MESSAGE FROM THE EMC CHAIRMAN, MOTTI TICHAUER

Chaverim, Maccabim,

Europe is going through rough times these days.

Ukraine is in a big crisis, end not to be foreseen.

Local elections in France with an increase of support for the Front National.

General elections in Hungary with the right wing Jobbik party winning over 20% of the polls; their campaign was based on Anti-Semitism and racial hatred against the Roma.

On the eve of the celebration of freedom from tyrants, our people faces great dangers again.

We have to be alert and fight united every movement that threatens our survival as a people.

The EMC Executive wishes Happy Passover to all of you and your families!

Am Israel Chai!

Motti

MACCABI MASA PROGRAM

For the first time in history, we attended the Orient a Zion, the biggest MASA Expo in France and Belgium, with our Maccabi Israel Programs.

This is a great opportunity for our youth (18-30) to enjoy Israel with the Maccabi spirit.

We offer a wide range of programs, from experience and integration for Gap year (18-22), Internships in top Israeli Companies and even Ulpan Etzion in Jerusalem for post College ages.

All of these programs are offered under the umbrella of MASA, supported with grants by the Jewish Agency and the State of Israel.

We invite you to check it out:
http://www.masaisrael.org/programs/maccabi-bekeff

Asaf Golan
EMC Shalicah
MACCABI X-TREME TAGLIT, JULY 13-23, 2014

If you want to be part of this amazing experience with Maccabi and if you are from Central-Eastern Europe, apply now to www.taglit-birthrightisrael.com. Registration open until 30.4.14. Hurry up!!!

Asaf Golan
EMC Shalicah

MINYANIM INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, APRIL 3 - 6, 2014

The MiNYanim International Seminar took place in Bucharest, Romania with the participation of the following countries: Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Poland, Serbia, Bosnia, Montenegro, Czech Republic, Russia and Israel with 65 participants and madrichim (age 20 to 30).

The Seminar is a two year program for Young Leaders in the Central Eastern European Countries, focusing on their Jewish Identity, their Community and creating projects to strengthen these 2 important issues.

I had the opportunity to take part as a lecturer about Maccabi programs, facilitating discussions in some of the sessions and of course getting to know these amazing people from different countries, listening to their personal stories and finding the connection points for potential development of Maccabi organizations in different countries.

In the photo you can see Michal Levy, the former EMC Shlichah, who was the Educational Coordinator of the Seminar.

Asaf Golan
EMC Shalicah

PURIM BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT, HUNGARY

On January 2014, for the third time in a row, we organized the Maccabi VAC Children’s Purim Basketball Tournament with the participation of four teams: Lauder and Scheiber (Jewish schools), the team of Zugló and Radnóti school.

The event was opened by Rabbi Tamas Vero, who said a few words about the next holiday of Purim, and then the four teams competed against each other.

The students of Radnóti school won the tournament, but all the teams fought hard and competed nicely, in a warm-atmosphere event.

Many parents and family members came to cheer, and after the tournament, we handed all the
participating children their medals or certificates with a booklet for children about Israel, and then together we ate some hamantaschen.

Adam Jusztin  
Chairman  
Maccabi VAC Hungary

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE JEWISH EURO-ASIAN CONGRESS

On February 16-18, 2014 was held in Jerusalem the General Assembly of the Jewish Euro-Asian Congress.

Vadim Poliansky, member of the General Council of the Congress, spoke about the 100th anniversary of the beginning of Maccabi Movement in Russia and the 25th anniversary of the revival of Maccabi in the USSR, and awarded with a special certificate with symbols of the Olympics 2014 in Sochi the President of Maccabi Russia Mikhail Mirilashvili for his enormous contributions, personal participation and support of the Russian and global Maccabi Movement.

Vadim also presented a commemorative certificate to the new President of the Congress Julius Meinl.

MACCABI HOLLAND IS CO-INITIATOR AND SUPPORTER OF EXODAYS

A three-day event for gay Jews from all over the world is set to take place in the Dutch capital.

The Amsterdam Pride Canal Parade 2014 may feature a Jewish float for the first time. The Jewish boat for the annual gay parade is a project launched by a group called Exodays, whose board is made up of several young Jewish activists.

The boat is one part of a three-day event for gay Jews from all over the world that Exodays is organizing in Amsterdam set for August 1 - 3.

LI LIRISMAN - 10 TIMES CHAMPION OF ESTONIA

Tallinn Jewish School student Li Lirisman won the championship of Estonia in karate, which was held March 14-16 in Rakvere. Li excelled in Cadet competition in kata and kumite and added two more titles to her list of titles! Thus, Li Lirisman has become 10-times champion of Estonia! Earlier, Li became European and World Champion in kumite.

13TH EMC TENNIS TOURNAMENT IN BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA
March 20, 2014 took place the 13th Bar-Mitzvah EMC Tennis Tournament in Bratislava, Slovakia. We had the participation of 25 Tennis players from GB, Scotland, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Turkey, Germany, Slovakia, Israel, France, and Hungary.

In the opening of the Bar-Mitzva EMC Tennis Tournament took part Motti Tichauer (EMC Chairman), Robert Cohen (EMC Sports Director), Dagmar Gavornikova (President of Slovak Maccabi), Adam Jusztin (Maccabi Hungary VAC Chairman), Sadi Beceren (Turkish Maccabi Executive), Asaf Golan Golinsky (EMC Shaliach), the Ambassador of the State of Israel in Slovakia Alex Ben-Zvi.

We played hard together, had a wonderful and delicious Kabbalat Shabbat and dinner and finished up the Tournament with a Medal Award Ceremony and Purim Party for the Jewish Community of Bratislava.

This shows the strength of our movement and the vital influence on the community activities and inclusiveness.

This event is the 13th tournaments in a row!! This shows a truly Maccabi spirit & commitment, both locally - under Dagmar's & Jana's leadership, and internationally - under Motti’s support and work throughout these 13 years.

**DISCO TENNIS EVENING, MACCABI HOLLAND**

The tennis season has started again and to celebrate it Maccabi Holland organized on March 29 the first "Disco Tennis "evening. On black-lighted courts approx 32 couples played several tennis matches against each other, accompanied by disco music.

Main sponsors of the evening were the companies VATit and Adfab. Maccabi Holland Tennis organizes this season numerous activities including the traditional "opening tournament", which is scheduled for June.

The photo of Disco Tennis evening was taken by Dirk Spits.

**HUNGARIAN PRIDE - THE STATUE OF BELA GUTTMAN IN LISBON**

The statue of Béla Guttmann, former Benfica top coach, was unveiled at the football club's stadium in Lisbon

Hungarian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Zsolt Németh was present at the event and told the MTI in a phone interview that the 220 cm high bronze statue (sculpted by László Szatmári Juhos), portraying the legendary trainer holding the two trophies he had won on the European Champion Club's Cup in his hands, is erected at the door 18 of the Estádio da Luz, next to the bust of Miklós Fehér, who passed away in January 2004.

The ceremony was held on the 110th anniversary of the club's foundation. On the event that evoked notable media attention, Zsolt Németh conveyed PM Viktor Orbán's message: "Béla Guttmann was a man blessed with exceptional talent. His legendary expertise and spirit helped him leading the club to win great victories."

In his letter, Viktor Orbán emphasized: Guttmann was a Hungarian Jewish person who escaped the Holocaust, and "this moment is another reminder for us not to let atrocious ideologies spread around."

The idea of erecting the statue was originally concieved by Norbert Konkoly, Hungarian Ambassador in Lisbon. He proposed it to Luís Filipe Vieira, president of Benfica, in last July. According to an urban
legend, when Guttmann was leaving Benfica, he cursed the club that they won't be European champions for a hundred years. Since that date, the team has been defeated in seven finals. Zsolt Németh added: with this statue, Béla Guttmann has returned to Benfica for good.

Béla Guttmann was born in Budapest in 1900, and during his career as a trainer he has worked for 25 teams in 12 countries. Besides Portugal, he worked in Austria, the Netherlands, Romania, Italy, Argentina, Cyprus, Brazil, Uruguay, Switzerland and Greece.

He achieved his greatest victories in Portugal. He won the Portuguese League in 1958/59 with FC Porto, and in the next year he was already coaching Benfica, their arch rival team. In 1961 and 1962 he won the European Champions Club's Cup with the Lisbon team, and he discovered Eusebio, one of the best football players of all time, who just passed away recently.

Guttmann left Lisbon on the peek of his career and although he remained active until 1973, he couldn't repeat his former successes. He died in Wien in 1981.

**MACCABI YOUNG INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT, MADRID, SPAIN, MAY 1 - 4, 2014**

Come to the young international tournament in preparation to the European Maccabi Games in Berlin 2015.

Futsal (5 a side) and Volleyball players born between 1999 and 2002.

Sports, Jewish identity and a lot of surprises.

Registration:

direcciongeneral@maccabi.es

**INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE EVENT, COLOGNE, GERMANY, MAY 28 - JUNE 1, 2014**

In preparation for the biggest Jewish sport event in Germany since World War II, the European Maccabi Games 2015 in Berlin, you are invited to an international Bridge Event in Cologne, Germany:

Open Paar and Team Tournament
4 Days/ 3 Nights
Participation Fee: 350 Euro/p

Registration Deadline: May 1st 2014
iakov.kats@makkabi.de

**7th EUROPEAN MACCABI FOOTBALL TROPHY, LONDON, JUNE 12-15, 2014**

The 7th European Maccabi Football Trophy will take place in London, June 12th-15th, 2014.
For more information and registration please email: emft@maccabigb.org

First come first served!

UPDATES FROM MACCABI GB

Yavneh College, JFS are Super Hoopers after Maccabi GB's latest School Sports Tournament

Tuesday 4th February 2014 - Yavneh College and JFS slam dunked the competition as they came away with the winner's medals from Maccabi GB's Secondary School Girls Basketball Tournament. This tournament welcomed four secondary schools who brought 12 teams between them. In total, over 100 girls took part in the competition.

IT'S PURPLES' REIGN AS HJPS WINS THE DOUBLE

Wednesday 5th February 2014 - The latest Maccabi GB School Sports Tournament ended in success for HJPS as they battled against 10 other schools, and treacherous weather, to be the victors in the Years 5 and 6 Boys Football Tournament. The event, at Mill Hill PowerLeague, welcomed 11 schools, who brought 33 teams to play between them. In total, over 300 young people were engaged in the event.

Community's young leaders take a 'Hands-On' approach to make a change

Monday 24th February 2014 - 35 young people took an important step towards becoming influential leaders of the Community by completing the recent Leadership by Streetwise ‘Hands-On Events’. The programme, run by Streetwise - a joint initiative by Maccabi GB and the CST - is hosted to help young people learn how to be Leaders and Sports Leaders within their communities, with the aim of enhancing their Jewish Identity, connection to Israel and inspiring other young people through their passion for sport in the future.

Maccabi GB's Year 5 Netball Tournament sees Kerem crowned queens of the court

Wednesday 5th March 2014 - The latest Maccabi GB Year 5 Schools Netball Tournament took place with Kerem taking the coveted title away from the competition, which was hosted at Maccabi London Brady Sports Ground, Rowley Lane.

Undefeated Maccabi GB Futsal progress to the National Round of the FA Futsal Cup

Sunday 9th March 2014 - Maccabi GB Futsal maintained their scintillating 2013/2014 campaign by progressing to the National Finals of the FA Futsal Cup. By winning all their South West Regional Qualifiers they stay undefeated since Manager Jon Kurrant took the helm in September and will now play the other best Futsal sides from around the UK. Not only that, but their four-match winning streak
also sees them seeded for the 'Mini-League' - another qualifying round to determine who will play in the National Semi-Finals.

**Maccabi GB’s Badminton & Table Tennis Tournament is a smash with Community’s Schools**

Monday 10th March 2014 - saw Maccabi GB host the latest School Sports Tournament with Secondary Schools Boys Badminton and Table Tennis taking centre stage - or in this case, centre court. The event, at JFS, welcomed six schools who brought a total of 170 boys to compete.

**CANINE CHORA! Maccabi GB’s Community Dog Walk returns**

Thursday 13th March 2014 - After a four-year hiatus, Maccabi GB is delighted to re-introduce one of the most fun and unique events in the communal calendar - the Maccabi GB Community Dog Walk.

The event was brought back by popular demand after the 2010 Community Dog Walk welcomed 300 people and 120 VIPs (Very Important Pooches) to Mill Hill Park - the same venue where it will be held this year. Dogs of all shapes and sizes will be strutting their stuff on the dogwalk on 18th May, with all profits from the event going towards the Maccabi GB Challenge Tour to Israel 2014 for young people with learning difficulties.

**Maccabi GB Futsal suffers first defeat at U19s level**

Sunday 16th March 2014 - Maccabi GB Futsal suffered its first defeat of the 2013/2014 campaign at the FA National U19 Futsal Championships.

**Maccabi GB Table Tennis takes titanic triple**

Wednesday 2nd April 2014 - In an incredible, unprecedented hat trick of success, Maccabi GB Table Tennis has ended the 2014 season with a titanic triple, clinching an historic three titles.

Maccabi GB First Team’s success began at the end of March when they scooped the title in the Premier Division of the Wembley and Harrow League for the first time in four years, and only the second in their entire history. In their final match of the season, the MGB champs demolished third placed Vagabonds 2nd Team 7 - 2 to win the league title by a margin of 10 points.

**Clore Shalom win Maccabi GB’s School Sports Tournament**

Friday 4th April 2014 - The latest Maccabi GB School Sports Tournament ended in success for Clore Shalom as they battled against 8 other schools to be the victors in the Primary Schools Years 3 & 4 Boys Football Tournament.

The event, at Mill Hill PowerLeague, welcomed nine schools, who brought 17 teams to play between them. In total, over 170 young footballers were engaged in the event.

**Maccabi GB Futsal up four the Cup**

Monday 7th April 2014 - In a thrilling opening encounter of the FA Futsal Cup Quarter Final Mini-League stage, Maccabi GB Futsal ran out deserved 4-1 winners. But it was far from comfortable. Maccabi GB were fielding their most experienced side of the season, including player/manager Jon Kurrant who passed a late fitness test to start the game. Carlisle were fairly unknown in the Futsal community but possess a fantastic set-up in place, having implemented an academy infrastructure that is only going to help them progress and be even more successful.

**Ruck & Roll for Community's schools thanks to Maccabi GB**

Wednesday 26th March 2014 - Maccabi GB held their latest Tag Rugby taster session for Jewish
Primary School children. The event took place on the pitch at Allianz Park Stadium, home to Saracens Rugby Football Club. 55 children from Sinai School, Independent Jewish Day School and Morasha attended the event.

European Maccabi Confederation

Promoting Jewish Ac