



Welcome to the BSA Contingent Management Team/International Service Team

134 Days to Go - The first official day of the 2015 World Scout Jamboree is closing in rapidly. Our units from across the country are forming, meeting, and preparing themselves for all that awaits them in Japan. Similarly, there are several things that all IST and CMT members need to be focusing on as July approaches. Those include:

- Assuring you have a valid passport (good for 6 months after the closing date of the Jamboree) and inputting your passport number into the travel arrangements form.;
- Solidifying your personal travel arrangements and inputting into the registration system;
- Getting a physical, filling out all your medical forms, and turning them in by May 15th;
- Ensuring you are caught up on your payment schedule;
- Responding to the request (in article below) for requested tenting partner in Japan; and
- Then packing judiciously once your WSJ duffle bag and daypack are delivered to you.

So as you can see, there are still lots of things to be done between now and July, so start your own countdown and accomplishment timelines to assure you're ready to travel to Japan, and participate as a member of the BSA's IST/CMT team.

Recruitment, Recruitment, Recruitment - There is still room for both youth participants and ISTs at the Jamboree. While registration will close at the end of March, so as to provide solid numbers to the Japanese WSJ team, there is time left to recruit youth and ISTs for this great experience. Thanks to those of you who have already gone out in response to the recruiting email you received, but we all know there are still kids you would love to join in on this great adventure. Keep up recruiting and getting them registered.

Registration Clean-up - For those of you who are receiving this eNewsletter and have not solidified your complete registration, we'd ask that you do that immediately. It is requested that all IST/CMT participants ensure their individual registrations are fully up to date. This involves completing a Full registration form, making initial payments and being on the prescribed payment schedule, and agreeing to and signing several documents (Code of Conduct, Medical Requirements, etc.) It is becoming critical time-wise that you complete all aspects of registration so that we can assure that we'll have everything ready for you when you arrive in Japan. Thanks for working on any registration clean-up required.

Request for Shared Tenting Accommodations - As has been indicated previously, due to space limitations, all BSA ISTs staying onsite will be tented two-to-a-tent.



The tents to be assigned are very similar to those unit tents utilized as the 2013 Jamboree, and are sufficiently large to accommodate two cots and personal gear.

Dimensions for the tent are 9'6" X9' with an interior height of 6'.

So as to provide you all the opportunity to pre-coordinate your Jamboree tentmate, it is requested that you go to the following site ([Click Here](#)) and provide us any information you have on a requested tentmate. This will facilitate a more orderly check-

in when you arrive at the WSJ. Please keep in mind the following when selecting the person you would like to tent with:

- Tents will hold two people only;
- Married couples may stay together in a tent;
- All non-related tentmates will be of the same gender; and
- Ear plugs will be provided!!!!

Packing for Jamboree - Closer to jamboree, you will be provided with a duffle and a daypack.



The Duffle will be similar to the one used at the 2013 National Scout Jamboree. It is a 110L bag.

The daypack (pictured right) is a 20L bag. It can hold a bladder for your water and a few other

items. (Bladder not included).



Japanese customs - The following are from a book by Roger Axtell entitled *Do's and Taboos of Using English Around the World*.

- Japanese have difficulty saying no because anything negative disrupts the harmony of a situation. Consequently, they seem to say yes to almost everything - which should be interpreted as "Yes, I hear what you're saying...but not necessarily I agree with you."
- Bowing is a traditional greeting and it is not an act of subservience. It is a sign of humility and respect.
- Proper posture is considered important, so avoid slouching in your chair or putting your feet up.
- Never do anything that will bring any form of embarrassment to a Japanese man or woman. This will cause a "loss of face."
- Never express affection in public, except with children.
- Smiling may be a way of hiding embarrassment.
- Showing a wide-open mouth (such as when laughing) is considered rude.
- Body language to know: Pointing with your fingers and loud sniffing of the nose should be avoided; direct eye contact is not common; and handshakes may be given with a limp hand.

23rd World Scout Jamboree Store

The Scout Association of Japan recently opened its on-line Jamboree store. You can buy now and avoid the long lines at the trading post. Some Scouters have already ordered from the Japanese site recently and the goods arrived promptly. Their site can be found at <http://bs-ent.jugemcart.com/>

Our own BSA Supply will be opening a Scoutstuff.org site for WSJ items in the future. You will receive a separate notification of that site coming on line.

Enroll in the STEP program from the State Department.

The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is a free service to allow U.S. citizens and nationals traveling abroad to enroll their trip with the nearest U.S. Embassy or consulate. By enrolling in this program you will receive safety alerts for your destination, help the U.S. Embassy contact you in an emergency situation or natural disaster, and help family and friends locate you in case of an emergency. To learn more and enroll in the program ([Click Here](#)).

Some One-Last-Things - The following items are just reminders of items previously reported:

- Getting to Jamboree Site - Please ensure your travel arrangements are solidified. If you need support from JTB, the travel agency working with the BSA, please contact them soon for support. ([Click Here](#)) to go to JTB travel site. They are no longer offering set pre or post tour scheduling, but they are still offering assistance with flight, train, and hotel arrangements.
- OA 100th Anniversary Gathering at WSJ - Bring your OA sash and participate in an OA 100th Anniversary gathering. We are planning on having a photo-shoot.
- Safe from Harm Training - Have not received materials yet, but you are reminded that in addition to being current with BSA's Youth Protection training, you'll need to complete youth protection training specific to the WSJ. Keep looking for these materials to be released, and complete appropriately.
- IST/CMT Fellowship and Thank-you Reception - A reception for all IST and CMT participants, hosted by the BSA Jamboree Contingent Leadership team will be held August 4th. As soon as that location and time are confirmed, we'll share that with you.
- Arrival and Departure Dates - With exception of a few CMT and pre-assigned IST, all IST are to arrive at the WSJ on Saturday, July 25th - which is first day housing and meals are available onsite. IST and CMT depart the WSJ site on Sunday, August 9th, except for those Region Contingent leaders traveling with Jamboree participants. They will depart with troops/crews on August 8th.

- Transportation from ports of entry in Japan to the jamboree site- Please be sure you report your travel arrangements thru the form on the registration site. It will help the transportation planners in Japan ensure that they have bus transportation for you from the port of entry to the jamboree site and back on the day and time you need it. They have assured us that they will work with your scheduled times - but keep in mind that you will be setting up your tent on site, so you may not want to do that in the dark.
- Medical forms - You will need to have completed and turned in your medical forms by May 15th. (Yes, we put this in the newsletter twice because it is really important you meet this date.) You should use the BSA medical form that requires a doctor's signature. Be sure to make your appointment with your doctor now so that you can complete and turn the form in on time.
- Some interesting "reads" - For your interest and review, please see the following documents that are available on the BSA WSJ website under the Resources tab: (<http://www.scouting.org/worldjamboree/resources.aspx>)
 - Guide to Participants - Provided to all BSA participants
 - Join-in Jamboree Guide - Published by Japanese Scouts
 - IST/CMT Newsletters #1 (Oct 14) & #2 (Jan 15)
- Zero Tolerance policy - There is a zero tolerance policy for any form of illegal drug use in Japan. While we don't foresee this as a problem for our IST/CMT, we want to make you aware that anyone caught in possession of illegal substances will face mandatory time in a Japanese prison.

Helpful Resources

BSA Registration site: [Click Here](#)

BSA World Scout Jamboree site - <http://www.scouting.org/worldjamboree.aspx>

BSA Online Training: www.myscouting.org

World Scout Jamboree Official Website - <http://www.23wsj.jp/>

Facebook page 23WSJ - <https://www.facebook.com/23WSJ2015>

WSJ 2015 Trading Post/Scout Shop: <http://bs-ent.jugemcart.com/>

Japanese travel bureau: <https://online.jtbusa.com/MICE/BSA/>

Boy Scouts of America World Scout Jamboree
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Boy Scouts of America Advancement Team | 1325 W Walnut Hill Ln | Irving | TX | 75038