**STARS ‘N STRIPES INTERNATIONAL SOCCER TOURS – 2023**

361 Cambridge Drive Fairview, TX 75069 Tel - 214-718-9963

Website – [WWW.STARSNSTRIPESSOCCER.COM](http://WWW.STARSNSTRIPESSOCCER.COM) Email – EPuskarich@gmail.com

Dear Stars ‘N Stripes player,

Below is information regarding the upcoming Stars ‘n Stripes Soccer Tours. To register for the tours, please go to [www.StarsnStripesSoccer.com](http://www.StarsnStripesSoccer.com) and follow the registration guidelines.

Lots of information regarding the following are available;

* Sponsorship/Fundraising – great ideas and sample sponsor letters available below
* Itineraries – updated dates, locations, events, etc. -
* Medical history and Dr. Statement of Fitness -
* Staff Information – base of our successes for 35 years has been our quality staff
* Questions and Answers to common questions and concerns -
* Stars ‘n Stripes Philosophy and past achievements -
* Past trips, on the website allow a view on past experiences and learn the Stars ‘n Stripes way

Please be aware that Stars ‘N Stripes is a “Soccer First” organization. Since 1987, Stars ‘N Stripes has provided opportunities for players to achieve their dream of playing soccer internationally. Stars ‘N Stripes is designed to benefit the serious soccer player and is not a vacation tour.

Please review all info and then register online. You will receive a confirmation as well as payment options for the tour.

**Note:** Separate mailers that includes player and parent contracts, updated final itineraries, packing checklist, player information form, and permission to travel with a minor, uniform ordering of additional items, etc., will be sent throughout the coming months as well as parent/supporter options.

**ATTENTION ALL PLAYERS**: All information regarding Stars ‘N Stripes soccer tours will be addressed to the players directly. It is the player’s responsibility to be informed and updated regarding the upcoming tour. Stars ‘N Stripes is taking the player on tour, not the parent, so we stress that the player be responsible and accountable with all mailers, information, etc. Stars ‘N Stripes is not only a soccer tour but an experience in which the player will mature and grow both as a player and as a person.

Passport process – Please start the process for applying for your passport. Contact the Post Office for more details. You will need 2 passport photos and a certified copy of a birth certificate. It may take several weeks to process your passport but you may also get it expedited for additional costs. A copy of the Passport page with players info along with the page with the players photo will be requested before departure.

Remember your first step is to review the information carefully and **register online as soon as possible to avoid any increases in tour costs and reserve your space on tour.**

I am looking forward to a great experience. As always, if there are any questions from players or parents, please contact Stars ‘N Stripes at the above information.

Yours in Soccer,

Ed Puskarich

Executive Director, Stars ‘n Stripes International Soccer Tours

-1-

**Stars ‘n Stripes Philosophy and Achievements**

Stars ‘N Stripes, founded in 1987, was established to provide young soccer players who have dedication, desire, and love for the game, the chance to become better soccer players and better people by exposing them to different players, styles, and cultures from around the world. Players who wear the Stars ‘N Stripes uniform return to the States with a deeper understanding of soccer, a deeper appreciation of the unique differences of the world’s cultures, and a deeper pride in their own heritage as Americans.

Stars ‘N Stripes retains only the finest coaches, individuals who have not only excelled in soccer as players themselves, but who all have the unique talent of communicating with young people on a personal basis. Players and coaches develop a close relationship from living, eating, touring, training, and shopping and sightseeing together. Coaches at all times emphasize the importance of behaving with class, both on and off the field. A class which springs from both respect and pride: respect for oneself, one’s opponents, and for the host culture; and pride in one’s teammates and in America, which players and coaches represent with their every action.

Stars ‘N Stripes has visited Italy, including 1990 World Cup games; France, including 1998 World Cup games; Germany, including 2006 World Cup games; Finland, Norway, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, England, Austria, Hungary, Belgium, Iceland, Czech Republic, San Marino, Costa Rica and Australia. Stars ‘N Stripes has always left these nations with the hosts’ praise for the conduct, professionalism, and discipline of everyone associated with Stars ‘N Stripes. Stars ‘N Stripes teams are sought after by dozens of tournaments and have received invitations to compete all over the world.

**Stars ‘N Stripes achievements since 1987**

1. FINALIST – Toulouse cup, France - Boys U-19
2. FINALIST – Kanga cup, Australia - Girls U-19
3. WINNER – Dana Cup B-final, Denmark - Girls U-19
4. FINALIST – Dana Cup I, Denmark - Girls U-14
5. WINNER – Copenhagen Cup, Denmark - Girls U-16
6. WINNER – Hungary Kun Cup, Hungary - Girls U-14
7. WINNER – Hungary Kun Cup, Hungary - Boys U-19

1994 FINALIST – Hungary Kun Cup, Hungary - Girls U-19

1994 FINALIST – Hungary Kun Cup, Hungary - Boys open

1. SEMI-FINALIST – Upper Austria Cup, Austria - Boys U-19
2. SEMI-FINALIST – Gothia Cup, Sweden - Girls U-16

1995 FINALIST – Gothia Cup, B-final, Sweden - Girls U-19

1995 QUARTER-FINALIST – Gothia Cup, Sweden - Girls U-14

1999 FINALIST – Dana Cup I, Denmark - Girls U-18

2000 FINALIST – Gothia Cup, Sweden - Girls U-16

2000 FINALIST – Watford and London festival, England - Boys U-16

2001 WINNER – Denmark Soccer festival, Denmark - Girls U-14

2001 WINNER – Denmark Soccer festival, Denmark - Girls U-18

1. SEMI-FINALIST – Denmark Soccer festival, Denmark - Boys U-16
2. WINNER – Dana Cup B-final, Denmark - Boys U-17

2004 FINALIST - Denmark Soccer Festival - Boys U-16

2004 QUARTER-FINALIST Gothia Cup, Sweden - Girls U-16

2005 QUARTER-FINALIST Dana Cup 1, Denmark - Girls U-13

2005 QUARTER-FINALIST Gothia Cup, Sweden – Girls U-14

2005 SEMI-FINALIST Gothia Cup, Sweden – Girls U-13

2006 FINALIST Dana Cup 1, Denmark - Girls U-13

2007 WINNER Upper Austria Cup, Austria – Girls U-16

2007 FINALIST Upper Austria Cup, Austria – Girls U-14

2007 SEMI-FINALIST Upper Austria Cup, Austria – Boys U-16

2008 WINNER Dana Cup 1, Denmark – Boys U-16

2009 WINNER Cup Denmark, Denmark – Girls U-17

2009 SEMI-FINALIST Cup Denmark, Denmark – Boys U-16

2010 FINALIST Dana Cup 1, Denmark – Girls U14

2010 FINALIST Dana Cup 1, Denmark – Boys U16

2011 FINALIST San Marino Cup – San Marino – Boys U18

2011 FINALIST San Marino Cup – San Marino – Boys U15

2013 QUARTER-FINALIST Dana Cup 2, Denmark – Girls U15

2015 QUARTER-FINALIST Dana Cup 2, Denmark – Boys U17

2015 SEMI-FINALST Dana Cup 2, Denmark – Girls U17

2017 FINALIST Cup Number 1, Denmark – Boys U18

2019 Winner Helsinki Cup – Boys U16

2022 Winner Cup Number 1, Denmark – Boys U17

-2-

**SnS – Itinerary – Spain 2023 – U12-U14 boys – March/April**

Day 1 – depart for Spain

Day 2 – arrive, training

Day 3 – training, sightseeing excursion

Day 4 – Cup games

Day 5 – Cup games

Day 6 – Cup games

Day 7 – Cup games

Day 8 – Cup games

Day 9 – finals - sightseeing

Day 10 - depart for USA

 **Pricing available soon!**

**SnS – Itinerary – Costa Rica 2023 – U12-U16 boys and girls**

June 12th – depart for Costa Rica

June 13th – training, water falls excursion at Montezuma Beach

June 14th – friendly game

June 15th – white water rapids excursion, Pacuare River

June 16th – training

June 17th – friendly game

June 18th – training, Beach excursion, Santa Teresa Beach

June 19th – friendly game

June 20th – training, Beach excursion, Jako Beach

July 21st – friendly game

June 22nd – training, excursion Poas Volcano

June 23rd – depart for USA

 **Costa Rica Tour - $3195.00**. Includes transfers, meals, custom made Stars 'n Stripes uniform, sweat suit, team bag, merchandise package. Final itineraries will determine departure dates and price. Stars 'n Stripes is neither a vacation tour nor a sightseeing tour. Stars 'n Stripes is for serious soccer players only. Stars ‘n Stripes always includes cultural exchanges and sightseeing – vital to learn about the areas we visit! All players will be carefully screened and must meet Stars 'n Stripes standards.

**SnS - Itinerary – Europe 2023 – Premier- U12-U19 boys and girls**

July 5th - depart for Europe

July 6th – arrive training camp – Estonia or Denmark

July 7th  – training/friendly matches - sightseeing

July 8th – training/friendly matches

July 9th - training/sightseeing

July 10th – training – transfer to Frederikshavn, Denmark or Helsinki, Finland

July 11th – Cup 1 in Denmark – or Helsinki Cup

July 12th – Cup 1 in Denmark - or Helsinki Cup

July 13th – Cup 1 in Denmark - or Helsinki Cup

July 14th – Cup 1 in Denmark - or Helsinki Cup

July 15th – Cup 1 in Denmark - or Helsinki Cup

July 16th – transfer to Gothenburg, Sweden –

July 17th - Gothia Cup

July 18th – Gothia Cup

July 19th - Gothia Cup

July 20th – Gothia Cup

July 21st - Gothia Cup

July 22nd – Gothia Cup

July 23rd – transfer to Copenhagen, Denmark – return to USA

 **Europe Tour - $4495.00**. Includes transfers, meals, custom made Stars 'n Stripes uniform, sweat suit, team bag, merchandise package. Final itineraries will determine departure dates and price. Stars 'n Stripes is neither a vacation tour nor a sightseeing tour. Stars 'n Stripes is for serious soccer players only. Stars ‘n Stripes always includes cultural exchanges and sightseeing – vital to learn about the areas we visit! All players will be carefully screened and must meet Stars 'n Stripes standards.

-3-

**SnS - Itinerary – Europe 2023 – Elite – U12-U19 boys and girls**

July 5th - depart for Europe

July 6th – arrive training camp – Estonia or Denmark

July 7th  – training/friendly matches - sightseeing

July 8th – training/friendly matches

July 9th - training/sightseeing

July 10th – training – transfer to Frederikshavn, Denmark or Helsinki, Finland

July 11th – Cup 1 in Denmark – or Helsinki Cup

July 12th – Cup 1 in Denmark - or Helsinki Cup

July 13th – Cup 1 in Denmark - or Helsinki Cup

July 14th – Cup 1 in Denmark - or Helsinki Cup

July 15th – Cup 1 in Denmark - or Helsinki Cup

July 16th – transfer to Gothenburg, Sweden –

July 17th - Gothia Cup

July 18th – Gothia Cup

July 19th - Gothia Cup

July 20th – Gothia Cup

July 21st - Gothia Cup

July 22nd – Gothia Cup

July 23rd – transfer to Hjorring, Denmark

July 24th - Dana Cup

July 25th - Dana Cup

July 26th - Dana Cup

July 27th - Dana Cup

July 28th - Dana Cup

July 29th - Dana Cup

July 30th - transfer to Copenhagen, Denmark – return to USA

 **Europe Tour - $4995.00**. Includes transfers, meals, custom made Stars 'n Stripes uniform, sweat suit, team bag, merchandise package. Final itineraries will determine departure dates and price. Stars 'n Stripes is neither a vacation tour nor a sightseeing tour. Stars 'n Stripes is for serious soccer players only. Stars ‘n Stripes always includes cultural exchanges and sightseeing – vital to learn about the areas we visit! All players will be carefully screened and must meet Stars 'n Stripes standards.

**Note; itineraries and fees may change until deposits and flights and rosters are finalized.**

**Since 1987, Stars 'n Stripes has traveled the world and visited every nation with pride, discipline, professionalism, and an appreciation for the host culture. Stars 'n Stripes is looking for individuals that can continue to represent both Stars 'n Stripes and the United States of America through the world's greatest sport, Soccer!**

**Parent Program** – A separate supporter’s itinerary will be available for all parents, etc. Please note that parents and supporters will not be allowed to travel or stay at same accommodations as players. For more information on these packages, please contact Stars ‘n Stripes.

**Payment Info –**

**Several payment plans are available for Stars ‘n Stripes including online payments. Online payments can be made at** [**www.starsnstripessoccer.com**](http://www.starsnstripessoccer.com)**.** Upon receiving the application, each family will be sent a payment plan and a financial commitment contract.

**References –**

Dennis and Roxanne Jones 214-460-1881, Son Preston

David and Anne Deery 214- 335-7392, son Matthew and Nicholas

Mike and Shirley Otto 214-929-0419, Son Jonathan

Carey and Monica Kane 412-612-4903, Daughter Ella

**Stars ‘n Stripes Parent Programs** – separate itineraries

**Stars ‘n Stripes Medial information –** medical forms will be sent later and available on website

**Stars ‘n Stripes Fundraising information –** available and extremely successful

**Stars ‘n Stripes Staff –** view on website

-4-

**STARS ‘N STRIPES – QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

1. **How does Stars ‘n Stripes differ from other tour companies?** SNS is a serious soccer tour company that is a soccer tour first. We train and coach our players as if there were professional players. Our level of discipline and structure separates us from all other tour companies. Although sightseeing and cultural exchanges are part of our tour, soccer is first with SNS.
2. **Where do players come from for Stars ‘n Stripes?** SNS is comprised of dozens of staff coaches who are located all around the US, as well as Europe. This list includes college coaches, high school coaches, professional coaches, and top club coaches. These coaches constantly keep an eye out for those gifted and committed players who will benefit from our program. We also gather players from word of mouth, past player’s experiences, and some local tryouts. All players must be a select level player or higher to attend a SNS tour.
3. **Are parents allowed on SNS tour?** Part of our successes of SNS has been our ability to have our players grow and mature without a parent to guide them. Parents are welcome to attend with one of our supporters package, but parents will not stay at same accommodations, travel same flights, etc. as the tour.
4. **How much success have the fundraisers been for those families who decide to fundraise?** On the average, every player who attempts to fundraise has earned half of their tour fees. Each year we have players who earn their entire tour fee plus spending money.
5. **How much spending money should players bring?** We recommend around $300-$400 for each family. Most of this will go towards snacks, soccer gear, souvenirs, etc. We will have all players bring certain denominations in the currencies of the country visited.
6. **How can parents and friends follow the tour from the states?** A daily journal will be posted on the Stars ‘n Stripes website with details of each day’s events, highlights and lowlights, and general information. Furthermore, a tour video will be given to each player that details their entire tour. Please review some past tours on [www.starsnstripessoccer.com](http://www.starsnstripessoccer.com).
7. **How much discipline is there on tour?** The past successes of our tours can be directly related to our tour discipline. We don’t allow swearing, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, body piercing, and general unprofessional misconduct. Generally, our rules are extensions of parent’s rules. Punishments range from game suspensions to expulsion from tour. SNS has benefited players since 1987 because we offer an opportunity for those players who strive to improve. Selecting these quality individuals and working with them closely is what makes our tours so unique.
8. **How many players go on tour?** Sns will take anywhere from 2-8 teams per tour, depending on the level and commitment of the players involved as well as the tour itinerary. Players may play as many as 20 games in a three week period as well as training, sightseeing, etc. We try and maintain team rosters to be around 13 players so playing time is not a problem.
9. **What is the medical situation like on tour?** An attempt will be made to take a certified trainer that travels with us the entire program. The trainer will be in charge of all medical situations and monitors them closely. If a situation requires a trip to the hospital, the trainer and one of the coaches will accompany the player as well as contact their parent. The tournaments that SnS competes in are usually staffed with trainers and medical doctors and immediately medical care and treatment is usually provided for on site at these events.
10. **Can players recommend friends and players to the program?** Yes, sometimes our biggest asset is our existing players who have already been chosen for some of their special qualities. Good people attract good people and we will screen all players who apply on tour. Please keep in mind that Sns is for serious soccer players only.
11. **Stars ‘n Stripes is more than a soccer tour.** Player maturation, responsibility, discipline, interaction without cell phones, respect of other cultures, team unity, just a few areas that each player will experience.

Remember, deposit first to secure your space on tour. Start planning for an experience of a lifetime.

**Isn’t it Time you Get Serious about your Soccer!!!**

-5-