

Hello!

I'm 16-years-old girl from Finland and I'd like to come to the U.S. as an exchange student in the fall of 2012. My favorite hobby is orienteering and I'd like to have a host family which has orienteering as hobby too. So I'm sending this e-mail to different American orienteering clubs and hoping that I'll find family which would be my host family.

My name is Lilja and I live in Raisio. I go to Aurajoki Sport high school in Turku and I'm member of our school's coaching crew. I'm also member of Turun Suunnistajat orienteering club. Sports is very important to me and I'd like to continue exercising during my exchange student year.

I started orienteering when I was about 6 years old. My dad took me to a practise and that's how it started. Now I'm competing actively and orienteering is a big part of my life. It has brought me lots of good friends and great experiences during the years. It would be great to be able to do orienteering in USA and get to know local orienteers. I could also help your club with all kinds of event and exercise arrangements etc.

I chose USA because I want to learn English well and I'm very interested in American culture and way of life. I have studied English for 8 years now, so I can some English.

All the arrangements concerning my exchange student year will be done by one Scandinavian exchange student organization. My host family and your orienteering club wouldn't need to do any arrangements with the high school, etc.

Please, I ask you to share my letter with your club members and inform me if some of them would be my host family during my exchange year. The host family will be contacted by the student exchange organization after the deeper discussion between family and me.

If needed, I'll give additional information about myself and my exchange year plans with pleasure.

Thank you for your help in advance. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Best regards, Lilja Österman