KANSAS CITY

2027
JCC MACCABI GAMES
TEAM KANSAS CITY



July 25–30, 2027

INFORMATION PACKET

Jewish Community Center
of Greater Kansas City

TEAM KANSAS CITY

It's Our Turn to Travel!

After welcoming the JCC Maccabi Games to Kansas City in 2026, we're excited to pack our bags and hit the road for the **2027 JCC Maccabi Games in Austin, Texas, from July 25–30!**

If you joined us for Maccabi in Kansas City last year, you already know that the Games are about so much more than competition. If this will be your first Maccabi experience, get ready for a week that combines sports, travel, friendship, Jewish connection, community service, and plenty of fun.

The JCC Maccabi Games bring together thousands of Jewish teens ages 13–17 from across the United States and around the world. Teens compete in their chosen sport, meet Jewish peers from other communities and countries, participate in social and cultural activities, give back through community service, and experience the energy of being part of something much bigger than themselves.

This year, **Team Kansas City is heading to Austin!**

There is something special about traveling together as a delegation. You'll experience a new city, cheer on your teammates, meet Jewish teens from across North America and beyond, and represent Kansas City wherever you go. You'll share meals, celebrations, competitions, community service projects, and countless moments that will become part of your Maccabi story.

Whether you're coming for the competition, the friendships, the travel, the adventure—or all of it—the JCC Maccabi Games are an experience that will stay with you long after the Games are over.

WHAT TO EXPECT

COMPETE IN YOUR CHOSEN SPORT OR INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY.

TRAVEL WITH TEAM KANSAS CITY & EXPERIENCE THE EXCITEMENT OF THE GAMES IN A NEW CITY.

CONNECT WITH JEWISH TEENS FROM COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE U.S. & AROUND THE WORLD.

CELEBRATE AT OPENING CEREMONIES, SOCIAL EVENTS, TEAM ACTIVITIES, & OTHER SPECIAL MACCABI EXPERIENCES.

GIVE BACK THROUGH COMMUNITY SERVICE & OPPORTUNITIES TO PRACTICE TIKKUN OLAM.

REPRESENT KANSAS CITY AND BRING OUR COMMUNITY'S MACCABI SPIRIT TO AUSTIN.

MAKE MEMORIES WITH TEAMMATES, ROOMMATES, COACHES, HOST FAMILIES, & NEW FRIENDS.

Pack your bags. Bring your Maccabi spirit.

LET'S GO, TEAM KANSAS CITY!

Kansas City is planning to participate in the following sports and activities in 2027:

Team Sports:

- 3 x 3 Boys Basketball (15U and 17U)
- *Boys Basketball (15U and 17U)
- Girls Basketball (17U)
- Coed Baseball (15U and 17U)
- Coed Flag Football (17U)
- Coed Ice Hockey (17U)
- Boys Soccer 7 v 7 (15U and 17U)
- Girls Soccer 7 v 7 (17U)
- Girls Volleyball (15U and 17U)

Individual Sports:

- Dance
- Golf
- Pickleball
- Star Reporter
- Swimming
- Tennis

Sports and age divisions are subject to final JCC Maccabi Games requirements and Team Kansas City participation numbers. If there is more interest than available spots in a particular sport, tryouts may be necessary to determine team rosters. Athletes may participate in only one sport or activity, with competition and programming taking place throughout the Games week.

**Eight participants are needed for this sports to take place.*



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ABOUT THE JCC MACCABI GAMES

What are the JCC Maccabi Games®?

The JCC Maccabi Games are an international, Olympic-style athletic and cultural experience for Jewish teenagers. Each summer, thousands of Jewish teens from communities across the United States and around the world come together to compete, connect, celebrate, and give back.

While athletics are at the heart of the Games, the experience goes far beyond the playing field. Teens meet Jewish peers from different communities and countries, participate in social and cultural activities, take part in community service, experience a new host city, and build friendships that last long after the Games.

The Games are grounded in the value of rachmanus, which emphasizes sportsmanship, compassion, respect, and caring for others. Participants also experience Jewish values including Tikkun Olam (repairing the world), Kavod (respect), Rina (joy), Ga'ava (pride), Lev Tov (big-heartedness), and Amiut Yehudit (Jewish peoplehood).

The JCC Maccabi Games are designed to create an experience that helps teens grow as athletes, friends, community members, and young Jewish adults.



What is the athletic competition like?

The competitive level at the JCC Maccabi Games varies. Some participants are highly experienced or elite athletes, while others participate primarily for the experience and opportunity to compete with Jewish peers. Depending on the sport, there may be different age, skill, or competition divisions. Athletes should expect to compete throughout the week, with tournament or championship competition taking place later in the Games. Medals are awarded to top finishers in competition.

At the same time, the Games place a strong emphasis on rachmanus—sportsmanship, compassion, and respect. Winning is only one part of the experience. Teens are expected to compete with energy and pride while treating teammates, opponents, coaches, officials, and volunteers with respect.

What is a delegation?

A delegation is a group of teens and adults representing a particular community at the JCC Maccabi Games. For example, teens from Kansas City participate as **Team Kansas City**. Other delegations may represent communities throughout North America and around the world. Being part of a delegation means that athletes are not only representing themselves—they are representing their hometown and Jewish community.

What is a mixed team?

A mixed team is made up of athletes from more than one delegation. Mixed teams are common when a delegation does not have enough athletes to field a complete team in a particular sport or age division. Athletes from two or more communities may be combined to form a team. A coach will be assigned to the mixed team, and athletes will have opportunities to meet and connect with their teammates and coach before the Games. Depending on the circumstances, optional practices may also be possible before traveling. Being part of a mixed team can be a great way to meet Jewish teens from other communities and build friendships beyond your hometown delegation.

How does community service play a role in JCC Maccabi?

Giving back is an important part of the JCC Maccabi experience. Through JCC Cares, athletes and coaches participate in hands-on community service projects that make a difference in the communities hosting the Games. Through these experiences, participants put Jewish values such as Tzedakah and Tikkun Olam into action.

REGISTRATION & COSTS



Who is eligible to participate?

Jewish teens born between July 31, 2009 - July 25, 2014 are eligible to participate. All athletes must meet the JCC Maccabi eligibility requirements. One of the athlete's parents must be Jewish and the athlete must be being raised Jewish, or the athlete must be Jewish by choice and being raised Jewish. Athletes must also have current medical insurance and be up to date on all age-appropriate vaccinations in accordance with CDC guidelines and JCC Maccabi requirements. Additional age requirements may vary by sport. Please contact the Team Kansas City delegation with questions about eligibility for a specific sport.

What does registration entail?

Registration begins with completing the Team Kansas City registration process and submitting the required participant and parent/guardian information, a $250 deposit, and required agreements and registration forms. The deposit is refundable through March 1, 2027 and delegation selection, subject to the terms of the registration agreement. The remaining program fee is non-refundable according to the registration terms. Additional registration steps will be required as the Games approach, including JCC Maccabi online registration, medical forms, emergency contact information, roommate requests, dietary and allergy information, and other required participant documentation. The Team Kansas City delegation staff will provide detailed instructions and deadlines as each step becomes available.

What is the fee for the JCC Maccabi Games?

The all-inclusive program fee is $1,200. A $250 deposit is collected at registration and is applied toward the total program fee. Scholarships and additional opportunities to reduce the cost of participation are available. See the scholarship information below.

What does the fee include?

JCC Maccabi is designed to be an all-inclusive experience. The program fee includes JCC Maccabi Games registration, transportation to and from the host community and during the Games, uniform and Team Kansas City delegation gear, adult supervision and coaches, team practices, meals, social events and team activities, and other program activities and accommodations associated with the Games. Additional personal expenses, such as souvenirs or optional activities outside of the program, are the responsibility of the participant.

Are scholarships available?

Yes. Scholarship applications are available through the Jewish Community Center and are reviewed by a committee on a rolling basis upon receipt. In addition, Team Kansas City participants will have the opportunity to offset some of their participation fee by participating in optional volunteer staffing roles during the summer. More information about these opportunities, eligibility, and deadlines will be provided to registered participants.



TRAVEL, HOUSING & SUPERVISION

How will my child get to and from the Games?

Parents are responsible for bringing athletes to the designated Kansas City departure location or airport. Delegation staff will meet athletes at the departure location, check them in, and accompany the group throughout the trip to and from Austin. Detailed travel information, including flight schedules, airport procedures, and arrival and departure plans, will be provided to registered participants as the Games approach.

Are there adult chaperones at JCC Maccabi?

Absolutely. The JCC Maccabi Games maintain a required adult-to-teen supervision ratio of approximately 1 adult for every 8 teens. Team Kansas City will have a delegation head, coaches, and chaperones accompanying the group. Every athlete will be assigned to an appropriate coach or chaperone, whether participating in a Team Kansas City team, an individual sport, or a mixed team. Head coaches are over 21 and undergo the required background checks and screening.



Where will my teen stay?

During the JCC Maccabi Games, teens stay with host families from the Austin Jewish community. The host family experience is an important part of Maccabi and gives teens the opportunity to experience the local Jewish community while building relationships outside of the Games themselves.

Host families are screened and background checked and are required to complete a mandatory orientation. Teens can request homes that accommodate specific needs, such as dietary restrictions or pet allergies, and may also request a specific roommate.

Host families serve as interim parents for the week and provide breakfast, transportation to and from the Games each day, laundry, and a fun night out on Host Family night. Many participants develop meaningful relationships with their host families and stay connected long after the Games.

Participants may not arrange their own housing or stay in hotels unless special circumstances require them to stay with a parent. In those circumstances, specific JCC Maccabi requirements will apply.

Can parents and family members attend the JCC Maccabi Games?

Yes! Parents, family members, and friends are welcome to attend the Games as spectators. Spectators must register in advance and purchase the appropriate spectator pass. Spectator passes provide access to designated Games activities, including the opening ceremony and athletic events. All spectators must have the required credential to enter Games facilities.

Families are encouraged to come to Austin and support their athletes; however, athletes have a full schedule of athletic, social, cultural, and community service activities throughout the week.

Spectators and parents may watch athletic events but may not remove their teen from the program or take them off-site during the Games unless specifically authorized under JCC Maccabi procedures.

SAFETY, HEALTH & INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

Can you tell me about safety and security at JCC Maccabi?

Safety and security are top priorities at the JCC Maccabi Games. Background checks and screening are utilized for adult chaperones and other adults involved with the program. Participants, spectators, coaches, volunteers, and staff are required to wear appropriate credentials to access JCC Maccabi facilities and activities. The host community works closely with appropriate local, state, and federal law enforcement and security partners to support a safe and enjoyable experience. Detailed safety procedures and emergency information will be provided to families before the Games.

Can I use my child's school or camp medical form?

No. JCC Maccabi requires participants to submit the official JCC Maccabi Medical Form. School, camp, or other medical forms cannot be substituted for the required Maccabi documentation. Medical forms and deadlines will be provided to registered participants.

Our family keeps kosher or is observant. Will my teen's needs be met?

Yes. Food served as part of the JCC Maccabi program is Vaad supervised kosher, and the Games are structured with Jewish observance in mind. Activities will conclude prior to Shabbat, and Team Kansas City will return home on Friday with sufficient time before Shabbat. Families should provide dietary information and any specific needs during the registration process so the delegation and host family can plan appropriately.

SIGN UP TODAY!

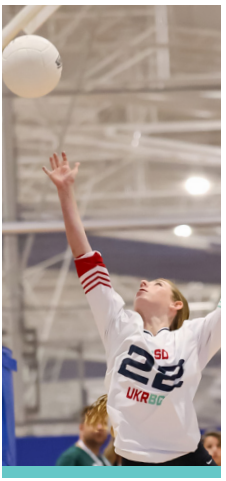
Registration for Team Kansas City is open through the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City.
To learn more and begin the registration process, visit:
www.TheJKC.org/Maccabi

For questions about Team Kansas City, sports, registration, travel, scholarships, or the 2027 Games, please contact:
Ilan Lakritz
(913) 327-8551 or **IlanL@thejkc.org**

We can't wait to pack our bags, represent Kansas City, and experience the **2027 JCC Maccabi Games in Austin, Texas!**









JCC maccabi Games

BE A PART OF THE ACTION:
TheJKC.org/Maccabi