

**SCOUTS-L**

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**WORLD**

**JAMBOREE 1999**

Date: Sat, 9 Nov 1996 18:38:08 -0700 (MST)  
From: Amick Robert <amick@spot.Colorado.EDU>  
To: jambo97@hoplite.org  
Subject: Re: JAMBO97 Re: World Jambo '99 Chile

I was fortunate to have served as a First Assistant Scoutmaster for one of our Region's World Scout Jamboree troops in 1995, so will try to share some of my experiences and input for the 1998-99 WSJ in Chile.

Applications for youth participation in the BSA contingent to the World Jamboree will probably be available in council offices, sometime in early to mid-1997. Because the Jamboree is in the southern hemisphere it is in fact scheduled for December 1998-January 1999 (see web page referenced in earlier posts for details). Applications for Leader positions and for US contingent staff and service staff will also be available in this time frame. Troop and Post adult leaders are selected by application and interview from each region/area, rather than by council. Since our area encompassed multiple states, we had leaders from three different councils/states. Similarly we had Scouts from multiple councils/states.

Contingents to the World Jamboree are organized by regions. Each area of the region will be allocated one or more troops based on Scouting membership/population of the area. Applications are taken on a first come, first served basis until troops are full. The cost for each Scout and Leader for our contingent from Western Region to the Holland Jamboree last year, was just under \$4000, including airfare and travel to the departure city (Los Angeles). In the past age requirements have been 13 thru 17 by about one month prior to the start of the Jamboree, (and first class rank for Scouts) or 14-20 for Explorers.

Each region is allowed a certain number of troops; usually allocations are not completely filled due to cost. However, once the authorized troops are filled, applications received after that go on a waiting list for cancellations, so early application is a good idea. Usually a \$100 deposit is required with the application to hold a spot; payments are then set up in increments (every few months) until the full cost is paid.

Additional costs outside of the fee will result for uniforms, trading/friendship gifts, film, souvenirs, snacks, special troop memorabilia/insignia such as neckerchiefs, tee shirts, WSJ emblems. We recommended to our Scouts to use a credit card to minimize currency exchange problems and take advantage of the most current rate of exchange, and it worked very well.

We also provided a "friendship" business card with a picture of the Scout on the card, and his home address, phone, e-mail address to be presented whenever friendship gift exchanges/trades were conducted or any other appropriate time; this worked very well and is also recommended for each Scout attending the National Scout Jamboree.

**At the Holland Jamboree, Explorers were recruited to fill a Regional Jamboree Explorer Post of 36 Explorers and four adult advisors; Explorers can be up to age 21, so this may create some opportunities for Explorers over age 17 or Scouts who join an Explorer Post. Since Exploring is coed, female members are also welcomed as Jamboree participants.**

**In light of these costs, it is a good idea to start promoting the Jamboree \*now\* to allow Scouts (and leaders) time to apply. Most councils appoint a World Jamboree Committee or Chairman to promote participation, but may not actually be active or in place until mid-1997 which is "kind of late in the ball game" to start active recruiting.**

**As with recruiting for the National Jamboree, it is recommended that "teams" of Scouts and Leaders who have attended a World Jamboree be recruited to make presentations, including videos, slide shows, displays of WSJ "Jamboree Junk" (memorabilia, souvenirs, trading items/friendship gifts, etc.) The Holland Jamboree produced an excellent video which gives a very good idea of what the Jamboree is about, and would be an excellent audiovisual aid to show at recruiting meetings. We have had very good luck taking the presentation to individual troops at a court of honor or a special jamboree recruiting meeting where the bulk of the meeting is devoted to the jamboree presentation. Parents must be present to see what is involved and good information on costs and suggestions for fundraising by Scouts will be welcomed.**

**It is highly recommended that current Council Committees working on the National Scout Jamboree, remain in place and concurrently promote participation in the World Jamboree even as they prepare for the National. The time between the two events is relatively short, and getting Scouts interested, and lined up to earn/save money for the event can be very critical to making the opportunity available to as many Scouts as may be interested or able to go. There are a few Councils on this list who have maintained a "standing" Jamboree committee and have been highly successful in recruiting large numbers of Scouts because they have started early and gotten the word out quickly. Similarly, this can and should be done for the World Jamboree!**

**If your council is not moving quickly on setting up promotion for the World Jamboree, volunteer to help get it started and recruit others to assist so you can start promoting/recruiting Scouts now.**

**Few Scouts will be able to do both a National and a World Jamboree, but those who cannot do National this time, may want to concentrate on attending the World Jamboree. They are two significantly different and certainly worthwhile experiences; truly both are "once-in-a-lifetime" quality events and well worth the cost. We have had Scouts who have worked very hard and been able to attend both a World and National within two years of each other, so it is possible, and in fact it is very beneficial for a Scout to have attended a National Jamboree, prior to attending a world jamboree to get a feel for the jamboree experience, but it is certainly not essential.**

**Holland hosted about 28,000 Scouts from 160 countries; the US sent**

**about 2000 Scouts. In 1987-88 the US sent about 3000 Scouts to Australia.**

**For anyone interested in further details, I would be happy to share additional information or discuss participation, etc.**

**Bob Amick, Explorer Advisor, High Adventure Explorer Post 72, Boulder, CO and Council Jamboree Promotions Chair, Longs Peak Council**