

## 2017 EUROTOUR, participants and memorable moments

The 2017 NSA EURO trip was such an incredible experience for both me and my twins, Gabriel and Ian. It was truly everything I had hoped for in an adventure such as this, with a great mix of soccer and tourism. One moment that stood out was the incredible atmosphere surrounding the Opening Ceremony for the Gothia Cup. The excitement for the upcoming tournament could be felt in the air. Watching the pride in all the kids being able to represent their team and country

was really fun, and sharing in the banter between nations as everyone was entering or leaving the Ullevi Stadium was such a rare moment to experience and cherish. I will never forget the moment Ian just ran up to a girls German team as we were leaving the Stadium and starting chanting "Deutschland, Deutschland, Deutschland". The German gals joined in the chant with glee - shocked to see an American kid so enthusiastic about their homeland. To me, that moment truly defines what it means to "live in the moment" as experiences such as this are so rare in life – can't let them pass you by without participating in them to the fullest.

One of the funniest moments on the trip was the trampoline adventure in Demark at the Fyrklit Resort. The creativity and spontaneity of the kids with their new found "toy" was priceless. I don't think I will ever forget the moment they launched Brett into the air on the trampoline in a well-orchestrated moment of excellent team work and creativity, and the ensuing roar of laughter that followed from everyone involved. The crazy silly moments in life that appear out of nowhere can be some of the best and most memorable.

One of the most heart-warming experiences is when Gabe sat down next to me on the short bus ride from the ferry in Fredrikshavn to the school in Hjørring, Denmark telling me of his adventures at the Gothia Cup in Sweden – the friendships he was making with his new teammates; the conversations he had with kids from different countries while staying at the school - talking about politics, religion, school systems, their beliefs, their favorite soccer teams and players, etc.; and just how much fun he was having. Because for our family, it wasn't just about going over to play soccer, it was about the whole experience of being in Europe, hanging out with people from different parts of the world, and the friendships you can make in life in rare places...so it was wonderful to see him enjoying the whole experience and making the most of the opportunity.

Thanks for all who contributed to making this trip so fantastic! Our family will always cherish it....

### **Laura Barraza**

My first memory was getting to play the greatest sport in a different country. I've always wanted to play internationally, I am truly grateful for the opportunity to play games and train in different countries.

My second memory was both opening ceremonies. Both the Gothia and Dana cup opening ceremonies were great! Especially getting to represent my country in the parade.

My last and best memory was meeting the great people on this trip. I think I will miss these people more than anything else. Thank you for the great experience! I wouldn't have rather done it with anyone else.

My Best Memories

### **Ian Schaefer**

Bella, hunter and I loved all the cool stuff we saw. Traveling to 4 countries in less than 3 weeks was awesome. Seeing everything from castles, to waterfalls to "oldest" amusement parks was incredible. The cinnamon rolls at Kongor were our favorite breakfast in Hirtshals!

Mason loved all the "guy" time, the soccer games in Europe and the independence the experience gave him!

### **Laurinda Reese**

My first favorite memory about NSA was scrimmaging the Somalian's in futsal in Gothenburg the day before our first game. We played them about four times and only won once but it was fun anyway. My second memory was beating a norwegian team 5-0 in Dana Cup. This game was so special because we hadn't won a game until that day. And it's not everyday you can say you beat a european team by 5 goals.

My next favorite memory was crawling into the ww2 bunkers by the beach in Denmark. It was one of the last days that we spent together as a team and one of our last days in Denmark. I thought is was well spent while crawling down into concrete bunkers and seeing a Danish beach.

**Gabriel Schaefer**

Madison's most memorable moments

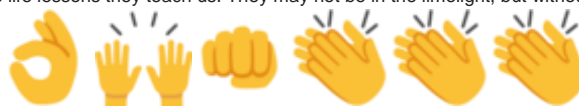
1. Getting to know players from other countries as well as the ones from other states.
2. Playing paranoia on the ferry to Swedish Island (you will need to fill in name)
3. Playing with the boys team as they play differently than girls.

**Diana Erwin**

My three most memorable parts about this eurotour was probably 1. Are first games in the gothia cup and Dana cup because it was the beginning of a new tournament and to me it was an important game cause it's like your boost for all the other games 2. Meeting new people at the schools and fields/train/busses it was really nice meeting new people especially cause they were from all over the world and we learned a lot from all different cultures and places 3. Last but not least the third most memorable part about this trip was the traveling and site seeing itself, because well it's something I've never done and seen before and it was a once in a life time experience and I wish I could do it all over again .

**Kekai**

Going through thousands of photos from our Europe trip, I'm reliving some incredible moments, like the game that our kids fought super hard after a couple of losses and ended up winning. I remember vividly the heart-warming expressions on our players' and coaches' faces. I also remember looking at the LCD screen on my camera just after snapping these photos and noticing the coach in the red jacket comforting his player after a tough loss. That same coach then stood up, took a deep breath, and congratulated our team, as captured in these images. It's interesting and serendipitous to me that he's out of focus in one photo and off to the side in others. It reminds me of the coaches in our life, athletic or otherwise, who have cheered us on or guided us through our ups and downs. It also reminds me how amazing it is that these coaches also deal with their losses and difficulties while helping those they coach. I'm grateful for these coaches and the life lessons they teach us. They may not be in the limelight, but without them, we wouldn't be



where we are today or tomorrow. Thank you, coaches!

#awesomecoaches #lifelessonsonandoffthefield @ Gothia Cup

**Patty Vernon Sabey (from her post)**

I had lots of fun on this once in a lifetime experience but some of the most memorable moments was the 5 hour bus ride where the boys wouldn't let us sleep so they read books to us. Another time was when the boys came to support our game and you hear them screaming and doing dog piles from the side of the field. My last memorable moment was the first night that we arrived in Denmark for the Dana cup and how no one was at the school just us so we hung out so much and bonded.

**Clair Reed**

	<p><b>NSA EUROTOUR 2017</b>  <b>Participants</b>  <b>Players and Supporters</b>          More pictures will be added as we receive them          updated 7/9/17</p> <p><b>To view, keep scrolling down</b></p> <p>Some pictures are missing !!          Please email them to  <a href="mailto:nsaguru@gmail.com">nsaguru@gmail.com</a></p>	 <p>Coach Fred</p>	 <p>Coach Fred and Elizabeth</p>
<p>From the USA</p> 	 <p>Coach Augie Rodriguez (CA)</p>	 <p>Coach Jim Smyth (NY)</p>	 <p>Elizabeth Serra Hsu</p>
 <p>Gabe Schaefer</p>	 <p>Ava Shivers</p>	 <p>Clair Reed</p>	 <p>Ian Schaefer</p>
 <p>Barraza Laura</p>	 <p>Emily Evans</p>	 <p>Reese family          Dana, Laurie, Mason, Bella, Hunter</p>	 <p>Mason Reese</p>





Madison Erwin



Sherry Aaholm



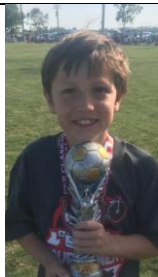
Alicia Aaholm (IN)



Steve Aaholm



Brent Bickel



Hayden Bickel



Priya Dosanjh



Diego Alvarado (CA)



Chris Bickel with Brent and Hayden



Lauren Bickel , Brent, Hayden



Nathaniel Hoeye



Alkire Janelle



Jack Ehlerman



Kahana Freitas



Robert Rudden



Roxanne Hoffman



Dylan Ehram



Paul Kao



Preston Kao



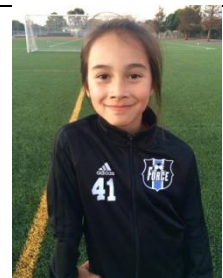
Sabey Family and beautiful Golden Gate bridge



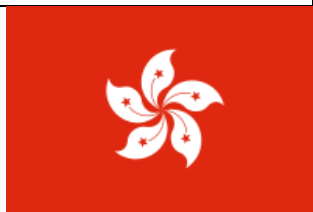
Chloe, Remington, Pluto, Athena, Ben, Lily, Patty



Remington Vernon



Athena Vernon



Hong Kong



Meredith DeLashmut



Leo Doyle

	 <p>Lam family</p>	 <p>Ryan Lam</p>	
 <p>from Sweden</p>	 <p>Järpenberg Lilly</p>	 <p>Järpenberg Sara (Sweden)</p>	
	 <p>Segerholm Jennifer</p>	 <p>Segerholm Maurits</p>	





United Kingdom



Tristan Gottschalk



from Germany



Elisa Gerst & Sabrina Abramowski



Jascha Abram



Jan Schrappner



Joel Leippi

 <p>from Belgium</p>	 <p>Mathias Cools (Belgium)</p>	 <p>Xander Smets</p>	
 <p>From Malta</p>	 <p>Sean Schrembri</p>	 <p>Marie Schrembri</p>	
 <p>From Denmark</p>	 <p>Emma Marskot</p>	 <p>Josefine Marskot</p>	 <p>Christian Christiansen</p>
 <p>Christiansen Mads (Denmark)</p>	 <p>Julie Marskot</p>	 <p>Sorenson Luna</p>	 <p>Peter Sorenson</p>
 <p>Karsten Vinther Larsen</p>	 <p>Signe_Karsten_Mark Vinther Larsen</p>		





from Norway



Coach Stig Henriksen (Norway)



Mina Frantzen



Nora Hall



Daniel Christensen



Gabriel Pettersen



Julian Aanes



Matheus Fjellaksel



Siver Aanes



Sondre Hasselberg



Trym Frantzen



Vetle Hanssen



Stein David Laksaa