

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

January 27, 2014 marks the 69th return of the day on which the Red Army liberated the last survivors of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in Poland.

Auschwitz-Birkenau was the largest extermination camp of the Nazi regime. Almost 1,2 million people were murdered in this camp, around 90 percent of them Jewish.

We, the descendants, should never forget them. Our message has to pass to all coming generations to remember. NEVER AGAIN.

In the time of the worrying increase of old and new anti-Semitism, we stay alert and fight against every anti-Semitic attempt in sports and in general.

The Maccabim should stay united and continue educating our youth to be proud of their Jewishness.

We will never recover from the tragedy of the Holocaust, but our activity for the Jewish Peoplehood and the centrality of the State of Israel are the very embodiment of Jewish continuity.

Motti Tichauer
Chairman of the European Maccabi Confederation



TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT IN KHARKOV, UKRAINE

The Jewish cultural and sports club Maccabi Kharkov, with the support of the All-Ukrainian Association of Maccabi and the Table Tennis Federation, held on December 28-29 the traditional table tennis tournament.

As always, the tournament brought together a large number of participants, not only from various cities of Ukraine. Among the more than 70 participants were representatives of Russia and Moldova.



The competitions were held in four age categories and collected a large number of fans. The President of the Club, honored coach of Ukraine, Leonid Fatalevich, the Chairman of the regional federation of table tennis, sports master, Eugene Mashtakov and the Chief referee of the competition, the international referee, Leonid Galperin, have done a lot for the success of the tournament.

The winners, among whom was the medalist of 15th Maccabiah world-class athlete, Leonid Segal, were awarded with diplomas, prizes and gifts. Leonid Fatalevich, on behalf of the organizing committee, warmly congratulated the winners, thanked all the participants, wished them success and expressed confidence that the next, 15th tournament in 2014, which will be qualifying for the

participation in the European Maccabi Games in 2015 in Berlin, will gather more participants.

MACCABI VAC HUNGARY FUTSAL TOURNAMENT

The 3rd Futsal Tournament was organized in Budapest on January 19, 2014 by [Maccabi Vac Hungary](#), [Balint Haz](#) and [Israeli Cultural Institute](#). [Full report will be sent out shortly.](#)

[In the picture: on the right Adam Jusztin, on the left David Olti](#)



AGNES KELETI TURNED 93 YEARS OLD

It is important to emphasize that she was a member of VAC and her life and sport activities are an inspiration and an example for the (Maccabi) VAC Hungary.

Please allow me to kindly and with respect congratulate Ági Keleti on behalf of both all the Maccabi TO's and the leadership and all the members of Maccabi VAC Hungary, on her 93th birthday. We wish her all the best and health and happiness.

She has always been a person that has made us proud.

First as an athlete and later as a coach and a sport educator, she has always brought glory and honor to both her countries: to Hungary where she was born and to Israel which she proudly and voluntarily joined. Her exemplary life style can stand as model for all youngsters who wish to set as their goal in life sport, either on a professional or on an amateur level.

As a Jewish sport association our goal is to help the sport activities of all Hungarian Jewish youth. Our Board and I are volunteers, working from our heart and our conviction, so that Hungarian Jewish athletes can continue to bring glory to the country and to the Jewish and non-Jewish community as well.

The winner of 10 Olympic medals, she is considered to be one of the most successful [Jewish](#) Olympic athletes of all time. A member of the Hungarian Sports Hall of Fame and the International Women's Sports Hall of Fame, she was also inducted into the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

Keleti was born in [Budapest, Hungary](#). She began [gymnastics](#) at the age of 4, and by 16 was the Hungarian National Champion in gymnastics. Over the course of her career, between 1937 and 1956, she won the Championships title ten times. Keleti was considered to be a top prospect for the Hungarian team at the 1940 Olympics, but the escalation of [World War II](#) canceled both the 1940 and the 1944 Games. Keleti was hiding during the war. She purchased working papers and posed as a Christian maid in a village in the Hungarian countryside. Her father died in [Auschwitz](#), and her mother and sister went into hiding, saved by [Raoul Wallenberg](#). They were later discovered and sent to a [concentration camp](#), but survived and were reunited with Keleti after the war.

After the war, Keleti resumed training. She qualified for the [1948 Summer Olympics](#), but was forced to miss the competition due to injury. She continued training and finally competed at the Olympics for the first time at the age of 31 at the [1952 Games](#). She earned four medals, including gold on the [floor exercise](#) and silver in the team competition, and bronze in the team-portable apparatus event and the [uneven bars](#). Keleti continued on to the [1954 World Championships](#), where she placed first on the uneven bars. At the [1956 Summer Olympics](#) in [Melbourne](#), Keleti won gold medals in three of the four individual event finals: floor, bars, and [balance beam](#) and placed second in the all-around. The



Hungarian team placed first in the portable apparatus event and second in the team competition.

During the 1956 Olympics, the [Soviet Union](#) invaded Hungary. Keleti, along with 44 other athletes from the Hungarian delegation, decided to remain in Australia and received [political asylum](#). Keleti immigrated to [Israel](#) in 1957, and was able to send for her mother and sister. In 1959 Keleti married Robert Biro, a Hungarian physical education teacher whom she met in Israel. The couple has two sons: Daniel (b. 1963) and Rafael (b. 1964).

Following her retirement from competition, Keleti worked as a physical education instructor at the [University of Tel Aviv](#) and the [Wingate Institute](#) for Sport in [Netanya](#). She also coached and worked with Israel's national gymnastics team well into the 1990s.

Maccabi VAC Hungary wishes her good health and all the best of health and happiness. We share in this joyous occasion within the Maccabi family as well.

Adam Jusztin
Chairman
Maccabi VAC Hungary

EUROPEAN MACCABI FUTURE LEADERS FORUM (FLF) MEMBERS TOOK PART IN THE ECJS EVENT IN DUBLIN



On the last days of the year 2013, some of FLF members, have met in Dublin during an event of ECJS called Just One Shabbat, not only to celebrate the end of the year together, but also to spread around the Maccabi spirit. And one thing is sure....when we left, everyone of 195 participants knew what Maccabi is!

One of our main responsibilities as FLF members is to represent the Maccabi not only by giving workshops, organizing sport events and doing a great job in our domestic countries, but also to cooperate with other Jewish organizations and use the opportunity to visit different Jewish events all around the World, inform about Maccabi, most of the times being the first contact with Maccabi and create both side beneficial relationships with other Jewish organizations.

After leaving this great event, that has been running for several years and connects hundreds of young Jewish adults from all around the World, I can say we have reached this goal.

Thanks to FLF members Gilah Samuels, Jonathan Ben Shlomo, Martina Nedorostova, our leader Robert Cohen, our young future members Katie Talbot and Peter Sandor, and the support of the ECJS Executive Director Rabbi Zevi Ives, we have not only spent a great NEW YEAR 2013/2014 celebration, but gained the interest about Maccabi and got a lot of new contacts as well.

European Center for Jewish Students (ECJS) is organizing several events for young Jewish adults during the year. This 6 days New Year event began on Friday with guided tours, interesting workshops and parties, and ended up with celebrating the New Year in the traditional ECJS style - at the annual Black Tie Evening Ball.

I hope we will again create a nice Maccabi FLF group to take part in different Jewish events and to promote Maccabi and the upcoming European Maccabi Games in Berlin. The next event organized by ECJS will be the "Purim on the rocks" that will take place in Prague in March with about 200 participants.

...because Maccabi spirit is better when shared :)

Jana Romanova
Slovak Maccabi Organisation

ASAF GOLAN AT LIMMUD KESHET IN BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

On January 18, 2014 Asaf Golan, the central shaliach in Europe, attended Limmud Keshet in Bucharest, to which he was invited as a lecturer to present the activities of Maccabi in Europe.

The event took place in the JCC in Bucharest with about 120 people. It was a very good platform to meet people and advertise Maccabi.



MACCABI ESTONIA FUTSAL TEAM

Having been re-established in 2007, Maccabi Estonia futsal team is undergoing its 5th season in the official Estonian Football Union Competitions. The participation in the Maccabiah 2009 gave us a huge incentive and the completely new feel for the game itself, for playing in a team with friends, for the result.



The season of 2013-2014 is our third consecutive season in the Estonian Futsal Top Division (Meistriliiga). We are continuing to struggle for the play-offs and the Estonian Futsal Cup, also looking forward for the summer season in the amateur third division of traditional (outdoor) football.

We played rather well in order to qualify from the bottom fourth division into the third in 2011. Thanks to the support of the Jewish Community of Estonia we were able to have all the necessary facilities and equipment for the successful practicing and playing.

All the team players feel very good about our supporters. We regularly get about one hundred spectators for each our futsal home game. The team is an integral part of the Community in Estonia.

During the course of the last few years we achieved rather good results:

- 4th place at the European Maccabi Games in Vienna 2011
- 1st place at the Maccabi Netherlands Futsal Open in Amsterdam 2011
- 1st place at the Maccabi Germany Futsal Open in Gelsenkirchen 2012
- Estonian Futsal Cup holders 2011-2012.

It would be definitely nice to take part in the European Maccabi Games 2015 in Berlin.

Aleksei Dobroshman
Maccabi Estonia Futsal Team

UPDATES FROM MACCABI GB

Slam-dunk for Maccabi GB's Secondary School Boys Basketball tournament JFS, King Solomon and Hasmonian leave victorious

20th January 2014, Kenton - JFS, King Solomon and Hasmonian had a bounce in their step as they came away with the winner's trophies from Maccabi GB's Secondary School Boys Basketball

Tournament.

The event, at JFS in Kenton, was the first School Sports Tournament of 2014 and continued the success off the back of last year's involvement in the Community's schools, which saw over 5,000 school children engaged in Maccabi GB events. This tournament welcomed six Secondary Schools who brought 16 teams between them. In total, over 120 boys took part in the competition.



Maccabi GB
sport for everyone!

MACCABI MOSCOW FOOTBALL TEAM VISITED SINGAPORE



Maccabi Moscow football team visited Singapore in November 2013. They played 3 matches:

2:1 against the home team of Singaporeans; 5:5 against a team of different countries (World Team) and 13:5 against the team of the local Jewish community that included also the Rabbi of the Community.

MACCABI HOLLAND FUTSAL TOURNAMENT



On January 12th Maccabi Holland and its Chairman David Beesemer hosted Maccabi Futsal XL, the largest International Maccabi event held in Amsterdam since the European Maccabi Games in 1995.

16 teams from 6 different countries (Hungary, France, Germany, Great Brittan, Israel and of course Holland) competed in the men's tournament, while 4 Dutch teams competed in the women's tournament.

The weekend started with a nice Shabbat dinner on Friday evening for the foreign guests in a kosher restaurant in Amsterdam. It is always a pleasure to see so many Maccabi teams from different countries together.

On Sunday it was time to play the tournament. In the morning the men teams where competing to get a place in the quarterfinals. It was nice to see that the games were played on a high level, with much respect for the opponents.

During a 30 minute break around noon, both the players and the large amount of spectators enjoyed a demonstration held by Holland's best street footballer artists. After the demonstration the many children that were present worked on their football and futsal skills during a clinic organized by the artists on one of the four courts.

On the other 3 courts both tournament reached its finals. The women final was played between Team Para and Remix, where team Para became the winner of their tournament!

With the first team of Maccabi Holland and the Israeli team Nahalat Yizhak Tel Aviv in the final, the men's tournament reached its climax. After a close game (2-1) with incredible goals and great passion our Israeli friends won the tournament.

Among the guests were leaders of Maccabi France, Georges Haddad and Hector Bokobza; the EMC Sports Director, Robert Cohen and the EMC Treasurer, Jean-Marc Krief.

The award ceremony was held by the Chairman of the European Maccabi Confederation, Motti Tichauer, who ended the day very nicely with the Hatikva.

As Maccabi Holland we are proud that the tournament with so many different countries was such a success. We would like to thank all the participating teams for coming and we hope to welcome more teams during the next edition of our tournament.

The Maccabi Holland Futsal Board

The EMC thanks David Beesemer and the entire team of Maccabi Holland for organizing such a wonderful event! Yishar Koach!

2nd MACCABI JUNIOR TROPHY WILL TAKE PLACE IN MADRID, SPAIN, MAY 1-4, 2014

European participants, age 12-15, born in 1999-2000-2001 & 2002 are invited to a weekend of sports - girls volleyball tournament, boys futsal tournament - and informal education activities in a great venue in Madrid, exclusive for the event.

For more details and registration please contact Maccabi Spain

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European Maccabi Confederation
Promoting Jewish Activity in Europe