

Section Two

The Smithsonian News

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1989 Maccabiah Games

13th Annual International Sporting Event

Joins Jewish Athletes In Competition

By Phyllis Leder

His own modest basketball career may be long over, but Commack attorney Ron Carner will nonetheless be helping a contingent of our nation's finest Jewish hoopsters shoot for gold in the 1989 Maccabiah Games.

Mr. Carner, in tandem with former NBA great Dolph Schayes, is the co-chairman of the United States Men's Masters Basketball Team (35 years of age and over) of the 13th Maccabiah Games, to be held in Israel June 25 through July 13, 1989.

The Maccabiah Games are recognized by the International Committee as one of its regional set of Games. Held every four years in Israel, the Games feature Olympic style world class competition and attract prominent Jewish athletes from collegiate champions to Olympic medalists from all over the world.

"It's the world's third largest international sports event bringing 4,200 Jewish athletes together from 42 nations from Argentina to Zaire," said Mr. Carner, adding that there is even a possibility that a small contingent from the Soviet Union will compete. As a frame of reference, Mr. Carner noted that the last winter Olympic Games featured competition by 2,600 athletes.

As U.S. Masters Basketball Team co-chairman, Mr. Carner is somewhat akin to a team owner, general manager, and traveling secretary rolled into one package. His duties include raising money and securing corporate sponsorships, making travel arrangements, getting uniforms for the team and, most significantly, selecting a coach. The coach, who has yet to be named, will then select players during a series of winter and spring nationwide trials, which the 49 year-old Mr. Carner jokingly referred to as "a bunch of old jocks running around."

Mr. Carner, a partner with the Commack law firm of Sarisohn, Sarisohn, Carner, Steindler, LeBow and Braun, became involved in the Maccabiah program two years ago through his friendship with United States Committee Sports All Sports Chairman Jeff Lakind. "It was a matter of being in the right place at the right time," he recalled. Since joining the Board, he has served as the 1987 Open (all athletes) Basketball chairman for the Maccabiah Pan-American program, which is held every four years in the Western Hemisphere.

Although the Port Washington resident's own basketball experience was limited to playing on his high school and college basketball teams, his involvement with the Maccabiah Games allows him to live out some of his fantasies. Not only does he hobnob at parties with the likes of former Knick coach Red Holzman, former Knick player Ernie Grunfeld, and

Bobby Thompson that gave the Giants the pennant, but he will also experience the thrill of taking part in the Games' Opening Ceremonies in Tel Aviv.

Noting that he is aiming to get the word out about the Maccabiah Games to as many people as possible, Mr. Carner asked that anyone who wants more infor-

mation about the Masters Basketball program call him at 543-7667 or contact the Philadelphia-based U.S. Committee Sports For Israel at 215-546-4700.

"The games are a huge undertaking - we're not as big as the Olympics but we're very, very close," said Mr. Carner.

United States
In The 13th
Maccabiah Games
June 25 - July 13, 1989

Men's

Masters Basketball

1989 Maccabiah games will feature for the first time

What Are The Maccabiah Games?

— 35 yrs. and over — found by Leon before July 1, 1984

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In the 13th Maccabiah Games, to be held in Israel June 25 through July 13, 1989, the United States Men's Masters Basketball Team (35 years of age and over) will be competing for gold in the Maccabiah Games.

FOR APPLICATIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
DOLPH SCHAYES • RON CARNER
Co-Chairmen

BASKETBALL MAVEN: Commack attorney Ron Carner, who is co-chairman of the United States Men's Masters Basketball Team for the 13th Maccabiah games. That competition featuring