

A Handbook for Interns & Short-Term Teams



A non-profit organization dedicated to reaching children with the love of Christ through sports, recreational and educational activities

www.goodsportsinternational.org



A Letter to Interns,

Hello! I just wanted to say thanks for thinking about joining us in Eastern Europe. We sure could use your help! Up front, you are joining us in God's plan for this part of the world. We are truly just part of His supporting cast.

Our goal in GoodSports is to use sports and whatever activity it takes to establish relationships with people. Through relationships we can share our faith and the love of Jesus Christ. We have a long-term view on establishing those relationships, but have clearly seen that short-term visits from teams and individuals have a definite impact on children's lives.

What does a GoodSports Internship look like? Here are the basic guidelines we use with our interns. It is taken from our GoodSports Charter and by laws. I can send you the whole document, if you like boring reading. (version 3, revised 3 Feb 2009)

1. GoodSports Interns

- a. GoodSports has developed an internship program that will enable college students to experience sports ministry in action. Working side-by-side with GoodSports national directors, these young adults will learn how to plan and administer camps and other sports ministry events.
- b. By spending an extended time in practical hands-on ministry, interns will experience the inevitable ups and downs of this sort of work. They will have to work through cultural differences and language barriers and learn how to balance personal spiritual development along side ministry development.
- c. Internships can range from several weeks up to a year in length and can be tailored to meet the requirements of the intern's accredited university, if he or she is serving his internship for college credit.
- d. Requirements are simply that the intern is ready to work, has a teachable spirit, has raised the support necessary to support him/herself during the internship, and has a personal, growing relationship with God through Christ.

Please let me know if you have any specific questions about the internship program; if needed it is possible to tailor your internship to meet the requirements of an accredited University.

This is a LOT of material, but it is my hope that it will answer many of the questions you have about GoodSports International. When you have finished reviewing this information please contact me to set-up a personal interview. This interview is not only for us to learn more about you, but is also a time for you to ask any questions and voice any concerns you may have. After the personal interview I will be asking for your completed application form and signed Code of Conduct.

I want to invite you to learn more about this ministry. Browse through the enclosed materials, visit our website www.GoodSportsInternational.org or contact me! I would love to tell you more about the amazing ministry opportunities that await you.

Kara M. Fulop
International Director
GoodSportsGSI@gmail.com

Russell J. Chun
Executive Director - Hungary
goodsportshungary@gmail.com



Statement of Faith

We Believe:

That the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are inspired by God and inerrant in the original writings, and that they are of supreme and final authority in faith and life.

In one God, the Creator, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

That Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary and was and remains true God and true man.

That God created Adam and Eve in the divine image; that they sinned, and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God; and that, as a result of Adam's sin, all human beings are now born with a sinful nature and stand guilty before God.

That the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice; and that all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood.

In the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into Heaven, and in His present life there for us, as High Priest and Advocate.

In the blessed hope of the personal and imminent return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

That all by faith who receive the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God. This authentic faith is verified by a person's obedience to Christ, which leads to good works.

That the Holy Spirit indwells and gives spiritual life and gifts to all believers, enables them to understand Biblical truth, empowers them for godly living and equips them for service and witness.

In the bodily resurrection of the just and unjust, the eternal blessedness of all who received grace, and the just punishment of all who reject grace.



Why & How We Do What We Do

GoodSports was born during the fall of communism out of a desire to bring joy to latchkey kids through sports programs.

Today, the organization sponsors baseball teams, summer camps, horse camps, and English programs among other sports and educational activities. We serve the children of cities, towns, and villages. We reach out to the orphans and the Roma (gypsy) as well as other underprivileged children.

Our programs create the opportunity for missionaries and missions teams to share their lives with the youth of these nations, and in doing so, infuse joy, hope and opportunity into their world.

In 1 Thessalonians. 2:8, Paul writes, “Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.” Sharing our lives is what GoodSports is all about. By sharing our lives, we quite naturally share the Lord of our lives, Jesus Christ.

Whether it is through sports teams or English lessons, GoodSports is determined to do all we can to make sure the youth of Central Europe know there is God who loves them. We hope you will prayerfully consider joining us in whatever way the Lord leads.

Who? Who Else?

As you work on the field God will call you to work with specific people; this is your “who.” In the course of your time in country you will connect with your “who,” share your life and your faith with them.

“Who else” is going to follow-up in person with your “who?” This is the Internet age, and you will keep in touch via Facebook and email, but this is not a replacement for person-to-person mentorship and discipleship. Your “who else” is a Hungarian Christian that will be there for your “who” after you leave the country.

This may seem like a daunting task, but remember, God is in control. We have an amazing pool of Hungarian Christian translators, and local Hungarian churches that we work with. They will work with you on the field to assist you in communication and understanding cultural differences. They are also there to follow-up with those who are curious about God, or are new believers.

In short, GoodSports is in this for the long haul. We are not a love ‘em and leave ‘em organization. We believe that working with local believers is essential, especially for mentoring and discipleship purposes.



What Goes On During the Year?

Throughout the year we are engaged in the following activities:

- Orphanage Ministry. Includes weekly Bible Studies, craft workshops, sports clinics, and holiday celebrations (Easter, Thanksgiving & Christmas).
- Baseball & Softball. Includes practices, weekly team Bible Studies, games, and field and equipment maintenance.
- LOGOS Language School. Includes group courses and one-on-one courses. As well as “special events” where we introduce American customs and culture in an engaging and interactive way (for example: Groundhog Day, America’s Independence Day, Thanksgiving, etc.).

Summer

Summer is slightly different as we move into our camp season. The camp participants are the people we come into relationship with in the above activities (Orphanage Ministry, Baseball and Softball, and LOGOS Language School). Our annual camps include:

- LOGOS Language School camp. A day camp for children in Elementary School. Includes English, crafts, games, and sports.
- Mikepércs Camps. A day camp for the children of the Mikepércs village. Includes English, crafts, games, and sports.
- Orphanage Outreach Camp. An overnight camp held at Dorcas Camping Center for the orphans who participate in our programs during the school year. Includes Bible study, English, crafts, games, and sports.
- Baseball Camp. An overnight camp at Dorcas Camping Center where 2-3 European baseball teams come together for a week of drills, scrimmage, fun, and Bible study.



Spiritual Support

Who is on your prayer team? This is a vital part of working with GoodSports. It is very important to never take on any ministry/mission opportunity that is not covered with prayer. We strongly encourage you to invite your home church, Bible study group, family, friends, etc to join you on the mission field by praying for you. This is an essential element for every missionary.

Who is your member care person? This is a new re-working of a standing requirement that GoodSports interns be held spiritually accountable. We now require that you “bring” your accountability person with you, and into the loop. This could be your mentor, a pastor (or pastor’s wife), a family member, a professor, etc. Ideally this is someone that you are already in an accountability relationship with. While you are on the field in Hungary you will continue that relationship with weekly Skype/phone talks. This person needs to be on board with being your member care person; they will exchange contact information with the Country Director and myself, and may from time-to-time be privy to some of the GoodSports International Board correspondence (as is pertinent to give them insight to the situations you may/will find yourself in). I cannot stress how important this position is. Missionaries and interns come under tremendous pressures: living in a foreign country and spiritual conflict. This person is in place to make sure you do not “burn-out.”

Financial Support

All GoodSports staff and interns are required to raise their own support. Everything is done on a volunteer basis, allowing us to put all money raised by the organization directly into the programs.

How will you finance your trip? Asking for money is never fun, but my missions pastor gave me a new perspective on it. Through prayer, finances, or both, you are inviting people to be a part of what God is doing in Hungary, and in you. If you need help working out your budget or writing up your support letter please let me know.

Are you intending to process funds through your home church, or through GoodSports? Your donors will want a tax-deductible receipt. If you intend to process through GoodSports we need to set you up with the agency that processes our funds (Faith and Learning International) as they have a separate application process. Please contact the International Director to learn more about this process.

Expenses

There are many factors that can influence the cost of a missions trip/internship with GoodSports, such as time of year and the length of your trip. Here are some typical numbers to help you plan:

Cost of standard camping accommodations at Dorcas Camping Center: \$10/person/night

Cost of food at Dorcas Camping Center: \$10/person/day

Cost of transportation from the airport to Dorcas (one-way): \$35-100/person*

**(cost varies based on the number of people in the car; the more people the cheaper the per-person cost)*

Thus, a short-term missions team coming to help for a one-week overnight Summer camp at Dorcas could expect to pay \$210 per person + cost of airfare.

Airfare is the most expensive and variable cost associated with any missions trip. Off-season tickets could be as low as \$700/person and High-Season tickets could be \$1,800+/person.



Helpful Hints

Missionary airfare is available when traveling solely for the purpose of missions. In the past our interns and teams have used Riverside Travel (<http://rivertrav.com/>).

We recommend that you check with the Center for Disease Control regarding recommended vaccines (<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/hungary>).

In the event that your medical insurance does not cover you Internationally you will need to obtain travel insurance. GoodSports International Inc. does not cover medical costs for anyone.

A visa is not always necessary. In the event that it is needed it is not difficult to obtain. If you have been to Europe either a) for more than 90 days in the last calendar year, or b) on more than one occasion in the last calendar year, you might need a visa. Please speak to the International Director about this.

American citizens are required to carry their passports at all times while in Hungary. We strongly recommend that you leave a photocopy of your passport and/or visa with a family member at home.

Girls do not hug boys. Boys do not hug girls. The appropriate greeting is either a handshake, or a kiss on each cheek.

The Hungarian culture is relational in nature. An invitation to someone's home is not usually given in a casual manner. Please keep this in mind as you minister to these children. It is important to note that in this culture, "If you're ever in (insert home country, state or city) you should come see me," is considered an invitation. As it would be considered rude to ignore or decline your invitation we ask that you kindly refrain from offering it.

It is very important for you to keep in touch with your support base (both spiritual and financial). How you choose to do this is up to you. Many of our interns have kept an on-line blog, others choose to use email, or a combination of the two. We ask that if you publish materials on-line (via blog, facebook, etc) that you respect the privacy of the people you are working with. Do not publish names or personal stories without express permission from that person and/or their legal guardian. If you have any questions please ask the Country or International Director before publishing.



GoodSports Intern Sample General Contract

To:
Date:
From Russell Chun, GoodSports International Director

The following is a draft general agreement for your work with GoodSports International. This draft will be reviewed by both parties (GSI and ----) and after corrections are made and will be made active when signed for the period ----- to -----. A joint 3 month joint review (end of month, -----, will be conducted to determine if work load needs to be altered to meet current needs.

A lot depends on your anticipated work schedule, so GoodSports is flexible on the time and energy you can put into the below tasks. You have the responsibility to communicate your schedule and plans to Russell monthly (what you can and cannot do).

Additionally, it is expected that GoodSports Interns have a dynamic walk with God. How you do this is up to you. Some expectations; 1) attendance at a local church (of your own choice), 2) participation in a weekly bible study group, and 3) engage in an accountability relationship with another Christian of the same gender (see "Member Care" in the handbook).

Your experience and talents are well suited to the Mission of GoodSports. We hope that you will be able to assist us in our GoodSports tasks. At the conclusion of the -- month period, by mutual agreement, _____ is free work with GoodSports as either a partner, a missionary volunteer or to leave GoodSports International.

Job Description: Several basic tasks exist. At the 3-month review period, these tasks can be altered, added to or deleted as needed.

Task 1: _____
Task 2. _____
Task 3. _____
Task 4: _____
Task 5. _____

What GoodSports can expect from _____

Task 1: Further Explanation of Task.
Task 2: Further Explanation of Task.
Task 3: Further Explanation of Task.
Task 4: Further Explanation of Task.
Task 5. Further Explanation of Task.

What YOU can expect from Trudy and Russell:

1. Prayer support
2. One-on-One TIME: regularly scheduled monthly meetings
3. Support letter assistance – counsel, editing.
4. Counsel/Mentoring – accomplished during our times together
5. Evaluation of current activities/programs and how to transition out of them
6. Evaluation of future activities/programs you have planned

Chun, Russell

Date: _____

Date: _____



GoodSports International Intern Application

Applicant

Name: _____

Birth date: _____

Passport Number & date of expiration: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Home Church & Phone Number: _____

Proposed Service Dates:

Beginning: _____ Ending: _____

Member Care (see page 6)

Name: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone 1: _____

Phone 2: _____

Email: _____



Essay Questions: (you can answer on separate sheets)

GoodSports asks all interns to take time to reflect on these questions and write thorough essay answers.

1. How did you come to Christ and how has your relationship with Him impacted your life?
2. Why do you think sports, or English can be an effective tool for ministry? (note: If you have other gifts like ART or music, how do you hope to use these talents?)
3. Why do you want to do an internship with GoodSports? What do you expect to learn?
4. Have you had any previous experience on the mission field? If so, explain.
5. Are you doing this internship for college credit? If so, please detail the school's requirements.
6. What do you believe to be the role of a missionary in a foreign land in relation to believers there?
7. Have you had experience in cross-cultural ministry? What are your expectations regarding it?
8. Please give us three personal references that can speak to your suitability for mission work. Email addresses (please).



GoodSports Code of Conduct

- We affirm that the scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the ultimate guide for our values, attitudes and behaviors in all relationships.
- We will seek to foster the development of spiritual maturity through maintaining a personal devotional life and through participating in community worship and prayer.
- We will seek to keep the unity of the Spirit to the bond of peace, and in gentleness, patience and humility, accept one another in love.
- We will seek to encourage one another to mature in Christ-likeness through attempting to speak the truth in love on the sports field, on the courts, in social relationships and in all the areas of our common life.
- We will seek to encourage unity in families through responsible relationships.
- We will seek to respect and encourage our uniqueness in Christ, which includes our diversity of denomination, race, culture, personality, experience, gifts and goals.
- We will seek to become involved individually and corporately with the Church in ministering to spiritual and social needs within and beyond on race, sex, and socioeconomic status.
- We renounce behaviors such as distortion of God's word, deception, falsehood, drunkenness, stealing, and sexual immorality such as premarital intercourse, adultery and homosexual behavior.
- We believe where conflict or sin occurs in the GoodSports community, a Biblical process such as stated in Matthew 18:15-20 should be followed to seek correction, forgiveness, restitution and reconciliation.
- We will seek to practice an attitude of mutual submission according to the mind of Christ, recognizing that at times our personal rights and preferences must be put aside for the sake of other's conscience and the good of the organization.
- We will seek to encourage the cultivation of such spiritual attitudes as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
- We will not date underage participants of GoodSports programs.

I, _____ have reviewed the GoodSports of Conduct and personally commit to live according to the code. I understand that the policy of dismissal and mandatory recovery furlough may be implemented if violations of this code occur.

Signature _____ Date _____



GoodSports International Hungary Short-Term Missions Covenant

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Colossians 3:17

As a short-term missionary with GoodSports International I promise to:

1. Remember that I am representing Jesus Christ. I will model Jesus in my behavior and attitude at all times.
2. Remember that I am a guest working at the invitation of GoodSports International Hungary. I will respect the work that is going on in the country with the particular church(es) or person(s) with whom I am working. Recognizing that I am here for just a short while, but that GoodSports International Hungary is here for the long term, I will respect their knowledge, insights, and instructions.
3. Remember that I have come to learn as well as to teach. I will be open to learning about other people's methods and ideas. In suggesting changes I recognize that many things cannot be accomplished the way I have seen them done in the past due to culture, limited resources and or safety. I will respect the in-country leadership and their experience.
4. Respect the culture and customs of the country in which I am a guest.
5. Develop and maintain a servant attitude toward all nationals and my teammates.
6. Respect the GoodSports International leaders and their decisions. Recognizing that GoodSports has limited resources and their primary mission is serving the youth of Hungary, not act as my tour guide. I am present to serve as part of that mission. Any outings to the store, restaurants, hotels, and tourist sights around the country will be accomplished on my own time and with my own personal resources.
7. Recognize that the programs conducted do not allow GoodSports to cater to needs or preferences I may have in the way of diet, accommodations, transportation, etc. I am present to serve and will not allow my needs or preferences to become a burden to others.
8. Refrain from gossiping and complaining. Travel can present numerous unexpected and undesired circumstances, but the rewards of conquering such circumstances are innumerable. Instead of whining and complaining, I will be creative and supportive.
9. Refrain from illegal drugs and activities while on this trip.
10. I agree to be flexible and serve in whatever service area is allowed and open to me on the mission field.
11. Maintain full responsibility for my personal health and well-being, finances, actions and behavior.

Printed Name

Signature

____/____/____
Date

