

NEWS RELEASE

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Over 175 players from seven countries to live with Twin Cities-area families during the upcoming SCHWAN'S USA CUP, presented by PUMA, July 10-17

Blaine, Minn. (June 21, 2010) – Through the SCHWAN'S Homestay program, over 175 players will be hosted by Twin Cities-area families during this year's SCHWAN'S USA CUP, presented by PUMA. The eight-day tournament is held July 10-17 at the National Sports Center in Blaine, Minn.

The SCHWAN'S Homestay program allows hosting families and guests alike to truly experience the international language of soccer. Players from Japan, Denmark, Ecuador, Haiti, Morocco, Thailand, and Mexico are all involved in this year's program.

"The excitement is building for families to host international players for the first time or numerous times," said LuAnn Wingard, Homestay coordinator. "The word isn't really 'Homestay,' it becomes 'family' in a lot of cases."

For the first time, the Homestay program this year will also include teams during the weekend tournament of SCHWAN'S USA CUP. Wingard said the necessity for providing weekend arrangements arose when 44 girls on three teams from Japan signed up for this year's weekend tournament.

While many homes have been set up, there is still a housing need for teams from Denmark, Ecuador and Thailand. Host families receive a small stipend, a Schwan's gift certificate and a 20 percent discount on Schwan's products from June 28-July 18.

Those interested in the Homestay program at SCHWAN'S USA CUP can contact LuAnn Wingard at 763.717.3883.

About SCHWAN'S USA CUP, presented by PUMA:

SCHWAN'S USA CUP is the largest gathering of youth soccer teams in the Western Hemisphere. Last year's tournament featured 841 teams from 26 states and 12 countries, and it is expected that this year's tournament will draw similar numbers. Attendance averages 25,000 daily for the duration of the tournament.

<http://www.usacup.org>

About the National Sports Center:

The National Sports Center (NSC) is a 600-acre multi-sport facility, located in Blaine, Minn., 20 minutes north of Minneapolis/Saint Paul. The campus includes the Schwan Super Rink, an eight-sheet ice arena that is the world's largest ice facility; a 10,500-seat soccer stadium; the Schwan Center meeting and convention building; a multi-faceted family golf center, the National Youth Golf Center, which features the 18-hole Victory Links course; an indoor Sports Hall, 150-bed residence hall, and 52 soccer fields. The facility hosts nearly 300 events annually and is the most-visited sports facility in Minnesota. The NSC generates over \$37 million in annual out-of-state economic impact.

<http://www.nscsports.org/>

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