

MACCABI USA SEEKING JEWISH SOFTBALL PLAYERS FOR 20th WORLD MACCABIAH GAMES

Philadelphia, PA- April 4, 2016 – Maccabi USA is seeking Jewish Fastpitch (Windmill) Softball players to represent the United States at the 20th World Maccabiah Games in Israel, July 6-17, 2017. The Games will consist of over 42 sports and 7,000+ athletes from over 75 countries. The World Maccabiah Games are the third largest international sporting competition in the world and the world's largest international Jewish event.

Maccabi USA will be sending three Fastpitch Softball teams to the 20th Maccabiah Games in the following age divisions: Open Women's, ages 18-35; Open Men's, ages 18-35; and Masters Men's, ages 35 and up. The Men's teams will be selected following national tryouts, which will be held on May 1, 2016 in Los Angeles, and June 5, 2016 in New York City. Information about the selection process for the Women's team will be made available shortly. To participate in a tryout, a candidate must first complete and submit an application for the Maccabiah Games online at www.maccabiusa.com.

Mike Goldman, the Chairman of the Maccabi USA Men's Softball Program, and Fred Cohen, Chairman of the Bat and Glove Program, have appointed Maccabi USA Fastpitch alumni Marty Weiner of Los Angeles, CA, and Tony Kahan of Chicago, IL, to be the Head Coaches of the Men's Open and Masters Fastpitch teams, respectively.

“We are really excited to have Marty and Tony on board,” said Goldman. “Our hope is that the best Jewish Fastpitch players in the United States will jump at the opportunity to experience Israel in a unique and meaningful way, while representing their country as part of Team USA.”

The Maccabiah Games are more than an international sporting competition; they are a celebration of Jewish culture, unity and pride. ISRAEL CONNECT, Maccabi USA's unique cultural and educational program, takes place for seven days prior to the start of the Games. All Open Fastpitch players will participate in the program where they will have the opportunity to tour historical and religious sites, take part in cultural identity seminars, and train with their team, all while bonding with their teammates and Team USA.

Quick Details:

- Los Angeles Tryout: May 1, 2016, Men's Fastpitch (Windmill) Softball
- New York City Tryout: June 5, 2016, Men's Fastpitch (Windmill) Softball
- Both Tryouts: Players must apply for the Maccabiah Games online before attending the tryout.

For more information about Maccabi USA, please contact Shane Carr at 215.561.6900 or by email at scarr@maccabiusa.com. For any questions regarding Maccabi USA Men's Fastpitch Softball, please contact Mike Goldman at maccabiusafastpitch@gmail.com.

About the organization:

Maccabi USA (MUSA) is a federally-recognized not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization with an extensive history of enriching Jewish lives through athletic, cultural and educational programs. The organization is the official sponsor of the United States Team to the World Maccabiah Games, and the Pan American and European Maccabi Games, as well as a sponsor of the JCC Maccabi Games for teens in North America. As the official Maccabi representative in the U.S., Maccabi USA supports Jewish athletic endeavors, enhanced by cultural and educational activities in the United States, Israel and throughout the Diaspora.

MUSA develops, promotes and supports international, national and regional athletic-based activities and facilities. It strives to provide Jewish athletes the world over the opportunity to share their heritage and customs in competitive athletic settings. MUSA supports programs that embody the Maccabi ideals of Jewish Continuity, Zionism and Excellence in Sport. Maccabi USA Builds Jewish Pride Through Sports.

Maccabi USA is a U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) Multi-Sport Organization (MSO). The organization is one of 38 MSOs nationwide to be recognized by the USOC for its ability to cultivate a national interest in sport and increase opportunities for participation internationally, nationally and at the grassroots level.

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