

Picture from a National Jamboree

The purpose of this information sheet is to encourage more National Scout and Guide Fellowships (NSGFs) and Central Branch (CB) members/groups to participate in the work of Stamp Bank. The idea is to offer guidelines for the use of members in each country.

1. WHY

One way of supporting the development of ISGF is by using the Stamp Bank. This can provide a local activity and finance projects locally, nationally and internationally.

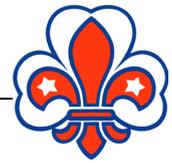
With the current use of e-communication tools, stamps become more and more wanted after use and if they are sold in countries different from their original issue they are even more valuable. There are still many people collecting stamps, so this is an opportunity.

In 1965, Guild members in Norway decided to collect and sell used stamps in support of WAGGGS and WOSM in any part of the world. In the beginning these two organisations joined in their efforts with the ISGF being responsible for the administration of the Stamp Bank. In 1987 at the World Conference in Coventry, UK, it was decided to reorganize the work of the Stamp Bank. The priority would be towards creating greater sales of the processed used stamps, and it was felt that this could be effectively implemented in the NSGF and not be entirely dependent upon anyone country, one individual or one small committee. The proceeds from the sales being sent to the International Development Fund annually.

The Stamp Bank is organized as a part of the NSGF. The Stamp Bank itself consists of a group of Guild members, with an interest in stamp collecting. The purposes of the Stamp Bank are to:

- to increase the interest in stamp collection among scouts and guides
- to increase the interest in collecting stamps with scouting and guiding themes
- have an interesting local activity
- to provide an interesting local activity
- to collect money for good purposes





2. ORGANISATION

A national Stamp Bank Team should be set up to organize the collection of stamps from the Local Scout and Guide Fellowships (LSGFs) and CB groups and the selling of all the stamps. It differs from country to country which stamps are the most valuable. The leader of the national Stamp Bank Team is called the Stamp Bank manager. It is valuable to have members of the Stamp Bank Team who are genuinely interested in stamps and have some knowledge in these matters.

The Stamp Bank group should, ideally, have some members who meet on a regular basis for instance once a month.

The Stamp Bank team find contact persons in each and every local fellowship (LSGF). These local contact persons are the most important people in the collection activity. Try to have a designated meeting in the local fellowship from time to time just to work with stamps.

The stamp bank team informs the local contact persons what is important in collecting stamps and handling the stamps. But in fact all used stamps are needed.

After collecting the stamps locally and initial sorting, they will be sent to the Stamp Bank.

The biggest challenge is how to engage the local guilds to collect and send stamps. At different meetings and gatherings, ask the guild members to bring stamps, and visit them to collect stamps.

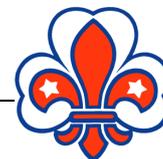
Another challenge is to have the time and sufficient knowledge to communicate what the Stamp Bank can offer. One way is to use the national magazine and the internet.



3. HOW TO COLLECT AND PREPARE THE STAMPS

The individual ISGF members are encouraged to collect all kinds of used stamps, first day envelopes etc. Such stamps can be collected from the individual members, family, neighbours, the work place, shops and hotels and from any other place that received postage stamps. In the National or Local Scout and Guide Fellowship (LSGF) there should be a member that is responsible for organizing cutting and sorting out the stamps. It is a very good activity to spend an afternoon or evening with many scissors cutting the stamps off the envelopes – a lot of talking and exchange of ideas and information can be done at the same time! When cutting, leave approximately 1 cm of envelope around the stamp.

How to contribute to Stamp Bank



After receiving materials from the different guilds, the following activities are done:

- The paper around the used stamps on envelopes or postcards are been cut away (close to the stamp ready for the philatelist to use water to get the paper) and sorted in two: national stamps and stamps from other countries. (This differs per country as some buyers want to have the stamps unsorted and unsoaked. In that case you put all the stamps in one box) When you have around 10 kg of stamps in the box, it is ready for sale and it is sealed. National kiloware is mostly very popular, but you can sell kiloware from all countries.
- Stamps without paper (washed stamps) are also sorted by country and sold by weight to dealers.
- Valuable stamps and collections are identified and sent to auctions at stamp dealers.
- Stamps with scouting and guiding themes are sorted and sold directly to scouts or others interested in this topic.
- First day covers are sorted out and sold by weight to dealer.

On special scouting occasions, such as National Jamborees, National Scout and Guide Guild Meeting, The Stamp bank can produce philatelic materials such as personalized stamps, special postmarks and special envelopes. These are of special interest to philatelists all over the world collecting stamps with scout/guide. They are also of interest as a souvenir for those taking part in the event



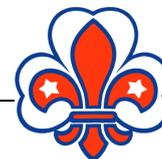
4. SELLING THE STAMPS

The stamps are sold during Scout/Guide/Fellowship events, exhibitions and auctions or you can contact a Stamp Bank Team from another country and get a better value for the stamps of your country.

In Norway they have a web-site frimerkebanken.no with pictures of all the postmarks from Norway with a scout theme. It also has pictures of a lot of scout stamps which have been issued through the years. Scouts on Stamps Society International (SOSSI) is a nonprofit philatelic organization specializing in the collecting, study, and enjoyment of stamps and other postal items celebrating the Boy Scout and Girl Scout (Guide) movements, see this [link](http://sossi.org/index.shtml) <http://sossi.org/index.shtml>

Having 18 – 20 boxes ready, they are been collected by the dealer used for this. The first option is to find a local or national dealer.

If it is difficult to find a local or national dealer, you might contact the dealer in Denmark mentioned below. It is the same dealer that the Danish Stamp Bank is using. Some dealers who are working with Nordfrim will collect the stamps if at least a ½ pallet (approx. 200 kgs) is ready or 1 pallet of approx. 400 kgs. This might differ from country to country.



How to contribute to Stamp Bank

Better stamps and collections are sold at auctions through national stamp dealers.

Used stamps from letters (kiloware) are sold to stamp dealers. National stamps are the most popular. Some stamps may also put aside for sale to national scouts/guides.

It is also possible to deliver your used stamps to ISGF countries where they already have a Stamp Bank. If it is difficult to find a local or national stamp dealer, it is possible to contact the Danish dealer:

NORDFRIM A/S
Kvindevadet 42
5450 OTTERUP
DANMARK

Tlf (+45) 64 82 12 56

mail@nordfrim.dk

www.nordfrim.dk

The owner of NORDFRIM is Erling Daugaard



5. HOW TO USE THE MONEY

This activity is aimed to generate some money. It is therefore necessary to handle this in a proper way and of course connect this to the accounting system of the NSGF. Normally the net surplus is divided between the national fellowship and the international development fund with a half on each.



Interested Scouts and Guides looking at stamps