

Dear Mr. Tackett,

My name is Taylor Sparks. I am the Athletic Director at University Heights Academy in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Our girls' soccer team is requesting permission to attend the Gothia Cup Soccer Tournament in Gothenburg Sweden. The tournament is held on July 13th thru the 19th, 2025. We are respectfully requesting an exception to By-Law 23, limitation of season rule to attend the Gothia Cup. University Heights realizes this occurs during the limitation of season period. I respectfully ask you to consider the many cultural and social aspects of a trip like this. Heights also is aware that there would have to be penalties such as loss of games and perhaps a fine. However, the Administration is steadfast in supporting such an endeavor.

Reasoning:

The week is filled with encounters, big and small, arranged, and spontaneous. The opening ceremony is the week's major gathering. A two-hour long show with music, dancing, fireworks, a presentation of all participating nations and joy unbounded. There will be 50,000 people in a packed Ullevi Stadium. In addition to great international soccer, the event partners with teams to organize fun activities and competitions throughout the week. Each year around 1700 teams from 80 nations take part and play 4500 games. This is truly a meeting place for the world's youth irrespective of religion, skin color or nationality with soccer as the common denominator.

University Heights realizes the potential impact that a trip such as this could have on our women student-athletes. The cultural and real-life experiences reach far beyond a simple soccer tournament. The University Heights administration and faculty has given their full support to this endeavor and

are hoping the KHSAA would allow these girls to have this once in a lifetime experience.

In closing I am asking you to take the time to study and reflect on the many positive effects this trip could supply. I would encourage you to Google Gothia Cup so that you might have time to browse through their website.

Sincerely,
Taylor Sparks

Athletic Director
University Heights

GOTHIA
GOETTER TROPHY
 PRESENTED BY SKF

DIPLOMA 07

July 15-21 Gothenburg Sweden

Summit
Dennis Andersson

Janne Lindgren
Lena Rindroff

