

UPDATE - DECEMBER 2015

Term 4 has certainly been busy – with events ranging in size from 12 people to 12 basketball teams! We've worked with a range of partners in order to be able to create such a vibrant term, and we're looking forward to make our 2016 calendar just as dynamic and exciting!



All Abilities members take to the pool for the recent Maccabi/MS Swimathon.

Fantastic Opportunities for All Abilities Members

- We kicked off the term with a **family walk**. It was a great opportunity for members, parents and even a puppy to enjoy a beautiful spring day.
- Our members joined Friendship Circle for an evening of **tenpin bowling**. Members enjoyed it so much that 2 hours just wasn't long enough for some of them!
- After receiving feedback from parents that public holidays are a challenge due to a lack of services and activities available, we ran a program on **Cup Day**. We took advantage of the weather and enjoyed a walk, before having a social afternoon tea (and a much needed stretch session!). The feedback received for running a program on a public holiday was overwhelmingly positive.



Sorting products for Impact for Women with Bnei Akiva, the Armadale Bowls Club and Maccabi All Abilities.

- As our annual **lawn bowls afternoon** fell on **Mitzvah Day**, we decided to run an event with a difference. We invited members from Bnei Akiva to join us at Armadale Bowls Club and we had a great afternoon bowling, enjoying afternoon tea, and helping to sort donations for Impact for Women (which were then included in hampers and distributed to women in refuges fleeing from domestic violence). It was so special to have our all abilities members, Bnei Akiva participants, and members of the lawn bowls club all working together and enjoying the afternoon.

"What a truly magnificent day you all had. The photographs are spectacular. We are very happy and proud to host this event for you all. Our very best wishes for many more fun days to be held in this sporting and fun spirit"

- President of the Armadale Bowls Club.
- The Maccabi All Abilities Snappers participated in the recent **Maccabi/MS Swimathon**, raising money for Maccabi and for people living with MS. We had an overwhelming response from our members – with 8 of our members joining family, friends and supporters to make up our team (up from 3 AA participants in 2014). We're so proud that our team has raised over \$6,000 (with a percentage of the money raised going towards the All Abilities program).
- We also recently hosted an **All Abilities Basketball Tournament**. With a record 12 teams (up from 9 in 2014), we had over 80 players enjoy a very busy day of basketball. As always, our Dolphins team had a great time honing their skills against a range of teams who had travelled from far and wide to participate.



Maccabi All Abilities participants showing that there are many ways to win at basketball.

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- Our basketball team had a very special visit at training from Israeli basketball legend **Tal Brody**.
- We are working with Maccabi, Camp Sababa (Melbourne and Sydney) and Friendship Circle (Sydney) to send an All Abilities member to **Junior Carnival (Sydney)**
- Offering **regular active sporting opportunities** offered for All Abilities members. Constantly working to develop and improve these programs.
- Always looking for ways to develop further **volunteer roles** for members both in the office and at events.
- Members **integrated into mainstream clubs**, including netball, soccer, hockey, tennis and tenpin bowling.
- Planning our **2016 activities calendar** – there's so much we'd like to offer!



Getting out on the green for lawn bowls/Mitzvah Day



hoping to bring other community disability service providers on board, in the best interests of all involved.

- Submitted an application for the upcoming **Supporting Victorian Sport and Recreation** funding for 2016 – 2019

Stakeholder relationship development:

- Continued strong collaboration with other **disability service** via events, committees and shared resources
- Continued capacity building for **Maccabi Victoria clubs** through provision of resources and support.
- Liaising with **King David School** to support all abilities member receiving paid work as a sports teacher assistant.



Maccabi All Abilities members enjoying a social afternoon tea after a walk on Cup Day.

Administration:

- Held a **feedback forum** (open to parents, members and carers) to discuss our programs and ways we can improve for 2016. It was incredibly productive and constructive having an open forum and we look to run this again annually.
- Active participation in **SILC (Social Inclusion Leadership Committee)** and **JDN (Jewish Disability Network)**. These committees look both within the network of service providers, and externally to the wider community, to look at how we can help make a tangible difference in the lives of people with a disability.
- Launched an **online member database** which will improve our efficiency and efficacy, streamline administration and be more user-friendly for all parties. We are excited that Access Inc has also come on board (which will significantly reduce paperwork for members who attend both programs), and we are

Marketing and promotion:

- **Jewish Disability Service Directory** presented at the October JCCV plenum
- **All Abilities monthly newsletter** edited and distributed to key stakeholders and incorporated into other organisation's newsletters
- **Facebook page** maintains active profile, with growing followers (now over 200!).
- **All Abilities website and community calendar** continue to be developed and updated.

For further information please contact:

Shari Cohen (All Abilities Inclusion Coordinator)

P: 03 9563 5885 | M: 0405 619 219 |

E: allabilities@macvic.com.au

Stay up to date with Maccabi Victoria All Abilities:

- **Website:** <http://www.maccabi.com.au/VIC/All-Abilities>
- **Facebook:** maccabivictoriaallabilities