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Denver Bulldogs Scholarship Program

The Denver Bulldogs are looking for one or two Good Australians to continue the USAFL tradition of a scholarship recipient spending a summer in the USA, and to be a part of the club for a season (May thru October). The focus of the scholarship is to provide an opportunity to live and play Australian Football in the USA. The player is expected to fulfill coaching, junior development and club development responsibilities. The experience includes the flexibility to travel throughout the U.S. during the summer and participate in the quintessential American summer experience that is offered in Denver and the nearby mountains (Major League Baseball game, Brewery tours, the Ladies!).

The Denver Bulldogs are the most successful USAFL team, having just won our 8th USAFL men's title (out of 14) and recently, back-to-back USAFL Women's Championship's.

In exchange the club will work to find part-time work through a sponsor and billeting arrangements through one of its players. This is a great opportunity to have footy show you the world.

Please send a letter of interest and resume to the Club President at president@Denverbulldogs.com.

Denver Bulldogs Club Responsibilities:

- Provide opportunity to live in and experience another culture while playing Australian Football with a local club.
- Ensure you experience the Denver life in the summer.
- Cover club (\$60) and USAFL registration dues (\$100).
- As an amateur club we do not have the resources to provide any financial support to a player.
- To facilitate the process the club will:
 - Provide accommodation at a club member(s) homes.
 - Provide opportunities for cash projects with club members and friends.
 - Offer transport assistance to all club games and events.



Scholarship Player Requirements/ Responsibilities:

- A time commitment of June 1 thru USAFL National tournament (October 13/14th).
- Valid driver's license.
- Valid credit card (Visa or Mastercard) with a minimum of \$1,500 line of credit.
- Immediate access to \$3,000 cash.
- Travel costs to and from Australia at the player's responsibility. As are any trips within the USA.
- Three letters of reference from the following people: (must be within the last three years)
 - Club Coach;
 - Club President; and
 - Employer.
- Attend all club training and workout sessions (including all "*optional*" sessions) while in Denver (time off will be given for personal travel around the U.S.).
- Attend all club social functions.
- Attend all games. This includes all travel games and associated costs.
 - This needs to be a full season in order to be eligible for Nationals under the United States Australian Football League (USAFL) rules. (Minimum of three points).
- Take a leadership role within the club that matches your experience (i.e.: club training or fitness sessions).
- Maintain a high standard of fitness. This includes self-training sessions if formal club sessions are limited.
- Timely completion of work projects that are arranged by club members.
- Obtain a six months tourist Visa.
- Be a responsible house guest and assist with daily household tasks (from washing dishes to mowing the lawn). Please plan on covering your personal food expenses.
- Note: Scholarship is for one season only. Any additional season will be the sole responsibility of the player and will be treated as a regular team member by the club.



Visa Information:

Apply for a B2 visa. It's a 12 month, multiple-entry holiday visa. Cost is roughly \$160. You can get either the 12 month or a 5 year. The club suggests scholarship players get a 12 month visa. It is fairly easy to get the visa, but it is a long process and a lot of documentation – so be prepared. You will need to fill out forms online on the U.S. Embassy website, book an interview at the U.S. Embassy or consulate in your State, wait a few weeks for your interview, and then pass the interview. They will then take your passport that day and post it to Canberra (the main U.S. Embassy), where they will stamp your visa. You will get your passport back about 5 days later.

The documents you will need:

- Letters from friends/family saying that you had places to stay while you are travelling through America. The club can supply this documentation.
- Bank balances and credit card statements.
- Proof that you have work to go back to in Australia (Ex: land tax and title deeds documents, water bills, power bills, etc.)

If you plan to come for less than three months (after talking to club) you can go the route of getting 90 day Visa Waiver Program. You do not need interviews and it costs about \$20-\$30. The key is to be prepared as the B2 Visa takes some time and organization on your part.

Travel Insurance:

We suggest you get some sort of travel insurance. Potential providers can be found online like Medibank Private Travel Insurance. This should cover you while you are playing footy in the U.S.

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