

This past July, members of Lake Norman Soccer Club's Eclipse program traveled to Germany and Denmark for two weeks. The team played several friendly matches against German and Israeli teams and competed in two tournaments – first the Lion's Gold Cup in Ratzenburg, Germany and then the famous Dana Cup in Hjørring, Denmark.

In Germany, the team members stayed with local families and experienced German life first hand. The girls made friends and learned a lot. They were also able to visit a WWII concentration camp, speak with a Holocaust survivor and visit several towns that date back to medieval times.

In the Lion's Gold Cup, the team participated simultaneously in the U15 and U17 age brackets. The team performed well, winning the U15 bracket and taking second place (with a loss on penalty kicks) in the U17 bracket.

The team headed to Denmark to compete in the world's third largest and most international tournament. This year's Dana Cup featured 811 teams from 46 countries. The team won 8 straight matches to win the gold medal, winning the final match 2-0 in front of over 3000 fans over Swedish team Sandakerns SK. From Dana Cup's own website: "This Saturday at Dana Cup Sandåkerns played against a much better team. The players from Lake Norman Eclipse were more fit and skilled and fully deserved winning."

Overall, the team finished the trip with a very impressive record of 27-2-1, Scoring 91 goals in regulation play, while allowing just three. More importantly, the team had a great time, became closer and learned a lot about the world.



