



Announcement Re: 2017 Deaflympic Games in Samsun, Turkey

October 26, 2016

We regret to inform you that the USA Deaf Soccer Association (USADSA), comprised of the US Deaf Men's and US Deaf Women's National Teams, will not be attending the 2017 Deaflympic Games in Samsun, Turkey. The decision was made based on concerns for the safety and well-being of the USADSA organization and its members as a whole.

As evidenced by recent events, Turkey has become a tumultuous country and a decidedly unsafe place for travelers. The U.S. State Department has placed travel cautions on Americans traveling to Turkey. These recent events, as well as feedback from the USA Deaf Sports Federation, the U.S. State Department, and various other sources, required the USADSA board members to seriously deliberate our attendance to the upcoming 2017 Deaflympic Games.

After careful thought, discussion, and assessing the feedback of the USADSA members, the USADSA board members determined that it is in the best interests of our players, coaches, staff and families to abstain from traveling to Turkey.

The decision was not easy, considering the importance of the Deaflympics to our organization, our country, and the Deaf community. However, we are confident that we are making the best possible decision for everyone involved with USADSA. We are grateful for the support of family, friends and organizations.

Plans for summer of 2017 are to be determined. As soon as decisions are official, a public announcement will be made. Please keep this information confidential until you see an announcement on our website.

For any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to reach out to Men's Representative Chris Jones: menrep@usdeafsoccer.com or Women's Representative Meghan Maiwald: womenrep@usdeafsoccer.com.

Thank you and GO USA!

Sincerely,

USADSA Board