

Information for Pre-Jamboree Meetings

As more and more details become available about Jamboree 2022, you may like to arrange a meeting with your girl members and their families to help demystify Jamboree, answer any questions and get the girls excited for GirlGuiding New Zealand's biggest event. It is a great idea to have your Local Coordinator or Regional Hub Coordinator at these meetings if possible, and of course those leaders who are experienced Jamboree-goers to help provide context and background!

Many girls and leaders may not have attended Jamboree before. Take this chance to get them excited early, and start thinking about fundraising now.

Jamboree 2022 will take place from 8 - 15 January 2022 at Mystery Creek Event Centre in the Waikato.

The Ranger and Guide Jamborees will run side by side, with some shared activities, but their own programmes.

Jamboree is a time of huge growth for the girls. They form new friendships with girls from up and down New Zealand. They discover strength and resilience they didn't know they had. They conquer physical and mental challenges. Be prepared for a different girl to come home!

Group structure and COVID-19

- The COVID-19 pandemic has had a huge impact on the planning for Jamboree 2022. As part of our planning for 2022 we have rigorous health and safety plans, which include modifying the Group structure to accommodate alert level changes.
- Each Jamboree Group will be 300 people, able to be split into three groups of 100 (adults and girls) to allow us to continue at Alert Level 2.
- Each Guide Jamboree Unit will be 28 girls with supporting leaders. Each Ranger Adventure Unit will be between 15 - 25 girls with supporting leaders.

What to bring

- Each girl will be allowed a maximum of two pieces of luggage. Label everything, including luggage, ditty bag and clothes. Duct tape and a marker are helpful for labelling the outside of luggage clearly.
- Make sure the girl can manage her own luggage, as she will need to carry it from the site entrance to her tent.
- No stretchers allowed at Jamboree for girls. Closed-cell mats, foam sleeping mats or inflatable mats are all good options. Remember to pack a repair kit for inflatable mats.
- To save 'exploded bag syndrome' at the end of camp get the girls to pack their own bags before going so that they can see where each piece goes.
- It is best to wrap bedding in a water proof ground sheet or dry sack so that it does not get wet.
- There will be a shop at Jamboree where the girls will be able to buy snacks, drinks and souvenirs. A debit (eftpos) card is the best option here. \$10/day is more than enough - discuss spending and budgeting with your girl before Jamboree.
- During Jamboree girls and leaders will wear uniform or event shirts. Sashes and badge tabs should be left at home.
- A bum bag or waist pouch is a great way to manage small possessions during Jamboree, and can be easily picked up at the beginning of each day. Think about something big enough to hold a purse, camera, mini first aid kit, sanitary items, lip balm and so on.
- Please don't send your girls along with expensive cameras, cell phones, jewellery or jandals for safety reasons. There will be limited facilities for charging cell phones and with more than 1,500 girls it is hard to keep track of valuables. Shoes with a back strap are best. Jandals can be worn in the shower though

and a 'shower bag' is helpful such as a lightweight or mesh bag which can have their washbag, facecloth and sanitary items in to carry to showers. Then they can get changed back in their tents as there is not a lot of room to put things down in the showers.

- Even if your daughter has not started her period then please send sanitary items along with her and have 'the talk' with her before she goes. With 2000 girls and women in the one place it causes all sorts of things to happen...their period included. It's also helpful to explain that they can't go swimming with a sanitary pad on as well as this can be an awkward situation if they are not aware of this.
- A good idea is to put clothes into plastic bags for each day that they are away i.e. 7 plastic bags of clothes, one bag for each day.
- Send along at least one bin liner bag for them to put their dirty clothes in and one spare in case things don't fit back in at the end of camp. You will certainly smell us before you see us at the end of Jamboree. The girls are so busy with activities that they do not have time for washing so clothes will come back, smelly, dirty and ready for a good soak. For this reason do not send along good clothes. The girls will need their uniform for travelling in, but the rest of the time they can wear any clothes, however guiding colours and the colours of their colour groups are more appropriate and preferred. The Salvation Army or local charity shop is a great option to shop at as these clothes can be worn without worrying about them when they return.
- Send along a packet of muesli bars in their luggage as it's always nice to have something to nibble on if need be. The meals are amazing at Jamboree, with lots of it, but being on the go all day means your daughter may eat more than she normally does.
- If you are unsure of whether you have got the packing correct then ask your leader to check it and assist.

Registration - make sure information is up to date and complete

- Registration will be through OGM, and your girl's usual member information, including any previously provided health information or dietary requirements will be included. Please ensure this is up to date and that any additional or new information is included. The leader of your girl's unit at Jamboree is likely to be new to her, so any information you can provide that will help your girl have a great and safe time is really valuable.
- Any information that you can give to the leader of the unit at Jamboree is well received. From experience unit leaders recommend updating the health information on the day of departure to Jamboree to ensure anything that has changed or happened recently is communicated. Also if there are any other changes in circumstances i.e. grandma is unwell in hospital the week before Jamboree, your daughter has started menstruating, there are family issues or anything that will be of help to their leader please write it down. Get the girls to have this in their day pack or bum bag to give to their unit leader straight away once they arrive with their name on it.
- When registering you'll be asked to identify any special needs or mental health needs your girl has. It is extremely helpful for the leaders on site to know how to help your girl through an anxiety attack, or what kind of help she will need to get the most out of Jamboree. No girl will be excluded from Jamboree so it is best to note all details and one of the Jamboree team will be in touch to seek more information if required.

During Jamboree

- If it is an emergency then the Jamboree number will be there for you to use. Do not contact leaders of your usual unit as they will not have the most up to date information that there is.
- If your girl is taking a phone to Jamboree, don't expect her to be available to call or text frequently. They are at Jamboree to fully engage with the activities and build new friendships, while challenging themselves. Lots of calls from home fuel homesickness, especially when tired at the end of the day.
- Bed time at Jamboree is around 9:30pm each night and the girls will be up before 7.30am. If your daughter is not used to this then it is a good idea to train them before they go for the early starts! Each night there are activities for them to partake in as if you keep them busy then they won't get homesick. But it does mean that they will come home exhausted.

- For their plates, girls will need a dinner plate and pudding bowl, it is recommended that these are round (to best fit a paper plate inside in case for hygiene paper plates are used). Please ensure that they are not the hard plastic types as these can break easily in transit. Put in an extra plate and mug just in case. You can label these easily underneath your plate etc by using a vivid and then painting clear nail polish overtop to stop it from washing off.
- There may be a mail bag each day of Jamboree. There will be more about this to come if there is. You need to put their name, ID number, colour group and the Jamboree address on it. It can be so exciting for the girls to get a letter or parcel from home. Start writing before they go to Jamboree so that the girls receive something early on. It is nice to receive a note from home with a bar of chocolate after a big day of Guiding out and about. Even if you only get one letter written then it's still something that means a lot.

The trip to and from Jamboree

- As dinner will be the first meal served at Jamboree the girls will need a well-stocked lunch box with an extra afternoon tea snack.
- On the return trip they will receive a packed lunch from the Jamboree.

Fundraising

- Fundraising has long been a part of Jamboree, and a great way to make sure as many as girls can participate as possible.
- GirlGuiding New Zealand has a bunch of ideas to get you started, as well as some helpful guidelines. <https://girlguidingnz.org.nz/jamboree-2022/>
- You may want to fundraise as a unit, as well as individually.