile, and Brazil. This winter's festivities will be held December 27, 2023 - January 4, 2024, with competitions for Junior, Masters, and Open athletes taking place in the 3 main hubs of Hebraica, Hacoaj, and Cissab.



List of Pan American Maccabi Games:

- 1964 Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1966 São Paulo, Brazil
- 1976 Lima, Peru
- 1979 Mexico City, Mexico
- 1983 São Paulo, Brazil
- 1987 Caracas, Venezuela
- 1991 Montevideo, Uruguay
- 1995 Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 1999 Mexico City, Mexico
- 2003 Santiago, Chile
- 2007 Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2011 São Paulo, Brazil
- 2015 Santiago, Chile
- 2019 Mexico City, Mexico
- 2023 Buenos Aires, Argentina

European Maccabi Games Through the Years



The first European Maccabi Games were held in Prague, Czechoslovakia, in 1929 and since Maccabi USA's founding almost two decades later, the organization has delivered thousands of Americans to European soil for elite competition. The Games now return to Great Britain for a third time as the European Maccabi Youth Games host U16 and U18 athletes in London from July 30 - August 6, 2024.



List of European Maccabi Games:

- 1929 Prague, Czechoslovakia
- 1930 Antwerpen, Belgium
- 1959 Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1963 Lyon, France
- 1979 Leicester, United Kingdom
- 1983 Antwerpen, Belgium
- 1987 Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1991 Marseille, France
- 1995 Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 1999 Stirling, United Kingdom
- 2003 Antwerpen, Belgium
- 2007 Rome, Italy
- 2011 Vienna, Austria
- 2015 Berlin, Germany
- 2019 Budapest, Hungary



**MAKKABI
DEUTSCHLAND
WINTER
GAMES
2023**



During the past 75 years, Maccabi USA has fielded teams for other international competitions including the **2018 Maccabi Youth Games** - and most recently - the **2023 Makkabi Deutschland Winter Games** in Germany. The organization is committed to supporting the growth of the entire Maccabi movement. Whenever... Wherever... We'll Be There!



2023 **Bob Spivak** Memorial Maccabi USA Philadelphia Golf Tournament

On June 5, 2023, Green Valley Country Club (Lafayette Hill, PA) hosted the Annual Bob Spivak Maccabi USA Philadelphia Golf Tournament. The event was renamed this year in honor of former Maccabi USA President Bob Spivak (z"l) who led the organization from 1981-2001, but passed away in 2022.



Scan here to watch Maccabi USA's tribute to former president Bob Spivak (z"l)



Maccabi USA Presidents

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1949 | | 1961 | | 1969 | | 1973 | | 1981 | | 2001 | | 2009 | | 2017 | |
| | Col. Harry D.
HENSHEL | | Haskell
COHEN | | Robert
ROSENBERG | | Nat
HOLMAN | | Robert
SPIVAK | | Toni
WORTMAN | | Ron
CARNER | | Jeff
BUKANTZ |

Maccabi USA Alumni News

Mazel Tov to...

Dr. Steven and **Dr. Meaghan Fielkow** and grandparents Susan and **Arnie Fielkow** on the birth of Claire Pearl Fielkow on May 27, 2023.

Leon and **Sharon Lifschutz** on the birth of son Ezra Dov on January 22, 2023.

Jordan Weinstein on the birth of granddaughter Naomi Sera (and to parents Melissa and Chris).

Elyssa Rosenbaum on the birth of her daughter Madelyn Rose Becker on June 1, 2023.

Teddy Levitt on his engagement to Julie Cohn and their impending marriage in May 2024 on Catalina Island.

Leon Grundstein on his election to the Jewish Hall of Fame of Western PA (Track).



Lifschutz family



Madelyn Rose Becker

Dr. Gary Gordon on his Pioneer in Podiatry Award at the PPMA Inaugural Dinner.

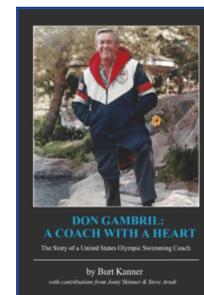
Rick Rothman on being named coach of the U20 United States men's cross country team.

Ronni Binstock on being named Senior Gymnast of the Year and helping Western Michigan University place third at the NCAA Regional Semifinals.

Abby Meyers on leading the University of Maryland women's basketball team to an Elite 8 appearance in the NCAA Tournament and being selected 11th overall in the WNBA draft.

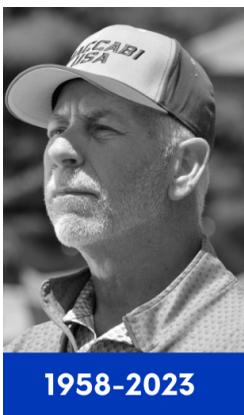
Blake Peters on leading the Princeton University men's basketball team to a Sweet 16 appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

Burt Kanner on the publishing of his new book - the biography of legendary swimming coach Don Gambriel.



Members of the Maccabi USA family we have lost: ז"ל

Fred M. Cohen passed away at the age of 65 on June 5th. Fred was a visionary supporter of Maccabi USA and was an Open and Masters softball player at numerous Games since 2003. He served as a board member and chaired the Maccabi USA Softball and Baseball Program and the annual Chicago Golf Tournament. He was also serving as the Vice Chair for Maccabi USA's 2025 Maccabiah Organizing Committee.



1958-2023

Nancy Shrier of Rydal, PA, passed away in July 2022 at the age of 75. She was a passionate tennis player who competed for Maccabi USA at the 1989 Games in Israel.

Dick Savitt passed away at the age of 95 in January. The legendary Jewish tennis player won the Australian and the Wimbledon men's singles titles in 1951. The Maccabi USA alum and Jewish Sports Hall of Fame inductee won singles and gold medals at the 6th Maccabiah.

Thomas Churylo, brother of Joseph Churylo and brother-in-law of Julie Churylo, Maccabi USA Senior Director of Operations, passed away at the age of 59 in January.

Please share your news with us. Send us updates (maccabi@maccabiusa.com) and we will include in our next communication.

Our Mission:

To build Jewish pride through sports and promote support for Israel, Zionism, and Jewish continuity through athletic, educational, and cultural experiences for participants of all ages.

Our Values: Scan the QR Code to see each of our 6 core values come alive!



Jewish Continuity and Jewish Pride

Athletic Excellence, Competition, Sportsmanship, and Teamwork



Diversity and Inclusion



Tikkun Olam 'Repair the World'
Lev L'lev 'Heart to Heart'



Connection with Israel

The Power of Sports to Build Community



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

STUART WEITZMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Thank you to Stuart and everyone who contributed to the Stuart Weitzman Scholarship Fund in 2022. This new \$7M endowed scholarship fund for need-based athletes will help connect young American Jews to Israel for generations. Stay tuned for an exciting update coming this fall.

\$1,000,000+

Weitzman Family Foundation

\$250,000+

Justine Stamen Arrillaga and John Arrillaga
Aileen and Brian Roberts

\$100,000+

Sloan and Roger Barnett
Kim and Todd Horberg
Howard Levine Foundation-Howard and Julie Levine
Randall and Tamara Winn

\$50,000+

Debbie and Anthony Adams
Bender Foundation, Inc.
Chicago Golf Tournament, Co-Chairs
Fred Cohen and Mark Fishman
Don Garber
Joel and Tonja Magerman
Marc and Amy Rosenberg

\$25,000+

Backal Family in Memory of Dr. Gary H. Cohen
Blavatnik Family Foundation
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Jeff Bukantz
Leo David
Leland and Susan Faust
Harry and Leah Gudelsky Foundation
Iris and Igal Hami
Mark Horowitz and Jennifer Koen
Donald Kent and Ellen Goosenberg Kent
Richard Kriesel-Kilstock
John R. Levene
Michael Magerman and Kelly Greenleaf
Jeanie Milbauer and Bill Knapp
Harvey and Susan Morgan
Nancy and Daniel Neff
The Orender Family
Lauren and Richard Packard
Dave Rudzinsky
Kim Sinatra
The Sirovich Family Charitable Foundation

\$10,000+

Natalie and Brett Barth
Steve and Meryl Berliner
Berger Family Foundation
James and Rachel Calmas
Mindy S. Cohen
Richard Farber and Janet Leahy
Francis Fraenkel
Ben and Julie Kadish
Peggy Edersheim Kalb and Scott Kalb
Marilyn L. and Edward M. Kaplan
Pamela and Bradley Korman
David Linn and Kathy Carter
Herb and Barbara Linn
Maccabi World Union Committee of 18
Marmur Family
Foundation of the Milken Families
Erica and Kevin Penn
Dede Robbins
Rick and Susie Schnall
Neil and Lisa Wallack

MACCABI USA ENDOWMENTS (\$25,000+) as of 7/1/23

PATRONS

\$1,000,000+

Aileen & Brian (A) Roberts
Ellen (A) & Samuel (A) Sporn (IC)
Stuart Weitzman Family Foundation (A)

CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE

\$180,000+

Justine Stamen Arrillaga and John Arrillaga
Sloan and Roger Barnett
Talia & Ron Carner
Leah & Ed Frankel
Keith Frankel (A)
Monica & Barry Gurland
Iris & Igal Hami
Kim & Todd Horberg
Edy (z"l) & V. David (A) (z"l) Levitt
Phyllis Magerman (z"l)
B'nai Mitzvah Endowment
Joy & Jerry (z"l) Monkarsh
Taylor Hogge & Robert E. Spivak

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

\$100,000+

Sarah (A) & Robert Cohn
Cecile (z"l) & Allan Dalfen
Cecile (z"l) & Lester (z"l) Fein
Suzan & Allen Fox
Mark S. Goldstein & the
Jean Alenstein Trust
Kantor (A)/Knue (A) Family

Howard Levine Foundation-
Howard and Julie Levine
Phyllis (z"l) & Alan Magerman
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Dr. Lee Winston & Herman Silver
Charitable Fund/ Sam Rabinowitz (z"l)
Toni & Wally Wortman
Selig Zises & Elynn Bank (A)
16th & 17th U.S. Maccabiah Teams

GIBORIM

\$50,000+

Kerry & Alan Appelbaum (A)
Sandi & Jerry Bloomberg
The Chaskin Family
Florence & Michael Edelstein
The Fraenkel Family Foundation
Benjamin Frankel Fund
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Mark S. & Marty Goldstein
Shirlee (z"l) & Bill (A) (z"l) Jacobs
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Budd and Nanette Mayer
Family Foundation
Michael L. Magerman Family
Tonja & Joel Magerman
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Ilene & Melvyn Miller
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The Rabinovitch Foundation (A)

Estherly & Leonard (A)(z"l) Reifman
Barbara Brizdle (A) & Larry
Schoenberg (A)
Janet & Ellis (z"l) Shore
Jill & Stu (A) Siegel
Harry & Beatrice Sley Foundation/
Betsy Grossman
Diane & David (z"l) Stern
Marilyn (z"l) & Harry Swimmer

ISRAEL SPORTS AMBASSADOR

\$25,000+

Jan Albert (A) Family Golf Endowment
Ellen & Simon Atlas
Backal Family in Memory
of Dr. Gary H. Cohen
Gladys & Lewis (A) Bass &
Family Endowment
Blavatnik Family Foundation
Jerome Bornstein (A) & Morris
& Rose Bornstein Memorial Fund
The Peter Brand Foundation (A)
Ruth & Ray Brenner
Barbara & Jim (A) Bronner
Jeffrey Bukantz (A)
Leo David
Marilyn & Simon (z"l) Denenberg
Susan and Leland (A) Faust
Doris & Sheldon (A) (z"l) Gitman
Joy & Gary (A) Gordon
Mark Horowitz and Jennifer Koen
Ira Kamens
Jean & Stephen Kaplan

Donald Kent and Ellen Goosenberg Kent
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Richard Kriesel-Kilstock
Marilyn & Mark Labkon
Family Endowment
Carol (z"l) & Harvey (A) Leff
Jon (A), Kelly, Kenton & Ashlyn Levin
Cissie & Robert (z"l) Levy
Sydney Levy Memorial
Ronnie & David (z"l) Lowenthal
Beth & Jed (A) Margolis
Ava, Edward & Jordan (A) Mendelson
Jeanie Milbauer and Bill Knapp
Dennis (A), Marc & Steve Needleman
The Orender Family
Bernard Osher Foundation
The Pincus Charitable Fund (A)
Amy & Marc Rosenberg (A)
May & Samuel Rudin Foundation
David Rudzinsky (A)
Silverstein Family
Dana & Mark Susson
Wertheim Family Endowment
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Edward M. Slater Memorial Fund
Louise & William Steerman
Tanner Tananbaum
Ruth & Howard (z"l) Walzer
Patricia & Philip Wexler
Ira & Shirley Yohalem Endowment
Deborah Miller & William Zabel (A)

LEGACY SOCIETY as of 7/1/23

Hank Alpert
Ellen and Si Atlas
Robyn Barsky
Howard A. Berger
Sandi and Jerry Bloomberg
Merri and Jay (A) Blumenfeld
Jerry Bornstein, MD
Ray Brenner
Jim Bronner (A)
Jeff Bukantz (A)
Talia and Ron Carner
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Libby Newman Feldman
Suzan and Allen Fox
Ben (A) and Heidi Fox
Marilyn Glaser
Joy and Gary (A) Gordon
Linda Greenberg (z"l)
Betsy Grossman
Harvey Gutman
Alan Hahn
Richard Hermann
Larry Hirsch (A)
David Hochberg
Marilyn Labkon

Jackie and Nat Levine
Deb Lichtenfeld and Jeff Schulman (A)
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Donald Kent (A) and
Ellen Goosenberg Kent
Irv Levine (z"l) (A)
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Beth and Jed (A) Margolis
Ilene and Mel Miller
Susan and Harvey Morgan
Jay Moses (A)
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Ken Schwartz (A)
Claire A. and Alan Sherman
Taylor Hogge and Robert Spivak (z"l)
Ellen and Sam (A) Sporn
Louise and Bill (z"l) Steerman
Harry Swimmer
Dana and Mark Susson
Frank Velie (A)
David Weissman (z"l)
Steven Wertheim
Toni and Wally Wortman

We make every attempt to ensure our donor listing is accurate. If your name is listed incorrectly or missing, please contact the office (maccabi@maccabiusa.com, 215.561.6900).

(A) Athlete

Upcoming Events

2023 Rugby Hall of Fame Induction

August 5, 2023
Kaiser Tiger • Chicago, IL

Pickleball Tournament

October 21-22, 2023
Boca West CC • Boca Raton, FL

European Maccabi Youth Games

July 30 - August 6, 2024
London, Great Britain

Freddy Cohen Memorial Maccabi USA Chicago Golf Tournament

August 28, 2023
Knollwood Club • Lake Forest, IL

Bruce Fleisher Memorial Maccabi USA Palm Beach Golf Tournament

November 2023

15th Pan American Maccabi Games

Dec 27, 2023 to Jan 4, 2024
Buenos Aires, Argentina



To the Next 75 Years! *Chazak v'Ematz!*

