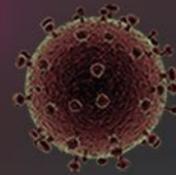


Coronavirus (COVID-19) Press Release



Maccabi Victoria
Melbourne, Australia - 16th March 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Maccabi Victoria President, **Brian Swersky** said: *"As the largest 'grass roots' Jewish community organisation, we take our leadership role very seriously. This is an unprecedented situation and we are acting on the best advice available to preserve the health and well-being of our members, volunteers and broader community. The situation is 'fluid' and we are prepared to respond quickly to changing needs."*

****START****

For more than 95 years, Maccabi has lived the core value of "community" - connecting our community through sport and ensuring its health and well-being has always been our top priority. This enduring value guides us as we face the difficult challenge of responding to the coronavirus (COVID-19), which the World Health Organization declared a pandemic on Wednesday.

Maccabi Victoria is closely monitoring the current situation with coronavirus (COVID-19) and based on current information available to us at the time of this release, the Board has voted unanimously to make the following recommendations to our clubs and members and undertake the following actions:

- temporarily put on hold the following Maccabi Victoria programs and events; NextGen Leadership, Women in Sport activities, School Holiday Sports Camps, School and Club engagement activities, Friends of Maccabi events, Volunteer/Awards events and Club Presidents Council meetings.
- promote and implement where possible, best practices around hygiene, health and safety in the workplace and limit face to face meetings in order to mitigate the risks around coronavirus (COVID-19).
- recommend to our affiliated clubs to suspend all competition and training schedules until further notice, including sanctioned and unsanctioned events. This falls in line with actions already taken by many (but not all) Associations.

During these unsettling times, we recognise that sport and travel may not be your first thought, but we want you to know that planning for Junior Carnival in Melbourne - January 2021 and the Maccabiah Games in Israel - July 2021, will continue to proceed, with the safety of our members and community our top priority. We would like to thank you in advance for putting your trust in Maccabi as you consider registering for these much loved events in the near future.

Our organisation is faced with an unprecedented situation with coronavirus (COVID-19). Maccabi Victoria is focussed on doing everything we can to support our 22 clubs who participate across 20 sporting codes, our thousands of members, volunteers, coaches and administrators, as well as our PROUD community.

We urge you to please take care, practice good hygiene and stay active. We will continue to keep you informed as we take additional action.

****END****

****DO NOT PRINT****

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