

SID JACOBSON JCC MACCABI GAMES FAQs

Who is eligible for the JCC Maccabi Games?

- Jewish teens between the ages of 13-17 years (*teens must be born between August 7, 2008-August 1, 2013*)
- **All athletes must be Jewish**, which is defined as follows: One of the athlete's parents is Jewish and the athlete is being raised Jewish or is a Jew by choice and is being raised Jewish. In the spirit of the Games, if the family does not believe that they are Jewish on a year-round basis, then the child should not participate in JCC Maccabi. In the athlete online registration, there is a declaration that contains the eligibility requirements; both the athlete and their parent(s) must sign this declaration.
- Teens must have current medical insurance and be up to date on all age-appropriate vaccines as per CDC guideline.

What is the fee to participate with Sid Jacobson JCC for 2026?

The all-inclusive, non-refundable cost is \$2,850 for SJJCC members and \$3,000 for nonmembers. This cost includes all program and registration fees, travel and transportation to and from the games, uniforms and gear, adult supervision and coaches, housing and meals during the games.

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 is required to confirm an athlete's spot once they are selected to participate with SJJCC. The deposit is applied towards their overall cost for the games.

Is financial assistance available?

Fundraising opportunities and payment plans are available for all athletes. Limited funds are available for scholarships. Please contact Alyson Goodman, agoodman@sjcc.org, for more information.

What is pre-weekend?

For the 2026 games, SJJCC's delegation of all athletes, coaches, and staff will be arriving in Kansas City on Friday, July 31 for a pre-game experience of seeing the sights and bonding. Hotels and all transportation to Kansas City and around the city for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning before the games begin is being handled by SJJCC.

Is Maccabi just a one-week commitment?

Being a part of Maccabi is more than just the week of the games. Athletes attend meetings, tryouts, practices, and team events before the Maccabi Games. Coaches will make the practice schedules for the team they are overseeing.

My child goes to sleepaway camp, can they participate?

Yes, they can participate, they will just need to leave camp to fully attend the games from start to finish.

Can I participate in more than one sport at the games?

No, only one sport can be played at the games.

How do athletes get to and from Kansas City for the games?

All travel arrangements are made by SJJCC for athletes, coaches, and staff, which is included in the overall fee. **Athletes are required to travel with the full delegation to Kansas City, they cannot arrive at a later day or time, from another sports tournament, etc.**

What is transportation like during the games?

The host community will have a bus system for all athletes and coaches that will get them to and from their game venues, the Hub, and additional activities. *The bus system is only to be used by athletes, coaches, and Maccabi staff. No spectators are allowed on the buses.*

What do athletes do in between their games?

In between games, athletes will go to the Hub for meals, participate in Hang Time, and recharge. They can also go watch other athletic competitions if they would like.

My child is playing on a mixed team, what is that?

A mixed team is made up of athletes from multiple delegations to field a full team. Being a part of a mixed team is a great experience for all involved. The athlete travels with SJJCC and marches in with us at the Opening Ceremony, their uniform will just have different names on it.

Who is responsible and involved in providing security for the games?

The host community works with a wide variety of local, state, and federal agencies to determine all the security needs for the games.

What happens if my child gets injured during the games?

Medical personnel are at all athletic venues and Maccabi Medical Central will be located at the Hub. When an athlete is injured, the medical staff will evaluate the situation and determine the next course of action. In the event of an injury, the athlete's delegation head will be notified immediately and the delegation head will then be in contact with the athlete's family.

How do I communicate health issues about my child?

Families are asked to fill out full medical information about their child during the registration process, and should also reach out to the delegation head to discuss and medical conditions. All information is kept strictly confidential.

Is the food served at the games Kosher?

Yes, all food, snacks, and drinks served each day are Kosher. Food options are also available for vegetarians and those who are gluten free.

I'm coming as a spectator, what can I participate in?

Spectators are invited to the Opening Ceremony and can attend all athletic events. Spectators are not permitted to attend the evening activities, Closing Ceremony, travel on buses with the athlete, dine at the Hub, or participate in Hang Time.

When can I spend time with my child?

Families are welcome at all athletic events, but they cannot take their child out for meals, sightseeing, drive them to their next game, or bring them to their hotel because they choose not to go to an evening activity.

Once an athlete is in the Maccabi system, they must remain in it. Any athlete who leaves the system is automatically removed from the games.