Schwan's Minnesota Homestay Host Family Information

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Schwan's Homestay Host Family Responsibilities

We hope this information will provide insight into what Schwan's Homestay is all about. The Schwan's Homestay Program creates memories that last a lifetime through positive cultural exchange. What is the main objective for a homestay host family? To show our international guests what everyday life is like in Minnesota.

- Participating families must sign the Schwan's Homestay Host Agreement on page 4. In addition, a list by family of all adults 18 years old and older who live in each household must be provided with the agreement. Family members will then complete a background check on or before June 1.
- The signed agreement must be received by Schwan's USA CUP no later than June 1.
- Teams are paired by July 7.
- Email your players prior to their arrival to establish rapport and begin the planning process.
- Host families will receive the name/address/email address/phone number of their guests on July 7.
- Teams will receive their prearranged stipend check on Wednesday, July 15 after 12 noon in Tournament Headquarters located on the second floor of the Schwan's Center at the north end of the stadium.

Online Schwan's Homestay Program Background Check Procedures

- A background check must be completed for each adult in the household who is 18 years old and older before June 20.
- Go to https://nscsports.sportngin.com/register/form/454412672 and choose guest registration to complete

Schwan's Homestay Host Family Meeting

- At least one team representative must attend the Homestay Host Families' Meeting on either Tuesday, June 23 at 6 pm or Wednesday, June 24 at 6 pm in the NSC Sports Administration Building, located at the south end of the stadium, second floor in the classroom.
- Critical information will be distributed to the homestay representatives for their families, to include anecdotal information from previous host families, arrival/departures, food and activities overview, followed by a question and answer period.

International Coaches' Responsibilities

- Exchange the players' money in their country prior to departure.
- Collect passports/airline tickets/money before players leave the airport with their host families.
- Assist players with USD traveler checks who may need help in exchanging them for cash.
- Provide host families with coaches/team leaders' local contact information before leaving the airport, in order to make daily contact with host family and players.
- ATM's are located on the National Sports Center campus: Event Center, Sports Hall/Administration Building and the Schwan's Super Rink.
- No Double rostering for the International homestay team.

Language

- Some of your international guests may have a working knowledge of English.
- Expect support from the Schwan's USA CUP Guide Program, as you work through language differences. The program provides team translators for many of the foreign languages.

- Contact Vicki Barnes at 763.785.5652 or vbarnes@usacup.org for assistance.

Transportation

- Meet your homestay team at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport in the baggage claim area or other prearranged location. Do not be surprised if there are arrival and/or housing list changes.
- Make the initial meeting at the airport or other prearranged location as fun as possible. Signs with player's names and banners are great options. Some homestay families may plan team picnics on the arrival date to help ease the transition into a new home.
- Make plans to take your homestay team to the airport or other prearranged departure location two hours prior to departure. Farewell parties or other small activities at the departure point help with good-byes.
- Plan transportation to games and activities. Most evening activities do not have local transportation.

Sleeping Arrangements

- Responsible for housing up to 18 players from Sunday, July 12- Sunday, July 19 only.
- In most cases two international guests will be paired with one host player.
- Host family will provide proper sleeping arrangements; sharing a bedroom is fine.

Meals

- Provide all meals for international guests. Keep meals simple, serving what you normally eat.
- Offer plenty of fluids.

Supervision

- International guests must be supervised at all times. The responsibility should be shared among the international coaches, team leaders and parents of both teams.
- Set the guidelines upon arrival at home as to what you will or will not allow in your home. Minnesota state law and Schwan's USA CUP forbid the use of alcohol, drugs and cigarettes. For some international guests, drinking and smoking are very common, but Schwan's USA CUP and host families must adhere to Minnesota state law.
- Immediately establish house rules, so that the both host family and their international guests will be prepared and have a positive experience from the beginning.
- Include in your house rules the use of the phone, appliances, TV, DVD, etc.; provide instruction on how to operate equipment, if permitted.
- International guests are not allowed to operate motorized vehicles such as cars, boats or motorcycles.
- Make certain that your international guests have your name/address/phone number at all times. A laminated card with this information is a good option. Explain the general use of phones.
- Supervise all calls made from your home phone. Schwan's USA CUP is not responsible for any calls billed to host families.
- International guests may also wish to purchase an international phone card from a local convenience store or supermarket.
- Email is a great form of correspondence; supervise internet access in your home.

Medical Emergencies

- International team organizers are required to have a local cell phone number.
- Contact the international coach in the event of a medical emergency. In the case of a serious emergency, go to the doctor or hospital first and then contact the coach.
- Administer no medication, including aspirin.

Activities

- Plan activities with your international guests to foster both cultural exchange and relationship-building experiences. Activities may include the beach, McDonald's, miniature golf, golf at Victory Links located on the NSC campus, shopping, skating, and picnics. Fun activities are not expensive.
- Take advantage of Schwan's USA CUP activities as identified in the Activities Packet available May 1 at www.usacup.org. Select Fun Stuff then activities or click Activities. The tournament program details times and locations. Be certain to check for those activities requiring advance registration by June 1.
- Note that the "Pins and Patches" Trading Sessions are also popular activities. Check the tournament program for more information and location.
- Familiarize your international guests with American customs.
- Suggest appropriate attire for activities.
- Expect that some international guests may want to attend church services. Thank you for trying to accommodate their requests.

Cultural Gift Exchange

- Presenting a small gift to the host family upon arrival is customary in many countries.
- Presenting a small gift to international players from their host families as a remembrance of their stay may include a patch, pin, cup, postcard, or an American flag.

Host Team Tournament ID _____

Intl Team Tournament ID _____

Schwan's MN Homestay Host Agreement
Due June 1, 2015

If your team is interested in hosting an international team:

- Complete the agreement below. Signing this agreement commits your team to host an international team and guarantees the allotted stipend.
- Identify one person who will act as the communication liaison between Schwan's USA CUP and your team.
- **Provide the names of all adults 18 years old and older who live in each household on a separate sheet by family; attach to this agreement.**
- **Inform all adults in each household that they must complete the online Schwan's Homestay Program Background Check on or before June 1.**
- Mail, email or fax this agreement and attached household member names by family to **Schwan's Homestay Program** at either Schwan's USA CUP 1700 - 105th Avenue NE Blaine, MN 55449, vbarnes@usacup.org or FAX: 763.785.5699
- Retain a copy of this agreement for your records.

☐ **Yes, my team will host an international team.**

☐ **Yes, part of my team will help host an international team.**

_____ _____
Team Contact Signature Team Contact Phone

_____ _____
Print Team Contact Name Print Team Contact Address

Signatures of Participating Families:

_____
1. Address, Phone and Email, How many players you are hosting, new or existing Schwan's Customer

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2. Address, Phone and Email, How many players you are hosting, new or existing Schwan's Customer

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3. Address, Phone and Email, How many players you are hosting, new or existing Schwan's Customer

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