

Quarterly Update: June 2019

The weather might have cooled down but Maccabi All Abilities members have been staying warm with activities ranging from basketball to bowling. We have also been collaborating with other organisations to showcase some of the great work we've been doing in volunteering and community involvement.

Programs and Opportunities

- This quarter has seen **over 200 attendances** at more than 35 events including swimming, basketball, table tennis and bowling.
- Our four week block of **dance** run in conjunction with Access Inc. and Jewish Care was a resounding success. Everyone loved the chance to bust a move and show off their skills.



Showing off some moves at dance.

- We ran a fantastic **tenpin bowling session** in May; with over 20 participants enjoying an afternoon of bowling, catching up with friends and avoiding gutter balls!
- Coaches Ben and Ken once again ran our **table tennis** sessions; sharing their expertise and helping participants brush up on their skills.
- We had a great afternoon at the **football** in conjunction with Access Inc., watching the Carlton v Melbourne game. It was a nail-biting fourth quarter, but our Melbourne fans ended up happier on the day!



Footy fun with Maccabi All Abilities and Access Inc.

Growth and Development

- We have collected **extensive feedback** from members and families to work out how we can better design and develop our programs. The responses we have received have helped us shape our programming, as well as some of our emerging initiatives.
- Based on recurring feedback, we are in the process of developing a **volunteer/buddy program** to enable our members to get more involved in a wider range of sport and recreation opportunities (beyond the All Abilities programs). We are currently navigating logistics and hoping to run a pilot in the second half of the year.
- Maccabi Victoria has recently adopted an **Inclusion Commitment Statement**, highlighting their enthusiasm around ensuring that the organisation is as accessible as possible to the whole community.



Coaches Ben and Ken putting All Abilities members through their paces.

Partnerships and Education

- Thanks to some additional funding from the Department of Sport and Recreation given in 2018, we are developing a number of **promotional tools and resources** to assist coaches and clubs with inclusion and to show how easy it can be to get on board.
- Shari will be speaking on behalf of Maccabi as part of a panel at the **National Disability Sports Conference** (part of the National Sports Convention). She will be discussing "the impact that sport and recreation has on individual's lives with regards to overall wellbeing, social connection and cultural and community participation".

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- Maccabi All Abilities partnered with **AAA Play** for their monthly educational newsletter ("Let's Learn About...") in May. As it was shared during National Volunteer Week, we shared tips and case studies to encourage clubs to engage more people with a disability in valuable **volunteer roles**.



Are You Ready for Volunteering? Infographic designed with AAA Play for National Volunteer Week. [Click here](#) for more.

Finance and Administration

- We have applied for the Victorian State Government's **Together More Active funding**. We hope to continue our very successful relationship with the Department and appreciate their ongoing support of Maccabi Victoria, especially the All Abilities program.
- Maccabi All Abilities was one of the **featured charities/causes at Grill'd** Elsternwick in June. We were delighted to be told that we came second! Thank you to everyone who got a burger and put their bottle cap in our jar.
- Inclusion Coordinator Shari was the successful recipient of a **Change Our Game scholarship grant**. She will complete a certificate 4 in training and assessment, with the aim of being able to design, (re)develop and deliver appropriate training materials around both inclusion and member protection.
- Peter Nikolopoulos** finished his health promotion placement with Maccabi All Abilities. It was great having him as part of the team. We look forward to welcoming a new health promotion student in second semester.

What's Next?

- Maccabi Victoria will again be running a **holiday program** in the July school holidays. We will work with them to ensure that the program is welcoming and accessible for kids of all abilities.
- We're very excited about our upcoming inaugural **ski trip**. The trip will be run in conjunction with **Flying Fox** and we can't wait to combine their camp expertise with our love of sport!
- Planning for **term 3** is currently underway. We will have all of our regular programs plus some new additions.
- We are constantly looking for ways to connect with other clubs and community organisations in order to provide **better opportunities** for our members.



Celebrating success and solidifying friendships at our tenpin bowling afternoon.

For further information or to get involved please contact:

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