



September 10th 2009

Dear US Host Families:

Thank you for agreeing to host one or more Future Problem Solving students from Australia before the FPSP International Conference in 2010. Your hospitality is greatly appreciated.

In Australia, each State has Child Protection Legislation that applies to all activities undertaken by primary and secondary school children. It is designed to ensure the safety and well being of all children involved and reflects the fact that all local, State and the Federal Governments are committed to the protection of all young people in our care.

Part of this legislation requires a declaration from all adults directly involved with children's activities that they meet the legal criteria for being able to be involved with the supervision of school children in any capacity. In practice, this includes all non-teachers, including sports coaches in local communities, instrumental music teachers, and other individuals, such as homestay families.

In order to meet this legal obligation, it will be necessary for one of the parents or responsible adults in your family to complete the attached form and return by email to the designated coach of the Australian FPS student(s) who will be in your care. By the same token, the family (ies) of the Australian student(s) involved in your homestay will be required to sign an undertaking of their own, a copy of which is also enclosed.

Please read the form in conjunction with the attached Guidelines for Host and Australian Families.

We trust that you will enjoy being a host family and we are confident that your students will benefit from their experience of staying with you.

Yours sincerely,

**Marianne Solomon
Executive Director
FPSP International Inc**

**Niranjan Casinader
National Director
FPSP Australia Inc**

ACCREDITATION FORM FOR US HOMESTAY HOST FAMILIES

This form must be completed by a Parent/Guardian in the household prior to hosting a student.

I, _____ (please print name),

- (1) agree to provide appropriate accommodation and care for _____ (please print number) students who are participating in the Future Problem Solving Program International Finals in 2010;
- (2) advise that there is nothing in my history, or the history of the people within my household that would preclude our hosting a student (see * below);
- (3) agree to provide a safe and secure home environment for the students and will take all reasonable steps to prevent the students having contact with any person whom I know or reasonably believe will represent a risk of harm to children;
- (4) advise that all adults and adolescents residing in this household have read and are aware of this undertaking;
- (5) advise that all adults and adolescents residing in this household are aware of the restrictions on activities that students involved in the Future Problem Solving Program may undertake during homestay.
- (6) ensure that the Australian students in my/our care will not be allowed to travel in any motorized transport driven by a person less than 18 years of age
- (7) ensure that the Australian students in my/our care will not undertake higher-risk sports such as water-skiing

I also agree to my contact details being provided to the Parents/Guardians of the students.

Name of my Homeowners' Public Liability Insurance Cover Carrier

Signature

Date

** Incidents, charges or criminal convictions of the following type would generally preclude a person from hosting a student: sexual offences; drug-related offences; violence-related offences; serious traffic offences (where the Host is required to transport the student by motor vehicle); and other offences if the victim was under 18 years of age at the time the offence was committed.*

About the information you provide us on this form

The above information will be stored, used and disclosed in accordance with the records management practices and relevant legislation applicable to the schools of the Australian students involved in the homestay.

A copy will also be given to the family (ies) of the relevant homestay student(s).

Registration Deadline: ~~October 15, 2009~~
Extended until November 15, 2009!

Guidelines For U.S. Homestay Host Families

1. The Australian coaches will have legal liability for the students throughout their trip. Parents sign a consent form permitting the school and their staff to take care of the children and they do this knowing that the child will be on homestay and with whom. If children get ill or are hurt during homestay, the coach will become involved, so it is important that the coach is in homestay or in a hotel (the school's choice) near the students.
2. All Australian students will have full medical and travel insurance for the duration of their trip up to US costing levels. Individual medical forms are provided for each student by their school and host families will be informed of any major conditions applicable to their student(s) and what to do in the case.
3. We encourage the host and Australian families to be in touch and get to know each other before the team leaves Australia, which is one reason why early placements are so important. The two families are therefore known to each before the student commences homestay.
4. There is no need for any US legal waiver to be signed by the Australian family as long as they have signed a consent form with their child's school for the homestay to occur and the details of that homestay have been specified.

Also, please provide the following information:

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Best phone number: _____

Best time to call: _____

Email Address (required): _____

November 15

Please copy, sign, date and mail the above forms by ~~October 15~~, 2009, to:

MN Future Problem Solving Program

Attn: Cheryl Whitesitt, Executive Director

PO Box 8, 10299 County Road 18

Brownsville, MN 55919

Thank you!