



Duluth Växjö Soccer Exchange

Celebrating 12 years of Unforgettable Experiences

2010

Information

Duluth Växjö Soccer Exchange

Duluth Växjö Soccer Exchange (DVSE) is a self-supporting, non-profit organization that promotes a cultural and sports exchange between **Duluth, Minnesota** and **Växjö, Sweden**. Cultural exchange is the primary goal, competitive soccer is the medium.

Each summer Duluth or Växjö hosts an annual soccer tournament. Players from each country are matched with a visiting player. The visiting player lives with the family of his or her counterpart during the exchange. Swedish players are from Växjö and the nearby towns in Småland (the name of the area surrounding Växjö). These towns include: Lammhult, Braas, Ingelstad and Rottne.

DVSE and Växjö each field four teams, U-15 and U-16 boys and girls. Players are selected from from Duluth and surrounding communities. We have had players from Duluth, Cloquet, Esko, Hermantown, Proctor, Superior and Two Harbors. Competitive teams from the region are invited to participate in the tournament during our host year. There are a maximum of 16 players per team, each with competitive soccer experience. Practices are organized by each team's volunteer coaching staff and are arranged to work around player's summer schedules. Every attempt is made to not conflict with summer tournaments, high school tryouts and or games. Participation is flexible, but a commitment is required.

2010 is a Host Year

Total cost including player fee*, warm-up and uniform** is currently estimated at \$310.

* Player fee of \$175 includes:
2 commemorative T-shirts
All registration fees
Player liability Insurance
Tickets to the Farewell Banquet
**Uniform - Warm-up

Approx \$135

One time fee during 1st year. Uniforms and Warm-ups are the player's property and responsibility.

If lost or damaged, must be replaced for the 2nd year.

Player Eligibility and Family Responsibilities

We are inviting male and female players who will be 15 or 16 years of age next summer (2010) to apply. If a player is age eligible and participated in the program in 2009, he or she is considered a 'legacy' player and is accepted upon receipt of the completed player application and fees. The exception is age eligible players who have enjoyed two years in the program. Those players will be given consideration should our recruitment efforts fall short.

*** All fees must be current before any player will be considered for registration.

We also give priority to players from 'legacy families', families with siblings who are past participants.

Although the cultural exchange is our primary focus, it's important that players have competitive soccer experience. The Swedes and other teams in the exchange play at a level that necessitates skills and understanding of the game. We require a player card from a competitive, recreational, or high school team or a signed note from your coach confirming your experience.

All families who have players participating in the exchange will be required to participate on a committee. For U15 players who are new to the program, you and your family need to be able to fulfill hosting and volunteering responsibilities for 2010 and a player commitment to travel in 2011. A list of committees and hosting duties/tips will be provided by the DVSE Board for 2010.

Your family needs to be able to fulfill hosting responsibilities. These include dropping off and picking up players at official DVSE events, feeding and housing them, planning activities that help them understand our culture, allowing them to communicate home if they wish, and working with other host families so they can mingle with their friends during the exchange. Although it is not required, it is recommended that one parent be vacationing during the exchange.

Time-lines for team sign-up.

August 11, 2009 E-mails sent out to Legacy Families

August 30, 2009 Attend 1st General Meeting 7-8 PM in the Great Lakes Ballroom at the Holiday Inn Duluth. Deadline for Legacy Families to return application, forms and fees. (including outstanding 2009 fees). Upon receipt of registration packet, your roster spot is confirmed.

Beginning August 30th, we will have three open enrollment periods. The dates for these periods are:

Aug 31 - Sept 16

Sep 17 - Oct 14

Oct 15 - Dec 11

Upon receipt of completed application, forms and fees, roster spots will be confirmed at the end of each open enrollment period. If during any period, applicants are greater than available roster positions, all applications for that enrollment period will be placed in a lottery and randomly drawn to fill the team. Fees and deposits for all applicants not selected, will be returned.

Maximum numbers of players per team is 16.

Please complete all forms included in this communication and send to DVSE:

Player application form
Player card or signed note from competitive team coach
Player profile
Write one check for \$175* to: DVSE:
Send to:

DVSE
23 West Central Entrance, #329
Duluth, MN 55811

*This check covers the registration or "player fee".

Travel to Sweden in 2011

The Duluth Växjö Soccer Exchange is a two-year program. A 15-year-old player next summer will travel to Sweden as a 16-year-old player in 2011.

Approximate costs for the travel year:

Total out of pocket when Travel Deposit is returned - \$1810 to \$1900 - Less Spending Money

We **highly** recommend you take advantage of the many fundraisers sponsored by DVSE to offset the cost of travel. The sooner you register, the greater the opportunity to participate in fundraising.

Meeting Schedule

DVSE holds its General Meetings for parents and players meetings at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites in downtown Duluth, 200 West First Street. All meeting dates are posted on www.sistercitysoccer.org.

General Meetings scheduled:

Sunday, August 30 7-8 PM Great Lakes Ballroom

Sunday, September 20 7-8 PM Great Lakes Ballroom

Sunday, Oct 18 7-8 PM Great Lakes Ballroom

**Scheduled dates for future General Meetings and other meetings/activities including fundraisers and committee meetings will be announced and posted on website. Intention is to meet monthly.