



maccabi  
VICTORIA  
all abilities

# 2017

## a year in review

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**Earlier in 2017 we asked several members and coaches what they love about Maccabi. [Click here to see what they had to say.](#)**

# looking back: what a year!

**“Sport and active recreation...is essential to our health and wellbeing. Our sense of belonging. Our connection to our community.”**

The Hon. John Eren MP, Minister for Sport, “Active Victoria: A strategic framework for sport and recreation in Victoria 2017-2021”, 2017

Never have these words been truer than in 2017. In a world that’s increasingly connected by technology, it’s easy for physical activity and human interaction to fall by the wayside. When this is coupled with the fact that only 24% of people with a disability participate in sport and active recreation, it’s clear to see where Maccabi All Abilities fits into the picture.

2017 has been a busy year, with over 150 opportunities for participation in sport and active recreation, and numerous other avenues for non-playing participation including volunteering, coaching and being part of the All Abilities committee.

None of this would have been possible without the support of our members and families, our coaches and volunteers, our donors, the Maccabi Victoria and Maccabi Australia teams, the Maccabi Sports Foundation, and many partner organisations.

This year saw strengthened ties between Maccabi All Abilities and other community organisations, which resulted in a number of joint projects. These ranged from increased and improved access to participation opportunities, to our community breakfast marking International Day of People with a Disability.

Thank you for your support of our program - we really couldn’t have done it without you! Together we are working to create a positive, healthy, connected Jewish community. I have been so proud to be a part of such a meaningful and dynamic program, and look forward to continuing to develop the program in 2018.

*Shari Cohen*

All Abilities Inclusion Coordinator

# who we are

**Our mission:** To increase access and participation opportunities for Jewish people of all abilities in sport and active recreation.

**Our vision:** More Maccabi members of All Abilities participating in inclusive and integrated sporting and active recreational opportunities on a regular basis.



## Our Keys to Success:

- Governance and Stakeholders
- Communication and Marketing
- Relationship Building
- Capacity Building
- Member Protection

## Our core values:

**Respect | Inclusion | Empowerment**



# who we are



## Strategic Priority 1: Enhanced Participation

Expanded opportunities for increased participation in a wide range of sporting and active recreational opportunities.

## Strategic Priority 2: Community Integration

Strengthened integration and inclusion of Maccabi All Abilities members within the Jewish community through sport and active recreation.



## Strategic Priority 3: Club Education

Strengthened education of Maccabi clubs focused on increased integration in a variety of roles for Maccabi members of all abilities.

# snapshot of 2017

**157**

sporting opportunities

**over 50**

program participants

**over 20**

coaches and volunteers

**12**

different sport and  
recreation activities

**10+**

different partner  
organisations

**10**

Maccabi Victoria clubs  
engaged with

# sport and active recreation

This year we offered over 150 opportunities for Jewish individuals living with a disability to get involved in sport and active recreation.

Many of our activities couldn't be offered without the support of our partner organisations and clubs

## Basketball

The Maccabi Dolphins train every week and play in several tournaments each year. Thank you to the Maccabi Basketball Club for your support.

*Pictured: Josh, David and Mattie in the new Maccabi Basketball uniforms.*



## Swimming

The All Abilities Snappers train every week alongside the mainstream swimming club. The annual highlight is the Maccabi/MS Swimathon. This program wouldn't be possible without the Maccabi Swimming Club.

*Pictured: The 2017 Snappers Swimathon team*

## Shmooze and Groove

Our fortnightly Shmooze and Groove group enjoy getting out and about in Caulfield. This program is run in conjunction with Jewish Care.

*Pictured: participants and pets at the park*



## Tenpin Bowling

What better way to beat the winter blues than to get active?  
Run in conjunction with Access Inc. and Jewish Care

*Pictured: Uri inspecting the scores*

# sport and active recreation

## Disco

The annual disco is always a highlight of the calendar as everyone gets a chance to show off their dance moves. This event was run in conjunction with Access Inc and Jewish Care.

*Pictured: Noga and Davi getting the party started*



## Get Into Cardio Tennis

Tennis Victoria ran a number of GICT sessions - a series of fun, non-competitive tennis-inspired games and activities.

*Pictured: Rachel and Mark working on their skills*

## Grand Prix Tour

We were lucky enough to once again be able to head behind the scenes at the Grand Prix and check out the cars and grounds. This event was run in conjunction with Access Inc and Jewish Care.

*Pictured: checking out the cars before the big event*



## Table Tennis

Several blocks of table tennis have run throughout the year with experienced coaches Ben and Ken. Run in conjunction with Jewish Care.

*Pictured: table tennis participants*



# sport and active recreation

## Circus

Sam Starr ran a circus workshop for us, including juggling, plate spinning, magic and hula hooping. Run in conjunction with Access Inc and Jewish Care.

*Pictured: Baruch and Bar spinning plates*



## City Tour

We had an exclusive city tour from Melbourne Tours 101 where we explored iconic parts of Melbourne such as Hosier Lane, Flinders Street and the National Gallery. Run in conjunction with Access Inc and Jewish Care.

*Pictured: checking out the art and culture in Hosier Lane*

## AFL

20+ members, volunteers and staff went to watch the Melbourne v St Kilda game. Run in conjunction with Access Inc and Jewish Care.

*Pictured: Mattie, Dave and Zalman excited about the results*



## Fitness

Our members have been participating in fortnightly fitness sessions with a personal trainer which have included boxing, cardio, strength training and more. This program is run in conjunction with Jewish Care.

*Pictured: Ruthie and Tamara flexing their muscles*

# more than just playing

**We believe in supporting our members to get involved in sport and active recreation in a variety of appropriate and meaningful ways.**

For many people it's about playing sport and participating in our active recreation opportunities. But for some people it's about volunteering, coaching and exploring their leadership potential.

## **Our members are an important part of the running of the All Abilities program.**

It's important for us to have service-users represented on our committee, and we value their contribution to our strategic planning, programming and partnership building. Some of our members also assist with other areas.



Rachel is not only part of our committee but also provides valuable administrative and organisational assistance for our social events.

Ben also has multiple roles within the program - sitting on our committee and also being one of our table tennis coaches.

*Pictured (L-R): Matt (Jewish Care Victoria), and Rachel*

# more than just playing

## Footy is leading the way.

The AJAX Junior and Senior football teams provided fantastic opportunities for our All Abilities members to get further involved in sport.

Three of our members volunteered with the senior footy club, assisting with equipment, water, maintaining the club rooms and any other tasks thrown in their direction.

One of our members, Josh, also had the chance to join one of the junior footy teams as an assistant coach. He had a chance to put his footy knowledge to good use and is looking forward to developing his coaching skills further in 2018.

*“Kol Hakavod and a huge thanks from the families of Loz, Zac and Josh to the Ajax Football Club for enabling our kids to help and be included in this great club.”*

[Click here](#) to read what these parents had to say about the football club.



Click here to see  
Josh in action,  
revving up the team

# administration and funding

**Our programs wouldn't be possible if it weren't for our generous supporters.**

We are so grateful to our major donors who help ensure that Jewish individuals of all abilities are able to participate in sport and active recreation. They are:

Alan Synman  
& Family



Access  
for All Abilities



Anonymous

We are also lucky enough to have been the recipients of equipment from:



Thank you to those who have shared their simchas with us, and to everyone who has donated their money, their time and their services to help us run the best programs we can.

This year we also participated in Maccabi Victoria's Charidy campaign, as well as the Maccabi/MS Swimathon. These initiatives aim to raise money not just for All Abilities, but for all Maccabi programs.



# administration and funding

**We are constantly striving to be a model of best practice in our programs.**

The Maccabi **Member Protection Policy** (MPP) is a living document, being revised and revisited as legislation changes and new matters come to light. The All Abilities committee have worked very closely with the MPP committee to make sure that not only does the policy cover the rights and needs of our members, but also that the document is accessible to everyone, regardless of ability.

**Maccabi NSW** have recently established an All Abilities program. We have worked closely with them, offering guidance and assistance wherever possible.

This year we also hosted four **social work student placements** from Monash University (pictured).

Isabella, Malka, Paige and Jackie each spent three months working closely with the All Abilities program and their research and insights were both worthwhile and refreshing.



# awards and recognition

We're very proud of what we achieve

This year the All Abilities program has been recognised by a number of external organisations.

**Maccabi Victoria All Abilities was runner up for the 2017 Glen Eira Community Group of the Year Award.**

*Pictured (L-R): Mayor Cr Mary Delahunty, Inclusion Coordinator Shari Cohen*



**All Abilities President, Sharon Hamilton was runner up for the 2017 Glen Eira Citizen of the Year Award.**

*Pictured (L-R): Mayor Cr Mary Delahunty, Sharon Hamilton*

**Maccabi All Abilities was shortlisted for the Victorian Disability Awards**

in the category of “Excellence in promoting health, housing and wellbeing”.



# awards and recognition



Swimming coach Lexi Keats was named **Coach of the Year** at the **Victorian Disability Sport and Recreation Awards**.

Lexi has been described by many of the participants as “the best coach ever!”

**Jamie Zaidenberg was recognised by the City of Glen Eira for over 10 years of volunteering with Maccabi All Abilities.**

Jamie has volunteered for many years with both the basketball and swimming programs and is an integral part of our team.



We are also very proud to share that we have again be named a finalist for Glen Eira’s **Community Group of the Year Award!**

# community connections

**In addition to providing sport and recreation, we aim to educate and advocate in the community.**

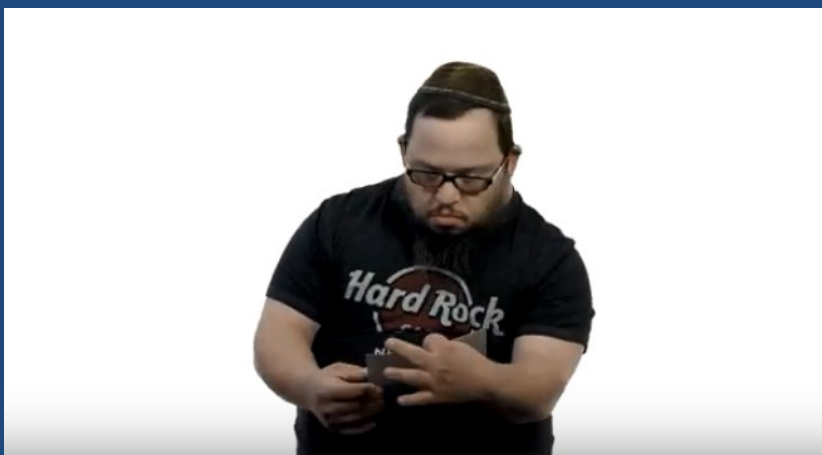
We do this in conjunction with a number of other organisations from the Jewish community, the disability sector and the sporting world.

The highlight of the calendar was our joint event Celebrating International Day of People with a Disability (IDPwD). The *You Can Ask me Anything* breakfast gave people the opportunity to meet members of our community who live with a permanent or temporary disability, their family members and the people who support them.

[Click here to read about the event.](#)

The organisations also launched a new video entitled *You Can Ask Me Anything – Living with a Disability in the Jewish Community*. Bringing together interviews of members of the Jewish community living with a disability, this video tried to break down some barriers by asking the questions we all want to know but never know how to ask. The participants were honest, candid and heartfelt in sharing their experiences of bullying, love and the struggle for independence.

[Click here to watch the video](#)





# looking forward: where to next?

As this year wraps up, it is time to look to the future. Planning for 2018 is well underway and we look forward to another busy year.

In addition to a full calendar of activities, some of the key projects we are working on include:

**Junior Carnival:** Junior Carnival 2018 will be held in Melbourne in January and we will have a number of All Abilities members involved in participatory, voluntary and leadership capacities.

**Teenage Working Group:** We will be coordinating a working group to discuss how we can better engage teenagers of all abilities in sport and active recreation. We are keen to engage a wide variety of stakeholders in order to create sustainable options for the future.

**Improved Coach Support:** We plan to offer additional training and support for our coaches and volunteers to help them expand their skill sets with regards to both sport, and working with people with a disability.

**Increased Volunteer Opportunities:** We will be looking to expand the coaching and volunteer opportunities available to our members, based on the success of this year.

**Further Mainstream Club Engagement:** After completing an Inclusion Action Plan with VicSport this year, we will be offering a number of clubs the opportunity to work with the All Abilities team to create an individualised Inclusion Action Plan for their club.

**Thank you for being a part of our journey, and we look forward to continuing our relationship in 2018.**