

2013–2015 Torch Awards - Application

Before you submit this application, please print out and review the "2015 Torch Awards Overview," available on the FJMC website.

Please complete the following information. The font for all submissions should be Times New Roman. Please embed photographs of your program into this file. This completed document will be submitted to us as a Word file, named in the format: "FJMC TA 2015_ChapterName_ProgramName.doc"

Please email your completed application to: torchaward.fjmc.2015@gmail.com. If you have difficulty, please contact the Torch Award Co-Chairs for assistance at the above email address.

Clubs participating must be in good standing as of March 31, 2015 (Club dues and Membership list received by FJMC). Programs to be considered for an award must have taken place between April 1, 2013 and April 15, 2015. Entries must be received by April 22, 2015.

Section 1: Title

Club Name: Temple Sinai Mens Club
Current Contact: Dave Kepniss
Program Name: Olympics

Section 2: Contact information

Person completing form

First Name: David
Last Name: Kepniss
E-Mail: David_Kepniss@outlook.com

Club President at time of Convention

First Name: Greg
Last Name: Fisher
E-Mail: greg.fisher12@verizon.net

Current Club President

First Name: David
Last Name: Kepniss
E-Mail: David_Kepniss@outlook.com

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Section 3: Category

Please choose up to two (2) selections. Please note, you can only win in one category. The co-chairs reserve the right to reclassify your program.

- Club Administration
- Community Outreach
- FJMC Other
- Fundraising
- Health and Wellness
- Hearing Men’s Voices
- Jewish Observance
- Israel / Masorti
- Keruv
- Men's Club Shabbat
- Programming for Younger Men
- Shomrei Ha’aretz
- Synagogue Service Project
- World Wide Wrap
- Youth Programming
- Shoah Yellow Candle
- I’m not sure, select for our club
- Best Overall Activities** **To apply for this award, please see specific instructions in “2015 Torch Award Overview,” available on FJMC website**

Section 4: Program overview

Brief Summary - Please explain your program in 2-3 sentences.

The Mens Club held an event called the Olylympics that celebrated physical fitness in some events, Jewish knowledge in others, and just plain old fun team-building events in others. A DJ was hired and food was served as youth of all ages competed in this fun-filled experience with over a dozen events that the kids could sign up for. Parents got into the action as well as side splitting fun was punctuated with exciting competitive and communal games.

Specific events included:

[For all athletes:](#)

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“Egg” on Spoon/Potato Sack Relay: Each participant will carry a ping pong ball on a spoon 15 yards, must stop and pick it up if it falls. They then jump in a potato sack and race back to the start line.

Balloon Stompers: Everyone is split into 3 groups. Each person ties a balloon to their ankle. Each team is the same color. At “go,” the players must stomp and pop other teams’ balloons. Players cannot use their hands. When a player’s balloon is popped, he/she must sit out of bounds. The team that is the last remaining team with a balloon gets gold. The second to last gets silver. The first out gets bronze.

Chubby Bunny: Everyone lines up. Each participant gets a marshmallow, and must put in mouth and say, “chubby bunny.” Each person gets another marshmallow and must again say, “chubby bunny.” Each participant continues, keeping the marshmallows in their mouths, and trying to say, “chubby bunny.” The participants that have the most marshmallows and can still say, “chubby bunny” win.

For 5-8 year olds:

Catch Football: Depending on size of child, distance will vary. Volunteer or parent may throw football.

Bean Bag Toss: A corn hole board will be placed. A cone will indicate distance for throwing based on age. 5 bags to be thrown. Earn points for throwing bag in hole or on the board.

Cookie Stacking: Participants will start when ready. Child and partner will choose which one lays on their back and which one will be stacking cookies. Stack cookies on their partner’s forehead. The pile must stay stacked for 3 seconds to qualify.

Obstacle Course: Start with a dizzy bat, run, crawl through tunnel, navigate through tires, balance beam, walk a distance with Frisbee on your head, and finish with throwing Frisbee in basket/

For 9-12 year olds:

Alphabet: Participant will recite the Hebrew alphabet. Pronunciation must be correct and audible.

Basketball Shootout: This timed event has participants shooting from marks of their choice for 1 to 5 points per ball.

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Homerun Derby: Participants will swing at 10 strikes thrown by a parent or the steady pitcher. Points awarded for distances from 1 to 10 pts.

Popcorn Relay: Slide a cup over your shoe. Your partner fills the cup with popcorn, and then you must race to run to a box, empty the cup into it, trying to lose a little popcorn as possible. Racers run back to tag next teammate, who run to team box with newly-filled shoe cups. First team to fill box gets gold.

Detailed Summary - Please answer the following questions. Be as detailed as possible.

- What were the goals of your program? Are there specific problems or challenges that it addresses? Like most TSMC events, the goals of this synagogue community program was to have a fun filled event for member children and their parents in an attempt to strengthen synagogue spirit. We tried to make it a blend of physical fitness, something more cerebral at times, and team-building as well. We deliberately designed activities to support FJMC's health and wellness initiatives.
- How does your program enhance the image of FJMC, your region, and your club? This program was invented and developed by young father members of TSMC. If ever there was an event that modeled the positive attributes of young, involved men in synagogue life, the Olympics is it. As fathers, we sought clever and fun ways to spend quality time with our children. The parent-child team events created the happy, lasting memories we all desired. Especially during the Olympics, TSMC represented the values and initiatives set forth by FJMC.
- What is its value in building or strengthening your club? The event gave parents something to do with their kids after Hebrew School pick-up, when many just go home or off to more sedentary family activities. With high visibility in the parking lot and the attention drawn by the deejay, we made Temple Sinai the family focal point that afternoon.
- Who is your target audience? (i.e. congregation at large, chapter, community)? Parents of Hebrew School kids
- How does your program support FJMC's mission, Involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life? Well in advance of the event, we successfully assembled a committee of dads together to plan the program. This core group of men became a strong, productive team. The event successfully engaged fathers and mothers in volunteering and participating. Like most successful FJMC events, our activities attract prospective members and engage them to become new members.
- Describe the source of your program and its unique aspects. Is this an original program or an adaptation or enhancement of a previous program (if so, which one)? This was a completely original idea that evolved as we discussed points of interest and space/ budget/ time constraints. The planned events were entirely unique and their promotion through internet marketing, social media, and One-Call, while not ground-breaking for our club, resulted in a successful turnout.
- Please attach planning and marketing materials, as well as budgetary planning so the program can be replicated by other clubs.

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See attached:

- Oy’lympics Opening Ceremonies document
- One-Call Script (telephone broadcast to entire synagogue to advertise event)
- Event Flyer
- Commemorative T-shirt (see photos)
- Virtual attachments
 - Event website: www.Oylympics.com
 - Event FB page: <https://www.facebook.com/oylympics>

Program Planning / Timeline - Please provide a timeline of the key tasks, participants, and responsibilities required in order to make this program work. This may be provided as an inserted table or you may replace and insert as an embedded Excel spreadsheet. Please be as detailed as possible, so that other groups may replicate your success.

Task	Committee	Due Date
Idea Exploration	Executive Board	October
Assign Committees	Executive Board	November
Organize/ brainstorm events	Games Sub-committee	January-March
Solicit sponsors	Marketing Committee	January-March
Provide food and beverage	Food Committee	January-March
Get permission to use township land and synagogue facilities	Site Logistics sub-committee	Jan-March
Secure Volunteers	various sources of labor were Recruited from Sisterhood, boy scouts Local high school service program	March-April

Section 5: Certification

I certify that my club has not won a Gold Torch Award for essentially the same program in a previous year. (Previous silver and bronze winners in this category that submit an enhanced application only qualify to be considered for a Gold Torch award.)

Certification: Initials: ____DK_____

Section 6: Pictures

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Leadership Innovation Community



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Section 7: Video

If possible, we ask that you please create a 3-5 minute video describing your program. Feel free to be creative in your submission, but try to include the following components:

- brief introduction, including name and goal of the program
- how did you encourage participation in the program
- how did you make the program meaningful to participants
- impact of the program to your club, synagogue and community

DO NOT ATTACH VIDEO TO THIS APPLICATION. Files are to be uploaded directly to YouTube, named in the following format:

“FJMC Torch Awards 2015_ChapterName_ProgramName_#”

Please review detailed instructions in the document “2015 Torch Award Overview.”

Sorry, no videos!

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TEMPLE SIKAI MEN'S CLUB PRESENTS

אולימפיקים

TS First Annual **Oylympics**
For children K-7th & their parents
Sunday, May 18, 1200pm
Tickets and Event registrations
at Oylympics.com

Leadership Innovation Community

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TEMPLE SINAI FIRST OY'LYMPIAD: OPENING CEREMONIES

I. The Raising of Host Country's Flag and Performance of the National Anthem

The ceremonies start with the raising of the host country's flag and a performance of its national anthem. The host nation then presents artistic displays of music, singing, dance, and theater representative of its culture, history, and the current Olympic game motto.

II. The Parade of Nations

The traditional part of the ceremonies starts with a "Parade of Nations," during which most participating athletes march into the stadium, country by country.

III. The Organizing Committee/Presidential Speech

After all nations have entered, the president of the Organizing Committee makes a speech, followed by the IOC president. At the end of his speech, he introduces the representative of the host country who (after the torch, flame and doves) officially declares the opening of the Games.

“Please welcome the President of the Oy’lympiad Organizing Committee, Mr.

_____:

Distinguished guests,
Dear athletes,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It gives us great pleasure to be able to present the first every Oy’lympiad of the modern era and to be hosting those games at Temple Sinai.

What started as a dream to create an event engaging young Jewish athletes and their parents, and the greater Temple Sinai community, in a competitive tournament of skill and brotherhood, has now become a reality.

I am proud that, despite challenges, the Temple Sinai Men’s Club has organized and provided support for these Games which reunites the Temple Sinai community and showcases the best of our young athletes, and their parents. Please, give a strong round of applause for the dedicated Men’s Club organizers who have dedicated their time and effort to realize these games today. Indeed, we thank them all.

These Oy’lympics do unite people. From the athletes, who take pride in participating, to the people next to them who help our athletes live a full life – not just today, but every day. Your combined efforts have made these Games possible. And although your starting point is

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sport, what you do goes much further. Together you have created a community promoting a greater understanding and respect for Judaism, and instilling a love of Judaism and our rich culture in our congregants and their families. And as we participate in these Games, we commit ourselves to shaping a vital Jewish future for our children. You stand for opportunities and accomplishment. You are the champions of unity, sport and Judaism. Temple Sinai is built on what you represent – which is why we are so proud to be a partner in this great festival.

The long days of preparation are over. The real thing is about to begin. In sport, as in life, taking part is everything. So, I say to everyone and especially to all our athletes – enjoy participating in these wonderful games. Good luck to everyone!”

IV. The Torch

Finally, the Torch is brought into the stadium, passed from athlete to athlete during the torch relay, until it reaches the last carrier; often a well-known athlete from the host nation, who lights the fire in the stadium's cauldron.

V. The Olympic Flame

The lighting of the Olympic Flame is followed by the release of doves, symbolizing peace.

VI. Declaration of the Games as Open

“On behalf of these very first Oy’lympiad games of the modern era, I officially declare these Oy’lympic Games of Temple Sinai ... open!”

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One call Script

Attention Religious School families.... Welcome to the first-annual Oy'lympics! Scheduled for May 18th, immediately following the last day of Religious School, the Oy'lympics celebration is the ultimate family fun experience at Temple Sinai. We'll have challenging athletic competitions and fun-time events for the kids and their parents. Do NOT miss this event! Oy'lympics is sponsored by the Temple Sinai Men's Club and a delicious grilled lunch will be catered by Men in the Kitchen. Family tickets must be purchased in advance, by May 11th at WWW.OYLYMPICS.com, that's O-Y-L-Y-M-P-I-C-S DOT COM. We'll see you there!