HOST FAMILY FAQ

Q: I do not have a child participating in the JCC Maccabi Games®, can I still host athletes?

A: Yes. All Jewish families are welcome to host visiting athletes.

Q: Do I need to be a member of the JCC of Greater Columbus to be a host family?

A: No. All Jewish families are welcome to host visiting athletes.

Q: How many athletes can I house?

A: You must house a minimum of two athletes. Each athlete requires their own bed (air mattresses are acceptable).

Q: Do I need to be Jewish to be a Host family?

A: All athletes must be housed in a Jewish home

Q: Do I have to have a Kosher home to host athletes?

A: No, a Kosher home is not required.

Q: May I go to the athletic events?

A: Yes, by all means. We encourage you to be an enthusiastic spectator at any and all athletic events. You must wear your JCC Maccabi Games® credential at all times for access to any venues.

Q: What meals do we need to provide?

A: You will need to provide dinner on Sunday, July 24 before Opening Ceremonies and on Host Family Night (DTBD) as well as breakfast Monday, July 25th through Friday, July 29th. It is also suggested that you keep plenty of snacks around the house as teenagers will want to eat almost constantly!

Q: Should I pack snacks?

A: Snacks and drinks will be provided at all venues for the athletes. However, feel free to stock up on your visiting athlete's favorite snacks for them to enjoy in the evening.

Q: May I carpool?

A: All drivers transporting athletes MUST be 21 or over. You may carpool for morning drop-off as long as your car contains seat belts for each passenger. Evening pick-up may only be done by a designated credentialed host family member, as Delegation Heads can only release a participant to their assigned host family.

Q: Do I need to give money to the athlete?

A: No. They should have brought enough to cover all incidentals.

Q: What if the athletes want to get together after the evening social activities?

A: Say no. This often leads to problems. The athletes have agreed, in writing, to adhere to a Code of Conduct. Violations of the Code will be cause for expulsion from the Games. Please contact your athlete's Delegation Head or the Housing Committee if you have any problems.

Q: If I am hosting athletes from more than one delegation, do I need to come twice on Sunday for pick-up?

A: Yes, we are sorry for this inconvenience. This will be kept to a minimum.

Q: Can I make requests about gender, age, and athletes in a particular sport?

A: You can request gender, age, and sports, but these requests are not guaranteed.

Q: Can host families and their children attend the evening activities?

A: Host families are welcome to and should plan to attend Opening Ceremonies on the evening of Sunday, August 2. All other evening social events are open only to participating athletes.

Q: After the athlete's competition, can I pick them up and take them to a movie?

A: No. The athletes are required to remain at the Games throughout the entire day and at evening activities. Most athletes will be competing twice a day and are encouraged to use the transportation system to watch other competitions. Otherwise, they are free to use the facilities or simply hang out with other Jewish athletes at Hang Time.

Q: Can I pick up the athlete to come back to the house DURING the day?

A: No. Athletes should remain at the venues or at a hub. There will be Hang Time activities, swimming, and lots of activities for them during any down time. Athletes are not allowed to be in the host home unsupervised.

Q: What if athletes are eliminated from the competition before Thursday? Can they stay home?

A: No. Athletes must participate in the Games whether or not they are competing. There will be planned activities for athletes as well as the opportunity to watch other competitions.

Q: What do we do in the event of inclement weather?

A: Most events will occur – rain or shine. The outdoor events may be affected by bad weather. Host families should bring the athletes to the Hub regardless of weather. We can then transfer them easily to an alternate rain site, or if the weather changes continue as scheduled. Evening events are planned, rain or shine. Please call the JCC Maccabi Games® Hotlin, if you have any questions regarding the weather.

Q: What if athletes get sick? Can they stay home?

A: If an athlete is sick, please call their Delegation Head to notify him/her immediately. We encourage you to bring the sick athlete to the JCC Maccabi Games® Medical Center to be checked out by our medical staff and/or to rest there. If you and the Delegation Head feel that the athlete would be best suited to stay in your home with you, it will be permissible provided the Delegation Head first approves it.

Q: I have more questions. How do I get the answers?

A: Contact the JCC Maccabi Games® Hotline.

