

Scouting Ireland European Jamboree Contingent – Important Notice

Dear Contingent Members,

It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that we must announce that a decision has been made to cancel the European Jamboree, due to be held on 2-13 August 2021 in Gdańsk, Poland.

The Jamboree Organisation declared the European Jamboree 2020+1 cancelled.

Over the past two weeks, the organisers have been closely coordinating with their partners in the European Regions of WAGGGS and WOSM, and the Host City of Gdańsk. After careful analysis of the available data, they have come to the conclusion that the event must be cancelled, based on two key considerations:

- The number of registrations has dropped below the 10,000 necessary to host a feasible event. The organisers do not have the certainty needed to proceed.
- The situation around the COVID-19 pandemic also remains extremely volatile. Although a thorough risk assessment has been conducted and updated regularly, and dozens of modifications to mitigate these risks were developed, there is still a high level of uncertainty around when and how we will be able to have large-scale outdoor events again. This is also why they have chosen not to postpone the event a second time.

I know that you will be as disappointed as I am with this news. The contingent team and I have been working on this event for over two years, and we had all been very much looking forward to travelling to Poland. However we recognise the immense work put in by the organisers to find a way to host the event and know that this decision was not taken lightly.

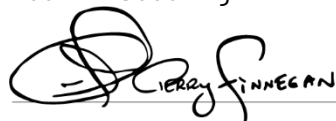
We have put a lot of work into the organisation of this event, and some of our costs will sadly be unrecoverable. This includes the contingent camp in autumn 2019, the clothing we have ordered, Jamboree fees (which are partly unrecoverable), and some pre-booked flights. Whilst we endeavour to refund as much money as possible, as per the terms and conditions we will be unable to return your fees in full. At the current time we are able to refund fees paid in excess of €550 (i.e. if you have paid €1,250 we will be able to return €700). We hope to be able to give a further refund following negotiations with our insurers, which we expect to take around four months.

To allow us to make this refund we ask you to please complete the form at <https://go.siej2020.team/rff> with your bank details before **4th December**. Refunds will be paid before 18th December.

I would like to thank the Contingent Management Team and the Troop for all their hard work, and I am sorry that we haven't been able to enjoy the event that we had been looking forward to. If you have any questions following this announcement, please see <https://siej2020.team/cancellation/>.

I hope that our Scouting paths will cross once again in the near future.

Yours in Scouting



Gerry Finnegan
Head of Contingent

