

JOTA-JOTI 2009

16-18 October 2009

BULLETIN 2

SEPTEMBER 24th 2009



Greetings

There's less than one month to go for **JOTA-JOTI**, however don't panic.

JOTA-JOTI not only provides Scouts with the opportunity to meet other Scouts online or on air, it's also a real good excuse to make a weekend of it. JOTA-JOTI is one of those opportunities for Scouts to gather at Patrol, Section, Group, District or Regional level. It's all the same activity, just a difference of scale.

You can use the JOTA-JOTI weekend as a launching pad for a whole programme where Scouts can learn, earn badges, and have fun. The theme for 2009 is Climate Change. By basing programme activities on this theme, you can keep Scouts occupied and interested for the weekend.

It's Not Too Late

There's still time. Your most urgent action now is to tell people that the event is on, how to get there etc. There are many sources of information about JOTA-JOTI, however the primary source for Australia is at www.scouts.com.au – look under the INTERNATIONAL menu item. This site has information and links to information that you will need for a successful JOTA-JOTI.

JOTA

Many people set up for JOTA on Friday night for a couple of reasons; the first is so that everything is ready for Saturday, and the second is that JOTA-JOTI actually commences at midnight Friday, local time. I believe that in the past, a Midnight Net was conducted to start things off. So on Friday 16th October, at midnight local time, give a call on 3.650 MHz. Or give me an Echolink shout on VK6SH. I guess that means we hold three nets, or one long one, to accommodate all three timezones.

JOTI

The same start time applies, however we should remember that the Kiwis will have already started, and anyone is welcome to go online early. Try to encourage your youth members to find someone to talk to who is not physically in the same room. You'd be surprised to see how often that happens.

You also need to provide adequate supervision. Poor behaviour online may result in your whole group being banned. If such a thing happens, locate an online operator,

(their nickname has “@” in front of it), and find out what the problem was, deal with the problem, then advise the operator that you’ve dealt with the offending person(s), and the ban will be lifted. If you don’t have any luck, look for Australian operators Jabiru, Rama, Fridge who can assist you. Talk with them by using the command /query nickname (substitute their nickname) and a private chat window will open. Otherwise send an email to joti@scoutlink.net.au for help.

REGISTRATION – FOR JOTA AND JOTI

The global registration system is now open. The address is www.jotajoti.org This site provides more than registration. You can search for people to talk to, and find out how you may contact them. Each Group registered may create a BLOG of their activity, complete with photos. What a great way to share your JOTA-JOTI experience. I encourage every group, whether doing JOTA or JOTI or both, to register BEFORE the event.

There may also be a requirement to register or report your activity at Branch or Regional level. I encourage you to comply with that as well as using the global registration. Remember, leaders that you don’t have to do it all. Find someone who will share the load. Youth members can handle the registration and BLOG for you.

JOTA-JOTI BADGE

The JOTA-JOTI Badge is in stock now at your State/Regional supplier. Arrangements vary between Branches – look out for news from your Branch/Region.

PARTICIPATION CARDS

The artwork is available on the national website for download.

THE NATIONAL ADDRESS

The Governor General has recorded an address to Scouts and Guides for JOTA-JOTI. This address is broadcast at 1300 LOCAL TIME on the Saturday on Amateur Radio frequencies determined by your local JOTA-JOTI coordinators. The recording (MP3) is available for download from one week before JOTA-JOTI for those who wish to broadcast or simply play it to their local audience. All Scouts and Guides should be given the opportunity to listen to the speech. You will find the recording on the JOTA-JOTI section of the National Website.

Good luck with JOTA-JOTI. I hope that Scouts of all ages in your group will enjoy the weekend. Please remember to register, take plenty of photos, and complete your weblog after the event.

Bob Bristow
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Scouts Australia