

# Report 23rd World Scout Jamboree, Yamaguchi, Japan, 2015

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33.838 Scouts from 152 countries participated in this event. Also 8.000 International Service Team members (IST) were registered in order to do all available volunteer work for a smooth running Jamboree.

## Venue

The 23rd World Scout Jamboree took place from July 28 – August 8, 2015 in Yamaguchi, Japan. For IST the arrival date was July 25 and departure date 9 August. Below are the airports and train station located around the Jamboree site.



Fukuoka Airport, which is about 2 hours' drive away from Jamboree site, has direct flights to Incheon (Seoul), Hong Kong, Manila, Bangkok, Taipei, Singapore, Amsterdam and 12 other Asian cities.

Shin-Yamaguchi Station (Japan Rail, Shinkansen) will be the main gateway for those traveling to and from the Jamboree by train. Shin-Yamaguchi is about 4.5 hours from Tokyo and 2 hours from Osaka by Shinkansen (bullet train).

Yamaguchi Ube Airport, the airport closest to Jamboree site, has 9 flights to and from Tokyo daily. It is about 30 minutes' drive away from Jamboree site.

The ISGF booth was situated in the World Scout Centre area where also the booths are from WOSM, National Scout Organizations and organizations with whom WOSM has a partnership. ISGF was originally promised to get 2 x 3 meters but when no other organizations moved in this booth ISGF was allowed to take the whole booth (8 x 3 meters).

## Theme

“WA: a Spirit of Unity” is the theme for the Jamboree. The Kanji Character “和” (WA) embraces many meanings such as unity, harmony, cooperation, friendship and peace. WA also represents Japan and its culture. The Jamboree logo is created and based on the traditional Mizuhiki knot which represents the energy, new experiences and meetings at the Jamboree and the unity of the Scouts gathered worldwide. The three colours represent the Jamboree concepts: Energy, Innovation and Harmony.

## Participation in the World Scout Jamboree

During World Committee meeting March 2015 in Brussels, Belgium, the following has been decided.

*WOSM sent the invitation to ISGF to take part in the Jamboree offering the possibility for our Organisation to run an information booth or multiple workshops at the Global Development Village (GDV). At the receipt of the invitation and during the following recent weeks, various communications have been exchanged between the ISGF and WOSM regarding the practical aspect of the ISGF attendance. Based on the details collected, the WCom members present their points of view, while Wahid brings to light additional elements as to the GDV. After discussion, the decision is made: the ISGF will run an information stand in close cooperation with the ISGF AsPac Region. The latter will be contacted after that WOSM has confirmed information about the ISGF contingent.*

## ISGF WSJ team

As stated in earlier relationship statements between WOSM and ISGF, about the ISGF presence at World Scout Jamborees, *WOSM continues to promote and facilitate the presence of Adult Scout and Guides belonging to ISGF at World Scout Jamborees within the*

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## *International Service Teams.*

However this time the statement has not been signed yet and relationships with WOSM were frozen. Thanks to the efforts of ISGF World Committee members to restore dialogue, and after positive outcomes, the ISGF participation was granted less than one year before the event and a short time was remaining for the ISGF preparation. The ISGF was invited to register and to participate as a partner organisation with consultative status which meant that ISGF was authorized to choose between two options: either ISGF would run a workshop for young people on global development issues at the Global Development Village (GDV) and ISGF would have been able to register a maximum of 6 people, or to have an informational booth (World Scout Centre) with the possibility of registering 2 guests. Contrary to previous Jamborees, all discussions and decisions were held at the world bureaus' level.

It is noted that Srinath Tirumale, Administrative Director of the Office of the Secretary General of WOSM, did his utmost to facilitate and support the ISGF participation during in the last weeks before the opening of the Jamboree.

Owing to their respective agendas, Mida Rodrigues (chairman of ISGF World Committee) and Wahid Labidi (vice-chairman of ISGF World Committee) were not able to go to the Jamboree. The ISGF World Committee decided to work closely with the AsPac Region and asked the secretary of the AsPac region to come forward with two candidates, to be the ISGF representatives. This took some time and the following candidates were proposed on 21 May 2015: Jawad Hussain, member of the Maldives Scout and Guide Fellowship and Triadi Suparta, member of Hippradi, the Scout and Guide Fellowship of Indonesia. However they both needed to apply for a visa. Triadi received his visa on 8 July and Jawad on 22 July. Both members were appointed on invitation of the ISGF World Committee and received a budget of 1500 US\$ from ISGF to travel to the Jamboree while WOSM offered them a free registration and food fee, as a special gesture to the ISGF, while the accommodation was also on account of ISGF.

In addition, Leny Doelman (Central Branch Coordinator) and Willy Limbosch, from the Netherlands, both IST members, offered their support to the ISGF to set up the booth. Leny and Willy paid their own admittance as IST member of € 1210,00 per person to the Dutch Contingent and they also arranged their own travel expenses to the Jamboree. At the ISGF booth each team member received a supply of 50 printed business cards as being ISGF WSJ team member.

All IST members had to do the Safe from Harm test before they leave home and bring a printed certificate to the Jamboree.

## **Accommodation**

Leny and Willy had their tent in Southern Hub with their own National Contingent of the Netherlands while Jawad and Triadi were accommodated in Seminar Park, a nearby hotel and they needed to take the special shuttle bus to and from their hotel on fixed times.

## **Meals at Jamboree**

Breakfast was available in the Adult Restaurant from 05:00 till 10:00 hours. Corn flakes, milk, Yakult, bread, scrambled egg (sometimes baked), salad, coffee, tea.

After breakfast you needed to collect your lunch: Two kinds of bread, chips, banana, and a small package of lemonade. Dinner: From 17:00 to 22:00 hour where you get a basic meal. There was always a choice between rice and noodles

## **Outfit**

The first idea was to produce the polo shirt in Japan but after difficulties and owing to the short time remaining, Leny has to search quickly for a factory who can deliver 20 polo shirts within two weeks with a print. Each team member received 5 shirts for the whole Jamboree.

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On the front of the polo shirt there is an ISGF logo (7 x 7 cms) and on the back in white lettering "ISGF-AISG" "International Scout and Guide Fellowship". Stand holders has to wear the Jamboree scarf together with their identification card. Triadi and Jawad had to wear the special guest scarf and Leny and Willy their IST scarf.



## Display material

World Bureau and Leny discussed the display material for the booth. It was decided to contact the Contingent of the Belgian Scout Association to check if they would accept to take the material in their container. They agreed and the material was picked up on 22 May 2015 by Marc Bullens, and put on transport to Japan.

The following material was on its way:

*1 banner, 2 beach flags, 1 ISGF flag, table top display, laminated world map, ISGF leaflets 110 English and 44 French, B-P booklet "Old thoughts – new visions 5 English/French, 5 ISGF stickers 28,5 x 7,5 cms, 100 pens, 5 memo blocs.*

Later on we could not use the world map because we needed to mount this on a piece of plywood which was not available. We were being told that material such as plywood, bamboo flag poles for your booth had to be ordered far ahead when you applied for a booth.

Leny carried in her luggage the 20 polo shirts, 3.300 badges, laminated photos and cards for the quiz as the humidity in the tent destroys all material if not laminated. All photos had on the backside some strips of Velcro in order to attach to the display board.

Also added was an information map with the following documents:

*ISGF Fact sheet, What is ISGF about, Mission and vision, Structure chart of ISGF, Overview regions and sub-regions, ISGF folder, How to join, What is Central Branch, ISGF Constitution, Guidelines on use of ISGF logo, Stamp Bank, How to write a constitution, Application form membership NSGF, Structure International Development fund, Why belong to ISGF, Registration form Central Branch for individuals and groups, Directories of World Committee, Regions and sub-regions, National Presidents, International Secretaries, Central Branch groups, Central Branch individuals.*

## Expenses for the ISGF booth

20 ISGF polo shirts	€ 287,40	
3.800 ISGF Jamboree badges	€ 873,62	Distributed 2175 badges x 0,23 = € 500,25
50 ballpoints	€ 8.50	
3 memo blocs	€ 16.92	

## ISGF Stamp

A lot of Jamboree participants wanted to have their WSJ booklet stamped as they could earn a special Friendship Award if they visited five different booths at the World Scout Centre.

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A self-inking stamp with the following text in PMS 286 blue:



## Material supplied and ordered at the WSJ

One table 180 x 50 cms, three chairs and electricity for 2 x 3 meter booth

## ISGF Jamboree badge



After a tradition of various World Scout Jamborees, ISGF produced the special ISGF WSJ badge. The factory in the Netherlands did a great job to produce them in a limited time as we gave the order to print them at the moment that we were sure that we had a booth. 3.800 badges have been produced and 500 were sent to World Bureau to be sold in the ISGF Shop. The remaining 1125 badges from the Jamboree will also be sold via the ISGF Shop.

## ISGF Beach flags

Two Beach flags, which had been produced for the 2011 WSJ in Sweden, were very visible from a distance.



## Weather

In the beginning Japan was suffering from the tail of a typhoon which caused a lot of misery and broken tent poles. Strong winds of 30-40 knots per hour and gusts of 50 knots per hour with rain. Those with broken tents were urged to sleep in the Dome, the evacuation point for the Adult Southern Hub and emergency shelter. Later on the weather improved and it became above 35 till 40 degrees Celsius. Moreover the humidity was 80 percent and very hard to work in that kind of temperature. Because of the extreme heat it was not easy to work and we drank a lot of water and tried to look fresh and fit. Safety reports were distributed about how to avoid a heat stroke and skin troubles as many persons have come to the jamboree hospital due to sunburn and/or dehydration. Also many mosquitos were seen at the jamboree site.

The Japanese Army brought each day extra drinking water.

## Working in the ISGF booth

We had shifts for the team members. Working hours from 09:00 till 18:00 each day and they got twice a free morning or afternoon.

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At lunch time we sat in turns in a corner of the booth. Leny arranged a mailbox (pigeon hole) for ISGF at the Business Centre so we could read the minutes of the Heads of the Contingents meeting each day.

The organisation asked everybody to keep their booths open on the last days of the Jamboree until 12:00 hour on 7<sup>th</sup> August as there were still visitors coming in on the jamboree grounds. However, we noticed that in the morning a lot of booths started to break up their exhibition. We stayed open until 12:00 hour because we were with the full team so many hands available.

## Internet access

Internet was not optimal and we were disconnected during the day many times. The best possibility was from 07:00 till 09:00 hour. Because of the extreme heat the laptops had to be turned down otherwise they will automatically stop or in the worst case will discontinue forever.

## World Scout Jamboree Newspaper

Each day after dinner you needed to collect the official Newspaper of the 23<sup>rd</sup> World Scout Jamboree.

## Visitors in the booth

2175 visitors from all over the world visited the ISGF booth. Leny had made a quiz and the visitors had to find the solution on the display panels. After completion of the quiz they received a badge. That was a way to interest people and to make a chat with them. Most of them were the Scouts but also their leaders, IST members, ISGF members and visitors visited the booth. We found out that in several NSO's there is a "hidden" adult group who cannot get rid of the organisation because of the structure in that country. General speaking, ISGF was not known.

We received 3 new registrations for Central Branch in the USA of which one of them became life time member. Also a new ISGF member from Sudan registered.

The Central Branch group of South Africa paid their fee via a messenger of their NSO. ISGF received the first member from Thailand, Mrs Suleporn Ratanasuree and also the first member of Hong Kong, Mr. Neil LeRoy Bailey.

There are now **39 countries** in Central Branch.

Askin Üçvet, President of the existing Scouting Volunteers Association from Turkey arrived with a group and announced officially that the whole group of more than 200 will join ISGF.

Some visitors asked for the website address of the NSGF in their country or wanted to have a contact address of the International Secretary.

Leny noted down their questions and she will get in touch with the International Secretaries.

## Quiz

The questions in English, French and Spanish were simple but they had to look carefully at the displays.

	Question	Answer
1	What is the full name of ISGF?	International Scout and Guide Fellowship
2	When is it Fellowship Day?	25 October
3	How many countries are member of ISGF?	101
4	What is the website address of ISGF?	www.isgf.org
5	What happens with the proceeds of the Stamp Bank?	Put into the International Development Fund in order to support Guiding and Scouting

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## Visitors to the ISGF booth

Tuesday	28 July	100	100
Wednesday	29 July	190	290
Thursday	30 July	180	470
Friday	31 July	180	650
Saturday	01 August	390	1040
Sunday	02 August	125	1165
Monday	03 August	200	1365
Tuesday	04 August	260	1625
Wednesday	05 August	200	1825
Thursday	06 August	250	2075
Friday	07 August	100	2175

Approximately 5000 day visitors were expected to visit the WSJ daily. Day Visitors were able to visit the public access areas such as the World Scout Centre and the Plaza, but were not permitted to enter the Sub Camp Areas where the Scouts stay. However because of the extreme high temperatures these figures have not been reached.

## Appointments after World Scout Jamboree

Leny had four appointments after the World Scout Jamboree while she was traveling through Japan.

Dick Sakurai from Osaka: member of the Sundai Scout Club who insisted to have a chat in Tokyo with the president of this Club.

Kaichiroh Masuda from Tokyo: Board member of the Scout Association of Japan and also the president of Sundai Scout Club which is a club of Meiji University Roverscout OB & OGs. It is also a supporting group for Meiji University Roverscout Crew. The crew celebrated 90 years anniversary last year.

Loic Babarit from Tokyo: One of three Central Branch members in Japan.

Reiko and Toby Suzuki from Yokohama: Both Japanese Central Branch members were very busy at the Jamboree: Toby as Deputy Head Guest Services Department and Reiko as Head of Contingent Support. Leny had three days home hospitality with them, after her 8 days' vacation.

## Meningitis cases linked to World Scout Jamboree

Health officials investigated several cases of meningitis that may be linked to the 2015 World Scout Jamboree. The Swedish Public Health Agency reported that one Swedish participant was likely to have contracted the disease at the event. Two other cases were under investigation. Sweden's health authority is urging nearly 2,000 scouts to get preventive medical treatment, even if they're not feeling sick.

Three cases of meningitis have also been reported in scouts who returned home to Scotland. Officials from Health Protection Scotland have contacted others who travelled with the group and advised them to take antibiotics as a precaution.

## Suggestions

Planning a booth should be discussed with WOSM well ahead of time and ISGF members worldwide who have registered as IST member via their own NSO should be able to work in the ISGF booth on final selection through ISGF World Committee. The Scout World Jamboree is a worldwide event so there is no need to give preference to a Region.

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## Next World Scout Jamboree



The 24th World Scout Jamboree in 2019 will be held in the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve, New River Gorge, West Virginia, United States; to be co-hosted with Canada and Mexico.

Candidates for the 25th World Scout Jamboree in 2023 are Korea and Poland.