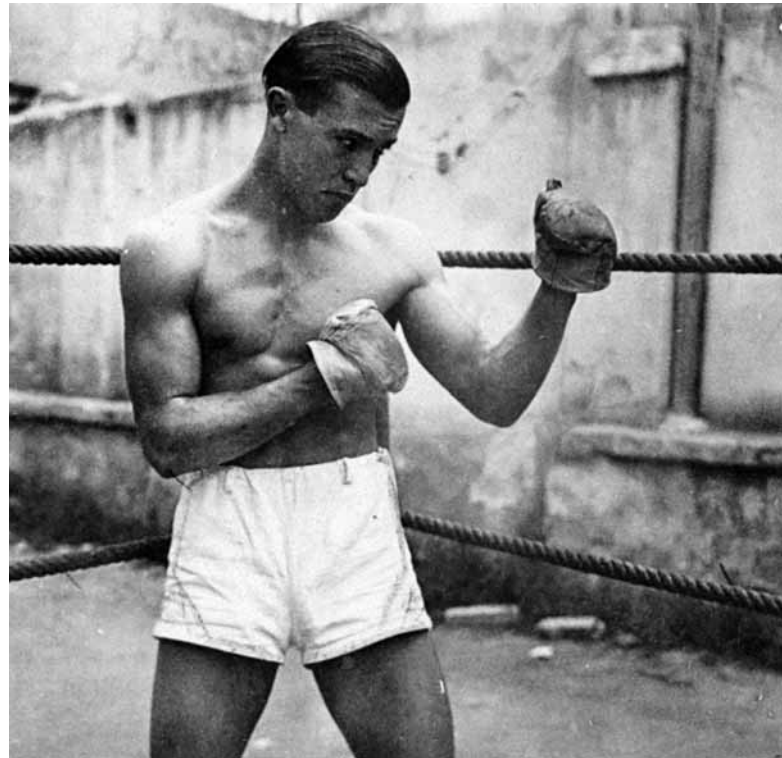




JEWISH COMMUNITY
OF THESSALONIKI

An Exhibition by the Jewish Museum of Thessaloniki, 2011



Greek Jews in sport: The contribution of Thessaloniki



ΕΒΡΑΪΚΟ ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ
JEWISH MUSEUM OF THESSALONIKI
MUSEO DJIDIO DE SALONIK
המוזיאון היהודי בשלונקי



I

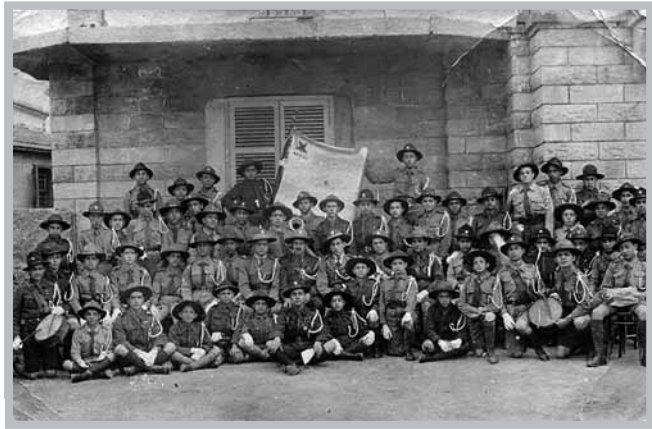
The Contribution of the Jews of Thessaloniki to Sport: A Neglected Area

At the turn of the 20th century, mirroring similar developments in Athens, the first systematic sporting activities made their appearance in Thessaloniki: football, tennis, cycling, fencing, swimming, rowing, track and field athletics, croquet, gymnastics and boxing. Thessaloniki was a city with a long and impressive Jewish presence in all walks of life and sport was no exception. By 1939, Jews from Thessaloniki were helping to shape the sports scene and shone in individual and team disciplines: track and field, football, boxing, wrestling, swimming, sailing events, tennis, table tennis, fencing, cycling, volleyball, mountaineering and winter sports. In the story of sport we come across Jewish sportsmen and women who competed in the colours of the Maccabi Thessaloniki Club, founded in 1908, and of other successful Jewish Clubs, such as the Akoah Thessaloniki Club, founded in 1924, as well as non-Jewish clubs such as Iraklis, Aris, P.A.O.K., Aetos, Asteras, V.A.O., Makedonikos, Megas Alexandros, Orfeas Serron, Trikala, Preveza, Doxa Dramas, the Sporting Union of Komotini, Kavala Philippi, teams from the armed forces and the scouts. They also successfully represented Greek colours at international sporting events.

1

The large Jewish sports clubs in Thessaloniki, Maccabi and Akoah also had very well organized scout troops. The photograph shows the scout troop of Maccabi; an undated shot, probably from the early 1920s.

Joseph Uziel Collection



2

The Maccabi Sports Club (Maccabaeus) is one of the oldest of its kind in Thessaloniki. It was founded on 12 December 1908, the same year as Iraklis. Apart from being a sports club, it is often mentioned that Maccabi had a fine scout troop. The photograph shows the Maccabi Scout Troop at Easter 1935.

Thessaloniki Jewish Museum



3

Alfonso Levi (on the rings) with his fellow students in the gymnasium at the Italian School of Thessaloniki.

Roza Saltiel's family archive





4

Maccabi scouts on a trip to Langadas, 1934.

Leon Benveniste Collection,
Thessaloniki Jewish Museum



5

Commemorative photograph of the sports and scouting section of the Akoah Club. In Hebrew, Akoah means power. Pride of place goes to the women's volley-ball team, which competed in the local championship, and to the children's section. At the edges of the photo, footballers are holding the club's flag and banner for the event. Other athletes and members of the board are also present.

Thessaloniki, 24 December 1926.

M. and S. Bensasson Collection,
Thessaloniki Jewish Museum

II

Stars, Records and Sporting Efforts in the Inter-War Years.

In the period up to 1939, a time of purely amateur sports, the Jewish community in Thessaloniki produced stars in the whole of the sporting firmament. Notable examples in track and field were Leon Passy, a middle-distance runner, his younger brother Jack Passy, Albert Nakhmias, a runner and international footballer, the sprinter Maurice Cohen and another sprinter Allegra Gatenio. Maccabi's unbeaten boxing team, headed by Dino Uziel and including Jacko Razon, Marco Azuz, Salamo Aroukh and others, dominated the amateur ring in Greece in the pre-war years. For years, Maccabi was the table tennis champion of Thessaloniki, and Eric Hassid, of Asteras Thessaloniki was one of the first Greek champions in this sport. Apart from outstanding results at the individual level, Jewish clubs also distinguished themselves in teams sports on numerous occasions.



6

Portrait of Albert Nakhmias in "Athlitismos" (1928). He made his name as a sprinter and hurdler starting, at the beginning of the '20s, in the team of Iraklis. At the same time, he was also a regular in the Iraklis football team and played his part in many of the national and international achievements of this famous old club. In 1929, after a qualification trial in Athens, he was selected to join the Greek national football team. His place in history is assured because he scored Greece's first goal in international football in a game against Italy.

Thessaloniki History Centre



7

Athletes of Iraklis at the 2nd Pan-Halkidiki Games of 1926 at Epanomi. From left to right: first A. Nakhmias, third S. Orologas, and fourth Ch. Leontaridis

From the family archive of G. Orologas, Thessaloniki History Centre



8

The Maccabi Club athletics team in 1934 at the Iraklis Stadium. From left to right: M. Benuzilio, Frances, Beza, Saltiel (5,000 m.), Dinos Uziel (100-200 m.), Leon Passy (400-800 m.), Albert Passy (5,000 m.), Israel Alallouf, Sam Haguel (100-200 m.).

Iakovos Uziel Collection

9

Inauguration ceremony of the Pan-Hellenic track and field games, Thessaloniki 1927; in the background, the Jewish cemetery.

M. and S. Bensasson Collection,
Thessaloniki Jewish Museum



10

Leon Passy in the uniform of the national team; Leon Passy was one of the most prominent Greek athletes in the inter-war years and the biggest star at the Maccabi Club. An athlete of great talent, he started out with his three younger brothers at Philippi Kavala and competed successfully in races ranging from 100 to 1,500 metres, although his preferred distances were 400 and 800m. Holder of the Greek record at 800 m. and of the 4x400 relay with the national team, Passy was the first Greek athlete to break the 2 minute barrier at 800 metres, an event which he also won at the Balkan Games. He is well remembered for his never-say-die qualities as a member of the Greek national relay team at international meetings. He was often able to claim victory in four events on the same day and thanks to his single-minded approach and fighting spirit he was able to overcome the reservations of the Greek Athletics Association as regards selecting athletes from the provinces for the national team. His successes in individual and team events helped the Greek team to a high place in the standings at a number of international events.

Esther Passy-Dafan Collection





11

June 1932. Panathenean Stadium. Leon Passy running a time trial in front of the Technical Committee of the Greek Athletics Association- with the encouragement of his fellow-athletes- to try and gain selection for the Greek Olympic team. He posted an exceptional time, but it was not enough for the Athletics Association.

Esther Passy-Dafan Collection

ΔΕΛΤΙΟΝ ΤΟΥ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΥ ΤΩΝ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΩΝ ΓΥΜΝΑΣΤΙΚΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΘΛΗΤΙΚΩΝ ΣΩΜΑΤΕΙΩΝ 8

9. 1932 254

ΑΠΟΤΕΛΕΣΜΑΤΑ
Β. ΠΑΜΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΙΚΩΝ ΑΓΩΝΩΝ
ΗΜΕΡΑ 21, 23 & 24 ΜΑΪΟΥ 1931

Α. ΗΜΕΡΑ (21 Μαΐου)

1) Δρόμος 100 μέτρων
Α. Μ. Κοτς "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 11" 0/10
Β. Παπαγιάννης "Ορφέος Σάφης" 11" 0/10
Γ. Σπυριδίου Φίλιππος Καβάλλας

2) Έλληνικός Άκοντισμός
Α. Α. Βασιλείου "Ορφέος Σαφών" 52.50 μ.
Β. Π. Παπαγεωργίου "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 49.98 μ.
Γ. Π. Παπαγεωργίου " " 48.50 μ.

3) Δρόμος 500 μέτρων
Α. Α. Πασιός "Φίλιππος Καβάλλας" 2'4" 0/10
Β. Μικροκορδέλης Π.Α.Ο.Κ. Θεσ/νίκης 2'9" 1/10
Γ. Τ. Πασιός "Φίλιππος Καβάλλας" 2'18" 3/10

4) Άλμα εις ύψος
Α. Α. Πασιός "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 2.500 μ.
Β. Μ. Καραλής "Ορφέος Σάφης" 5.95 μ.

5) Έλληνικός Διεκδοκίμνος
Α. Χ. Νούλας "Άρης Θεσ/νίκης" 36.23 μ.
Β. Σ. Ψωλός "Ηρακλίου" 34.07 μ.
Γ. Χ. Καραγιάννης " " 33.47 μ.

6) Δρόμος 10.000 μ.
Α. Α. Μπακαλάκης "Ορφέος Σαφών" 33' 34" 3/10
Β. Α. Νέος "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 34' 45" 1/10
Γ. Δ. Αλεξίου "Άρης" 35' 8" 9/10

7) Συναθροισμός 1000 μ.
Α. Φίλιππος Καβάλλας 3' 47" 6/10
Β. "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 3' 54"

1) Α. Πασιός, 2) Χ. Γρηγορίου, 3) Σπυριδίου Γ. και 4) Κ. Μιλανωλάκης.
Β. ΗΜΕΡΑ (23 Μαΐου)

1) Πένταθλος
Α. Α. Βασιλείου "Ορφέος Σαφών Βαθμολ." 2.438.07
Β. Ε. Ψωλός "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 2.356.34
Γ. Γ. Τσάλλης " " 2.008.98

2) Διεκδοκίμνος
Α. Π. Παπαγεωργίου "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 18.08 μ.
Β. Α. Νέος "Ορφέος Σαφών" 17.45 μ.
Γ. Ε. Ψωλός "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 16.97 μ.

3) Δρόμος 400 μ.
Α. Δ. Χ. Γρηγορίου Φίλιππος Καβάλλας 04"
Β. Μ. Π. Ίωάννου "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 04" 1/10
Γ. Α. Πασιός Φίλιππος Καβάλλας 04" 2/10

4) Άλμα εις όρος
Α. Α. Πασιός "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 1' 57 μ.
Β. Α. Παπαγεωργίου " " 1' 55 μ.
Γ. Χρ. Ουκούτσου "Ορφέος Σάφης" 1' 50 μ.

5) Δρόμος 5.000 μ.
Α. Α. Μπακαλάκης "Ορφέος Σαφών" 16' 7"
Β. Α. Νέος "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 16' 39" 2/10
Γ. Α. Αλεξίου "Άρης" 18' 11" 9/10

6) Δρόμος 110 μ. μετ' εμπόδων
Α. Δ. Χ. Γρηγορίου Φίλιππος Καβάλλας 16" 7/10
Β. Γ. Καλιόνης " " 17" 8/10
Γ. Γ. Κωστόπουλος "Ριάννη Κορυνησίων" 18" 4/10

7) Έλληνικός Διεκδοκίμνος
Α. Χ. Νούλας "Άρης Θεσ/νίκης" 30.865 μ.
Β. Χ. Καραγιάννης "Ηρακλίου" 29. 88 μ.
Γ. Γ. Κιάλης " " 29.470 μ.

8) Συναθροισμός 3.000 μ.
Α. Φίλιππος Καβάλλας 8' 12" 6/10
Β. "Ορφέος Σαφών" 8' 19"

Νικηταί Α. Όμάδος
1) Α. Πασιός, 2) Τ. Πασιός, 3) Δ. Χ. Γρηγορίου
4) Γ. Σπυριδίου και 5) Θ. Κωνσταντίνου.

Γ. ΗΜΕΡΑ (24 Μαΐου)

1) Δρόμος 300 μ.
Α. Μ. Κοτς "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 24" 1/5
Β. Σπυριδίου Φίλιππος Καβάλλας 24" 7/10
Γ. Λαυρογιάννης "Ορφέος Σαφών" 25"

2) Δρόμος 400 μ. μετ' εμπόδων
Α. Δ. Χ. Γρηγορίου Φίλιππος Καβάλλας 60" 4/5
Β. Ε. Γούνας " " 63" 1/5
Γ. Α. Κωνσταντίνου " " 63" 4/10

3) Άλμα Τριπλούν
Α. Δ. Πασιός "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 18. 44 μ.
Β. Γ. Σπυριδίου " " 12. 74 μ.
Γ. Μ. Καραλής "Ορφέος Σάφης" 12. 72 μ.

4) Δρόμος 1.000 μ.
Α. Α. Μπακαλάκης "Ορφέος Σαφών" 4' 16" 1/10
Β. Α. Πασιός Φίλιππος Καβάλλας 4' 20"
Γ. Τ. Πασιός " "

5) Άλμα εις πλάτος
Α. Π. Παπαγεωργίου "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 3.15 μ.
Β. Ε. Κωνσταντίνου Δόξης Αρμάδας 3.10 μ.
Γ. Π. Παπαγεωργίου "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 3.10 μ.

6) Σπυριδίου
Α. Χ. Νούλας "Άρης Θεσ/νίκης" 12.300 μ.
Β. Ε. Ψωλός "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 11. 44 μ.
Γ. Τ. Ψωλός "Ηρακλίου Θεσ/νίκης" 10, 80 μ.

12

The results of the Panthracian Games in 1931, at which Maurice Cohen (of Iraklis), Leon Passy and Jack Passy were outstanding performers.

D. Bondikoulis Collection



13

Leon Passy and his younger brothers; they all developed into fine runners in the '30s. From left to right, sitting, Albert, Isaac and Jacko. During World War II, Leon's brothers were transported to Auschwitz Concentration Camp where they were killed

Esther Passy-Dafan Collection

14

Leon Passy winning the gold medal in the 800 metres at the Balkan Games in 1932. Grigorios Stavrinos finishes second.

D. Bondikoulis Collection



15

Maccabi football team, 1934.
Front line, to the left, Elias Errera.

Thessaloniki Jewish Museum



16

Athletes from the track and field section of the Maccabi Club, 1934.

Among them are (standing left to right):
Beza (3rd), Leon Passy (5th), Frances (6th),
Benouzilio (7th); (seated): Saltiel (2nd),
Dino Uziel (4th) Sam Haguel (6th);
(in front): Israel Alallouf, Albert Passy.

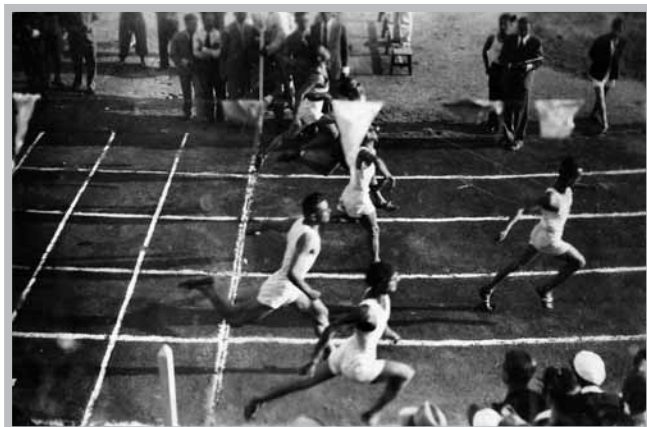
Iakovos Uziel Collection



17

Leon Passy winning the 100 metres sprint at the Thrace Regional Championships in 1932. At the same games he set a Greek record in the 800 metres, and, at the same time, became the first Greek athlete to break the 2 minute barrier in this event. He had previously recorded a time inside two minutes at an earlier meeting, but the Greek Athletics Association did not recognize his performance.

Esther Passy-Dafan Collection





18

The Greek national athletics team in Zagreb for the 1934 Balkan Games. Leon Passy (seated, 5th from the right) with distinguished team-mates: front right, Christos Mandikas; front left, Ioannis Skiadas; back right Stelios Kyriakidis; right of Mandikas, Renos Frangoudis.

D. Bondikoulis Collection



19

Second Maccabiah Games, Tel Aviv, spring 1935. Leon Passy teaches “the art of boxing” (sic) to Dino Uziel, the boxing champion of Thessaloniki. In the course of the games, he met his future wife Rivka Arama and remained in Tel Aviv.

Esther Passy-Dafan Collection



20

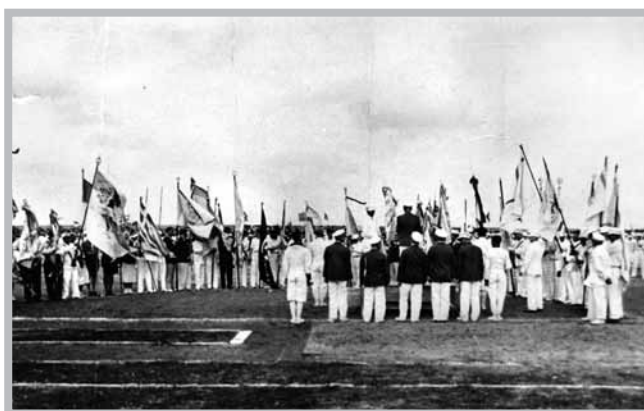
Maccabi in a performance on behalf of the Royal Air Force, 1937.

Iakovos Uziel Collection

21

The Greek contingent at the opening ceremony of the first Maccabiah Games (1932). In the sporting press of the 1930s, these Games were called the “Jewish Olympics”. These international sports meetings, which were held every four years, attracted Jewish sportsmen and women from around the world and followed a programme similar to that of the Olympics. Passy won the silver medal in the 400m., a race which included international athletes of great distinction.

Maccabi World Union Archive



22

The entry of the Greek team at the opening ceremony of the second Maccabiah Games (1935). The standard-bearer is the Balkan Games Champion and Greek 800m. record-holder Leon Passy, who was outstanding at this meeting. The Greek team was made up of a large number of notable athletes who competed in a wide variety of sports. The next Maccabiah was held in 1950, though Greece did not send a team again until 1969.

Joseph Uziel Collection



23

The “Akoah Volleyball Team”, 1926. (K. Sottos, photographer, 76, King George Ave., Thessaloniki), which took part in the first Junior Women's Championship in Thessaloniki that year. The photograph was published in the newspapers of the time. Captain of the volleyball team was “Miss De Boton”, the other members being Mathilda Amalek, Lucy Cohen, Buena Bensussan, Allegra Gatenio (not the same person as the famous champion sprinter) and Julia Nissim.

M. and S. Bensasson Collection,
Thessaloniki Jewish Museum





24

Janet Amarilio photographed with friends during physical education lessons in the gymnasium of the famous gymnast Symeon Mavroskoufis, in the mid-1930s.

Rena Molho Collection



25

The first women's rowing section of the Thessaloniki Yacht Club, in 1938, with the English trainer Arthur Hill. From the left, above: two unidentified ladies, Philomela Rapti-Koniordou, Hill, O. Doikos, Margot Aslanian, L. Salem, and an unidentified lady. Below: Unidentified lady, K. Manglis and Marika Dimou. Other ladies on the team were K. Nikolaidou, L. Kapuano and Sotiriadou.

Yacht Club Archive



26

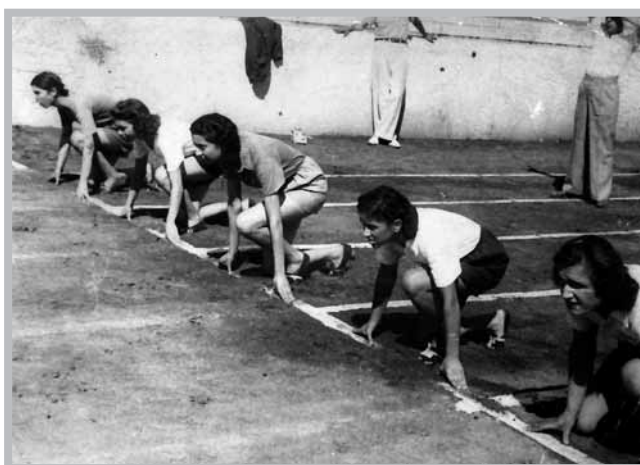
Allegra Gatenio in the photograph of her membership card as an athlete of Iraklis Thessaloniki, which was issued by the Greek Athletics Association. (Thessaloniki, 1937-1938). Allegra Gatenio was born in Thessaloniki in 1921 and competed in the colours of Iraklis. She made her mark in 1939, achieving four victories in the Macedonian Championships: 60m., 100 m., high jump and long jump, with top performances at the All-Greek level. In the same year, she was also outstanding at the Pan-Hellenic Games at the Panathenean Stadium. At the 1940 Pan-Hellenic Games, Allegra Gatenio won the 100 m. and distinguished herself in other events. She was the first woman athlete from Iraklis to become a Greek track and field champion.

D. Bondikoulis Collection

27

Pan-Hellenic Women's Games, 1940. Start of the 60 metre dash final, which was held in the Panathenean Stadium. From left to right: Allegra Gatenio (3rd), Anna Alexaki (Panathinaïkos, 4th), Chrysoula Hassapi (Alexandroupolis, 5th), Ioanna Voikli (Syros, 2nd) and Paraskevi Yannakou (Trikala Club, 1st). At the same games, Gatenio was second in the high jump and 1st in the 100m.

Jewish Museum of Greece



28

Commemorative photograph from the Pan-Hellenic Women's Games, 1940. Standing (left to right): Chrysoula Hassapi (1st), Evangelia Kalogirou (Volos Club, 4th), Martha Plakotari (5th), Allegra Gatenio (6th), Paraskevi Yannakou (9th). Seated, 2nd from the right, Ioanna Voikli.

D. Bondikoulis Collection



29

Sportsmen from the boxing section of the Maccabi Club photographed with an Athenian team, after their successes in Athens in 1939. Another copy of the same photograph is inscribed: "In 1939, Maccabi won the Greek Boxing Championship". The club's all-conquering boxing team included, among others, Dino Uziel (standing, second from left) and Jacko Razon (front row, third from left) champions at their weights. According to the journal "Sport in Greece" (1939), the Maccabi Club was home to two-thirds of the best boxers in Thessaloniki, whose records included only victories or draws. At that time, Maccabi was the only club in Northern Greece to have a fully-equipped, modern gym.

Iakovos Uziel Collection





30

Dino Uziel in a classic boxing pose, 1932. At that time, along with boxing, he was also a fine track and field athlete and a member of the Maccabi Club's championship winning table tennis team. Dino Uziel's personal career is linked to the Maccabi Club more than any other athlete's or official's in the history of the club. From his childhood, Uziel was associated with Maccabi, first as a scout, then as an outstanding track and field athlete, boxing champion and founder of the boxing section, a popular trainer and latterly an active member of the board.

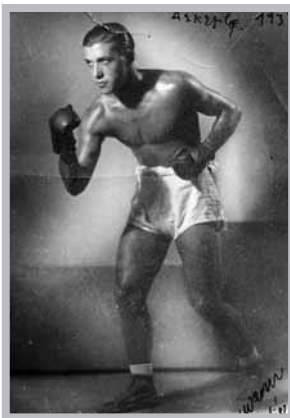
Joseph Uziel Collection



31

The boxing section of the Maccabi Club in 1936. On the back of the photograph, the text which accompanied it in the press of the time: "Mr. Uziel, track-suited, training future boxers in the 11-15 age group. These were members of the boxing section of the Maccabi Club in 1936. This section had been founded on the initiative of Mr. Uziel and was part of the Federation of Wrestling, Boxing and Weight-Lifting, which was housed in the offices of the Greek Athletics Association at 4, Kapsali Street".

Iakovos Uziel Collection



32

Dino Uziel in a sporting portrait from 1937. From that time until sports activity stopped because of the war, he was unbeaten in the ring.

Joseph Uziel Collection

33

The boxing section of the Maccabi Club, 15 March 1939. Those pictured include (left to right) Dimi Duche (3rd), Dino Uziel (4th), Marko Azuz (6th), as well as Jacko Razon.

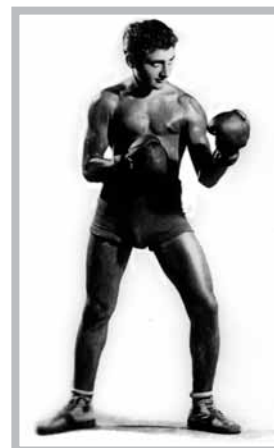
Iakovos Uziel Collection



34

Sporting portrait of Nikos Salamo Mallakh, who was born in Thessaloniki on 17 September 1921. His father being Nehama Mallach and his mother Lutcha Yakoel. He was involved in boxing, tennis and sailing. He competed for Maccabi and Aris.

David Saltiel Collection



35

All-Greek sports parade, Athens, 1938. Maccabi impressed with its boxers, headed by Dino Uziel (right). The other members of the team were Isaac Mevorakh, Maurice Benuzilio and R. Angel.

Iakovos Uziel Collection



36

Dino Uziel (right) shortly before the beginning of a fight, at the end of the '30s. As is clear from the results columns in the sports press of the time, his opponents rarely lasted more than three rounds.

Joseph Uziel Collection





37

This photograph was published with the following text in the "Sport in Greece" publication (1939): "From left to right, from the Amateur Boxing Club Maccabi, the boxer Jack Razon (nicknamed "The Little Joe Louis" from the strength of his punch), training with M. Azouz". Yaakov Razon was known variously in the sports columns as Jacques or by his nick-name Jacko. Born in Thessaloniki in 1923, he was one of the most successful boxers of the Maccabi Club at the lighter weights. He was also known as "The Little Joe Louis because of the number of wins he scored by knock-out". Marko Azouz, also from Maccabi, fought at the middle weights. In the "Sport in Greece" publication (1939) he was described as "a phenomenon of the art of boxing".

David Saltiel Collection



38

The Maccabi Club regularly did well in the football second division until the end of the '30s. The photograph shows the club's team at this time.

Thessaloniki Jewish Museum



39

The Maccabi Club's football team in 1934. Standing 10th from the right is Shemtov Hassid, a well-known footballer who represented the club and also Iraklis.

Lela Nakhmias Collection



43

Cyclists from Maccabi on an outing beyond Thessaloniki. On the back of the photograph is written in French. "Souvenir from Langadas, August 1925".

Maccabi encouraged young people to become involved with cycling as a means of bodily exercise and helped spread the use of bicycles among society at large. From the mid-1920s, the scout troops of Maccabi and Akoah organized day-trips on bicycles to neighbouring towns.

M. and S. Bensasson Collection,
Thessaloniki Jewish Museum



44

The Akoah volley-ball team at the Thessaloniki championships, June 1928.

M. and S. Bensasson Collection,
Thessaloniki Jewish Museum



45

Maccabi table tennis players with their racquets in the mid-1930s. Maccabi were repeatedly crowned champions of Thessaloniki at table tennis in the 1930s.

Iakovos Uziel Collection

III

The Holocaust and Greek Jewish athletes

Over the long course of their existence, the Jewish sports clubs in Thessaloniki survived the catastrophic fire of 1917 and politically-backed attacks - especially the Maccabi Club, which was vilified in 1931- and continued their sporting activities with marked success until the beginning of World War II. But the justifiable pride and excitement that arises from a review of the past sporting achievements of the Jews of Thessaloniki will, alas, always be accompanied by sorrow and despair. The blow dealt to Greek Judaism during the Holocaust was not one it could recover from. The unimaginable human losses in Thessaloniki reached horrific proportions- 96%, amongst the highest in the whole of Europe. The city- and, indeed, Greece as a whole- lost a part of its living history and its whole face changed. Because of the genocide and the consequent rupture of the social fabric, the only data which have been found for outstanding athletes such as the sprinter Maurice Cohen of Iraklis is their championship performances. When the rugged boxers Jacko Razon and Solomon Aroukh related the chronicle of their survival at Auschwitz, they revealed the degenerate attitude to sport in the world of the Nazi concentration camps and the unprecedented moral dilemmas they were called on to face there. They had to fight fellow-detainees in matches for the enjoyment of the camp guards, and only victory ensured their survival till the next bout. Their moving story is hardly known at all in Greece. The boxing champion Dino Uziel used his fists to escape before he could be transported to Auschwitz. He fled to the hills, as did the young Into Shimsi and other young Jews. Shimsi was known as Captain Maccabaeus for his heroism in the resistance movement against the Germans. Other athletes, however, such as Jack, Albert and Isaac Passy, the younger brothers of Leon Passy and all talented runners, were murdered in the death camps. All traces of the champion Allegra Gatenio have been lost and, despite our best efforts, we have been unable to discover what became of her.



46

Joseph and Rachel Hassid, photographed after the introduction of the Nazi anti-Jewish legislation in Thessaloniki in 1943.

Thessaloniki Jewish Museum



47

The process of transporting the Jews of Thessaloniki in 1943.

Thessaloniki Jewish Museum

48

The boxer Dino Uziel (seated, right) fled to the hills and escaped transportation. Here he is shown together with resistance fighters.

Joseph Uziel Collection



49

The declaration of property submitted by the family of the Greek athletics champion Allegra Gatenio in March 1943. They were then transported to the death camps. According to witnesses, at one of the first post-war meetings in Thessaloniki, the champion Menelaos Gratsios was approached by an unfamiliar, haggard and bedraggled woman, in poor clothes. He was horrified to learn that she was his old fellow athlete, Allegra Gatenio. She told him she was the sole survivor of her family, that she now had no relatives left and that she had no means of support. Shortly afterwards, she emigrated to Palestine. How she survived and her fate thereafter are not known.

Thessaloniki Jewish Museum

FORMA
Α.Π.Θ. 9966/2/43

Vermögensanmeldung,
Δήλωση περιουσίας

des Juden *Μενελάου Γρατσίου* wohnhaft *Ουφρίν*
του 'Ισραηλίτου κατοίκου

Ich erkläre hiermit für mich, meine Frau
und minderjährigen Kinder, dass ich am 1. März 1943 die folgende Vermögensanmeldung abgegeben habe und mich verpflichte, die schärfste Strafe nach sich zieht.

folgende Vermögenswerte am 1. März 1943 zu besitzen. Ich bin mir bewusst, dass eine falsche Angabe eine Verschweigen von Vermögenswerten die schärfste Strafe nach sich zieht.

a) Haus-, Grundbesitz u. Hypothekarforderungen
α) 'Ικία, οικόπεδα και ένοικηται άκινήτοις

Αριθμός	Περιγραφή του άκινήτου	Άξια

b) Geschäftsvermögen, Beteiligungen u. Warenlager
β) Κατάλοιπα Καταστήματος, Συμμετοχές και Άνοδοίματα

Αριθμός	Τύπος και είδος καταστήματος και άνοδοίματος	Άξια

γ) Werkstätten, Maschinen u. Werkstatteinrichtungen
γ) Έργαστήρια, Μοχλοί και άλλα εργαλεία

Αριθμός	Περιγραφή των έργασιών και εργαλείων	Άξια

IV

The Post-War Period The Continuation of an Old Sporting Tradition

After the Liberation, some of the few surviving Jews of Thessaloniki emigrated; others bore the pain of staying in the city, which charged them with the burden of the memory of their murdered relatives; all of them teach the harsh lesson of survival.

Despite a short-lived revival, the deep mourning and other obligations made sporting activities matters of secondary concern, and the Maccabi Club ceased its operations. It was not until the mid-1960s that conditions were ripe for the club to be reformed. Since then, the historic Jewish sports club, now featuring both Jewish and non-Jewish sports personalities, has carved out a new path in the Greek sporting world. As well as the Maccabi Club, the Jewish community of Thessaloniki, though small in numbers, now has a new generation of sportsmen and women which honour the colours of their clubs and of Greece in national and international events, continuing a long-standing tradition.

50

In 1945, the Maccabi Club was revived. On the back of the photograph is written, in French: "The Stadium of Iraklis, Thessaloniki, May 1945. Sporting celebration on the occasion of the liberation of Thessaloniki from Nazi occupation. The Maccabi Club on parade with 40 members. At the head, with the flag, Dino Uziel". Worthy of note is the structure borne by the athletes behind Uziel, which represents the Maccabi Club badge, as well as the punch bag, the trade mark of the great pre-war successes of the historic club. In 1946, Uziel was included in the Greek national team for the great inter-allied games in London.

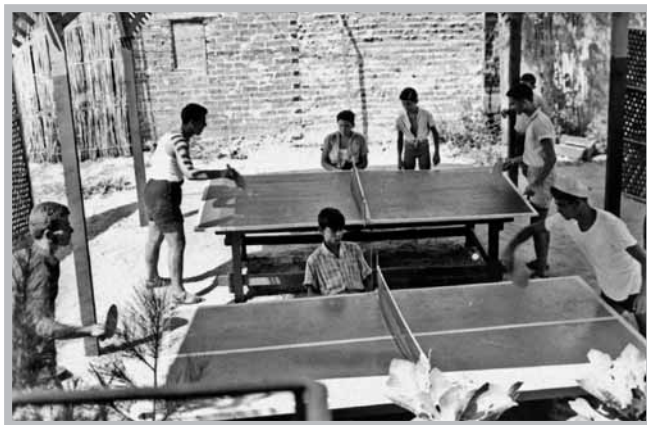
Joseph Uziel Collection



51

Out of town facilities for the children in the Israelite Community of Thessaloniki, in Peraia, 1963. On the left is the young Yacov Schiby.

Thessaloniki Jewish Museum



52

The youth section of the Maccabi Club at the Hanukkah celebrations, which were inaugurated to celebrate the heroism of the Maccabees. Early '70s. Left to right: Yofi Benmayor, the basket-ball player and coach Lazaros Aroukh, J. Mano, Maurice Cohen, Albert Errera, Maurice Capon, Elias Matalon, Elias Pesach, Fikos Molho, Jacko Bahar and L. Errera.

Iakovos Uziel Collection





53

The under-age section of the Maccabi Club in the mid-1960s in the clubhouse, under the supervision of Dinos Uziel. Number 9 is Joseph Uziel, who later competed in two Maccabiah Games with the club's basketball team.

Joseph Uziel Collection



54

Dino Uziel at the French National Sports Institute, at a seminar for judges and referees organized by the French Boxing Federation in June 1967.

Iakovos Uziel Collection



55

The Maccabi Club's boxing team at the time of its re-establishment under the supervision of the former champion Dino Uziel, Thessaloniki, 2 January 1965 (photographed by Marg. Margaritiadis).

Dino Uziel played a leading part in the reconstitution of the Maccabi Club. He undertook the duties of general manager and in this capacity managed to build up the boxing team again. He laboured tirelessly, with conviction, total devotion and all his powers to promote the athletic ideal. His long-term contribution to his beloved Maccabi Club and to boxing in Greece in general was quite unique.

Joseph Uziel Collection

56

Solomon Parente, the son of Isaac and Rachel (who was from the Ezra family), was born on 18 June 1950 in Thessaloniki. He was involved in boxing from 1966 to 1970, encouraged by Dino Uziel. In his first bout (52-54 kilo category), he was proclaimed Greek champion in the third division, thus becoming the first sportsman from the Maccabi Club to win a gold medal at the All-Greek level in the post-war years. After that, he distinguished himself in the second division. In the All-Greek Youth Boxing Championships, which were held in Patra in 1967, he won the bronze medal. During his military service, he took part in the CISM (Conseil International du Sport Militaire) international military events, while he also qualified for the pre-national boxing team.

Solomon Parente Collection



57

Training sessions for the Maccabi boxing team in the clubhouse. Undated photograph, probably from the end of the 1960s.

Joseph Uziel Collection



58

Boxing matches. Undated photograph, probably from the end of the 1960s. In the foreground, the Iraklis team, with Maccabi Club following.

Joseph Uziel Collection





59

The Maccabi basketball team at the end of the 1960s. Standing, left to right: Alberto Eskenazi, Lazaros Aroukh, Iakovos Uziel, Gaby Monina, Dino Uziel (general manager of the Maccabi Club); seated, left to right: unidentified, Alberto Sevi, Vikos Tabokh, and Avraam Tarfon.

Lazaros Aroukh Collection



60

The Maccabi Club's Youth basketball team at the end of the 1960s. Standing, from left to right: Ino Hasson (treasurer), Leon Errera, Yofi Benmayor, Yoseph Molho, Jacko Bahar, Nikos Matalon, Dino Benroubi; seated: Mimis Cohen, Alberto Errera, Sam Varsano, Elias Matalon, and Zakinos Mano.

Lazaros Aroukh Collection



61

Leon Errera (left) involved in a game in the 1970s. Leon Errera is among the best basketball players to have worn the Maccabi Club's colours. Born in Thessaloniki in 1955, his outstanding talent for the sport was apparent from childhood. He strengthened the club's team not only as an athlete, but also as an administrator. He also played with success for Pierikos and during his long sporting career took part in four Maccabiah Games (1969, 1977, 1985 and 1989).

Leon Errera Collection

62

Lazaros Aroukh wins a rebound in a game in an internal schools tournament with the basketball team of the Surveyors' School. Lazaros Aroukh was one of the best players in the basketball team of the Maccabi Club. Born in 1949 in Thessaloniki, he played basketball from his 15th to his 39th year in teams from Thessaloniki, such as De la Salle College, P.A.O.K, Esperos and Floga Analipseos. He holds the record for participating in six successive Maccabiah Games, from 1969 to 1989. He has also attended schools for referees and coaches. Today (2010) he is president of the Maccabi Club.

Lazaros Aroukh Collection



63

Players for the up-and-coming Maccabi Club table tennis team (from left to right): Arditti, Gavriilidis and Dassa.

Jacko Aroukh Collection



64

Manolis Tzoyas after a victorious bout at an international meeting in 1977. Manolis Tzoyas was champion of Greece in Greco-Roman wrestling in the Youth and Men's categories (at 90 kilos). He fought in the period between 1972 and 1981. He fought with success as a member of the national wrestling team, winning a bronze medal at the Balkan Games. He also fought at two Maccabiah Games, in 1973 (when he came 3rd) and in 1977, when he won gold. In the same year he came fourth in the free-style wrestling.

Joseph Uziel Collection





65

In 1969, Greece returned to the Maccabiah Games, after an absence of 33 years, with athletes from the Maccabi Sports Club of Thessaloniki. From left to right: K. Parente-Dassa, Jacko Rofel, Dinos Uziel, Iakovos Uziel, Lazaros Aroukh, Sam Profeta, Leon Errera, Yofi Benmayor, Alberto Eskenazi, Panayiotis Alexandridis (basketball team coach), Makis Florentin (standard-bearer), and Gaby Monina.

Iakovos Uziel Collection



66

The entry of the Greek contingent at the 1973 Maccabiah Games, with Philipos Tarfon as standard-bearer.

Joseph Uziel Collection



67

Suzanna Angel on her way to winning the gold medal in the Balkan Games. She has been extremely successful in show jumping competitions: 1st place with the national team at the Balkan Games in the team event (Plovdiv, 2004), 1st place in the games at Alexandria (1996), 1st in the All Northern Greek Games for young riders (1996, 1998). She also has a number of successes to her name at meetings within Greece and also in international competitions with the national team.

Suzanna Angel Collection



68

Jacko Aroukh (right) playing for Makedonikos. Jacko has taken part in Maccabiah Games and has also represented the Maccabi Club.

Jacko Aroukh Collection

69

Marios Matalon with the Greek national basketball team. He has scored numerous successes as a basketball player. In 2006 he won a gold medal with Aris in the Thessaloniki championships. He also played for the Greek under-16 team at the European Championships in 2005- when he was singled out for his performances- and has also been a regular for the national youth team as a play-maker. In August 2007, he also took part with the national team in the European Championships in Madrid and made a positive contribution to the exciting progress of the team on its way to the silver medal. He is now continuing his successful career abroad.

Marios Matalon Collection



70

Iliana L. Errera, winner of the international show-jumping meeting at the “2006 Alexandria Games”.

Leon Errera Collection



71

Emmanuela L. Errera, many times winner at the national and Balkan level in show-jumping: first in the CSIJ international games (2010), third in the Balkan Amazons meeting (2009), second in the Greek youth championships (2008), fourth in the Balkan Youth Games individual event (2008), first in the Balkan Youth Games team event (2008), third in the All-Greek Youth championships (2008), second in the Greek Cup etc.

Leon Errera Collection



72

The membership of the friends of the Maccabi Club. The Israelite Community of Thessaloniki is now numbered amongst the smallest Jewish communities in Europe. Its contribution to the sporting process is provided through the activities of the Maccabi Club, though there are also sports personalities who belong to other clubs. Active young Jews in Thessaloniki are continuing a long tradition of multi-faceted and significant contribution to Greek sport.

Jacko Aroukh Collection





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