

Frequently Asked Questions—14th Pan American Maccabi Games, **Team USA**



- 1) How do I become a member of Team USA as an athlete, coach, accommodations manager, or trainer?
You can fill out the team application at <http://support.maccabiusa.com/panam2019> or visit our website www.maccabiusa.com
- 2) Where are the 14th Pan American Maccabi Games being held?
Mexico City, Mexico
- 3) What are the dates of the Games?
Friday, July 5 to Monday, July 15, 2019
- 4) When would Team USA be departing?
TBD
- 5) When is Opening Ceremony?
TBD
- 6) When is Closing Ceremony?
TBD
- 7) When would Team USA be returning?
Likely Tuesday, July 16, 2019 (subject to change)
- 8) Where will the athletes fly from?
Several flights are reserved for Team USA to depart from different airports/departure cities. Departure airports are TBD, but may include JFK, EWR, LAX and MIA (subject to change). All Juniors, Youth, and Open Athletes, along with all Coaches, Managers and Medical personnel are required to take the group flight unless special permission is granted. Please note that some flights may have a supplemental fee. Certain teams may have training camps in the USA prior to departure and will fly together. All USA Team members are personally responsible for their domestic travel arrangements to/from the USA departure city. Maccabi USA will ask that you provide your domestic travel information before departure.
- 9) How long is the flight to Mexico City?
Approximately 5 hours from NYC, 3.5 Hours from Miami, 4 hours from LAX
- 10) Do I need a passport?
YES! We require having a passport that is valid through JANUARY 16, 2020- six months after your return from Mexico.
- 11) Is there a VISA requirement to enter Mexico?
No.
- 12) Who can compete in this competition?
Juniors, Youth, Open, and Masters Athletes, who are Jewish. We also need personnel in the areas of Coaching, Medical and Management.
- 13) What if my sport/level is not being offered in Mexico?
We encourage you to check if your sport and level is offered at the 15th European Maccabi Games in Budapest, Hungary. Information can be found at www.maccabiusa.com.
- 14) Who is eligible to represent Team USA?
All USA citizens who are Jewish as defined by the Pan American Maccabi Games USA Organizing Committee are eligible for the Pan American Maccabi Games USA Team (even if

they competed for another country before becoming a USA citizen). Any non-citizen in possession of a U.S. Green Card or E-2 Investment Visa may also participate as a member of Team USA.

- 15) Will background checks be performed?
Yes, background checks will be performed for all coaches, managers and medical personnel.
- 16) How many sports are being represented by the United States?
22+ sports.
- 17) How many countries are competing?
15+ with over 2,000 athletes total!
- 18) Which countries will be competing at the Games?
Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Great Britain, Israel, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, United States, and Venezuela! (Subject to change)
- 19) How many athletes will represent the USA Team?
Approximately 400 athletes.
- 20) How is the team chosen? Are there tryouts?
The selection process may be determined by national ranking, verified times, tryouts, or other means. After both parts of the application are submitted, you will be notified about the selection process by the Chair of your sport.
- 21) Are there training camps before the Games in Mexico City?
Some sports will have a training camp in the USA prior to departing for their international flight. You will receive those details from your respective coach or chair.
- 22) Will there be any other activities besides competition during the games?
Touring arrangements are dependent on sports schedules.
- 23) Where are the Masters Athletes staying in Mexico City?
Masters Athletes who select the organizer's package will be at a hotel TBD.
- 24) Do Masters Athletes who wish to stay on their own receive a participation cost reduction?
There is no reduction for booking your own accommodations.
- 25) Where are the Juniors/Youth Athletes staying in Mexico City?
USA Juniors/Youth will be at a hotel TBD (double occupancy).
- 26) Where are the Open Athletes staying in Mexico City?
The Open Athletes will be at a hotel TBD (double occupancy).
- 27) Where will most of the competitions be located?
Centro Deportivo Israelita (CDI) will have numerous competitions there as well as cultural, educational and recreational activities.
- 28) Where is the Opening Ceremony?
TBD
- 29) Where is the Closing Ceremony?
TBD
- 30) Do USA Team members have to pay for their trip out of pocket, or can the financial commitment be raised?
The money need not be an out-of-pocket expense; it may be raised. Maccabi USA can provide you with a sample fundraising letter, website page, and raffle tickets to assist you in your fundraising efforts. Any way that you can think "out of the box" for your fundraising goals is certainly suggested! The Maccabi USA office can serve as a resource for you with any assistance you may need. Maccabi USA will need your initial deposit on time for your participation as outlined in your invoice. Please note that ALL raffle tickets are non-refundable and not tax-deductible.

- 31) What does the financial commitment cover?
For all participants except Masters Athletes, the financial commitment includes your International flight from select departure cities, hotel accommodations, transportation, Games registration, medical insurance, apparel package and meals.
- 32) What is the financial commitment to participate?
The required financial commitments for the USA Team members are as follows: Juniors, Youth, and Open Athletes, \$5,779; Masters Athletes, \$6,000; Coaches, Doctors & Accommodations Managers, \$3,000; Athletic Trainers, \$1,500; (ALL OF THESE FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.) Prices above do not include the domestic flight cost to and from your home and the International flight departure for the Maccabi international flight, and any flight supplement fee's depending on your departure city.
- 33) Is my financial contribution tax-deductible?
Maccabi USA is a 501c(3) not-for-profit organization. Personal payments are tax-deductible only for the amounts for which you are not receiving goods/services. For Juniors/Youth/Open Athletes it is \$360, Masters \$1,000, and Managers/Medical/Coaches full cost as outlined on your invoice in your appointment package.
- 34) Are there Scholarship funds for Mexico City?
No. This is a self-funded program, but you are encouraged to seek financial assistance from outside organizations.
- 35) Are Raffle tickets tax-deductible?
The raffle tickets are not tax-deductible, nor are they refundable.
- 36) Do the athletes receive an apparel package?
Yes! A variety of apparel are included in your fees and will be sent by Maccabi USA to each Team member prior to the Games. Make sure Maccabi USA has your updated contact information and apparel sizes at all times. Additional items will be available for purchase.
- 37) Do the athletes receive a competitive uniform?
Depending on your sport, you will receive a competitive uniform package.
- 38) Is there a trip for family and friends of the athletes?
Yes, there is a travel program designed specifically for families and friends of USA Team participants and for anyone that wants to travel to Mexico City. The "Supporters Program" information will be sent out to each USA participant and their family. Masters Athletes can participate in the Supporters Program as well. We highly encourage family and friends of Maccabi USA to be part of the Supporters Package to best experience Mexico City and all that the competition has to offer.
- 39) What is the website where we can find 14th Pan American Maccabi Games updated information?
www.maccabiusa.com for updates, news, and more information
- 40) Who is the General Chairman for Team USA?
Tonja Magerman is our General Chair for Team USA.
- 41) Who from the Maccabi USA Office should I speak to if I have any questions?
**Our entire Maccabi USA Games staff is here to help you with anything you need, please call us at 215-561-6900:
Shane Carr x4147
Steve Graber x4148
Samantha Pulley x4149
Mackenzie Mager x4157**

42) What is the Maccabi USA/Sports for Israel office contact information?

1511 Walnut Street, Suite 401

Philadelphia, PA 19102

215/561-6900

Fax: 215-561-5470

Thank you!