

Jamboree On the Air and Internet

64th Jamboree On The Air

25th Jamboree On The Internet



15 – 17 October 2021

[Operators Pages](#)

Welcome once again to this year's Jamboree on the Air and Jamboree on the Internet for 2021.

OPERATING TIMES

You may participate in JOTA-JOTI at the direction of your Scout Group for all or part of the weekend from Saturday, 00.00hrs until Sunday, 24.00hrs local time. Be aware that there is little activity until after midday Saturday by which time JOTA activity has started in a number of other countries.

Of course, actual starting and finishing times are subject to local arrangements.

When Scouts want to meet young people from another country, they usually think of attending a World Jamboree or another international gathering. But few people realize that each year about half-a-million Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). Modern communication technology offers the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without even leaving home....

JOTA / JOTI is an annual event in which Scouts and Guides all over the world can speak to each other by means of amateur radio / internet contacts. Since 1958 when the first jamboree On The Air was held, thousands of Scouts and Guides have "met" each other through this event. Not only is it fun to talk to Scouts from other parts of the world, but it provides also a chance to find out about other countries and about Scouting elsewhere. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pals and links between scout troops / Groups that have lasted for many years.

With no restrictions on age, on the number that can participate and at little or no expense, JOTA provides an opportunity for Scouts and Guides to contact each other by amateur radio and or internet. The radio stations are operated by licensed amateur radio operators. Many Scouts and Leaders hold licences and have their own stations, but the majority participates in JOTA / JOTI through stations operated by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs.

JOTA Calling Frequencies - Please QSY after establishing communication

- CW Morse Code
- DX Overseas
- VK Australia
- m Metre (frequency band)
- LSB Lower Side Band
- USB Upper Side Band

Band	World Calling Frequencies (MHz) HF CW	World Calling Frequencies (MHz) HF SSB	Australian Calling Frequencies (MHz) SSB (phone)	Australian Calling Frequencies (MHz) CW (morse)	Calling Frequencies for Slow Scan TV and PSK 31
80 m	3.570	3.690	3.650	3.570	3.630 (SSTV)
40 m	7.030	7.090 & 7.190	7.090	7.030	7.0033 (SSTV)
20 m	14.060	14.290	14.190	14.060	
17 m	18.080	18.140			
15 m	21.140	21.360	21.190	21.140	14.070 (PSK31)
12 m	24.910	24.960			14.227 (SSTV)
10 m	28.180	28.390	28.590	28.180	
6 m	50.160	50.160	52.160	50.160	

Please make contact with Scout and Guide Stations by calling "CQ JOTA" on the frequencies listed above. You may change frequency after establishing communication.

Interference by the WAG Contest

During JOTA weekend there is unfortunately one contest (amateur –radio competition) taking place at the same time. It is an exception to the agreement that there will be no contests during the JOTA weekend. However, an agreement has been reached with the organisers of this German WAG contest on the use of amateur-radio frequencies during JOTA , in such a way that it allows both events to operate in parallel. This worked satisfactorily last year, so we would like to continue it for this year's JOTA as well. The German contest stations will NOT operate the following segments (called the "contest free zone")

Band	Contest-free zone	
	CW (morse) - kHz	SSB (phone) - kHz
80 m	3560 - 3800	3650 – 3700
40 m	7040 - 7200	7080 – 7140
20 m	14060 - 14350	14100 – 14125 and 14280 – 14350
15 m		21350 – 21450
10 m		28225 – 28400

Scout stations may use the whole of each amateur-radio band. Should you encounter contest stations on the above frequencies, please advise them of the Contest-Free zone. Should the WAG contest station not want to move out of the Contest-Free zone, please take note of its call sign, frequency and date / time and send this information with your report to me, and I will forward it onto the National Coordinator.

CHIEF SCOUT'S JOTA/JOTI Address

Broadcast on the Saturday of JOTA-JOTI at 1300K (0300Z) for 10 minutes by various re broadcasters throughout Australia. Test transmissions will commence at 1250K. Speeches by the Chief Scout, Patron of Guides, and Scout and Guide Chief Commissioners will conclude by 1310K. The Chief Scout's JOTA-JOTI Message will be available as an MP3 file in the week before JOTA-JOTI and all the weekend. The Chief Scout's JOTA-JOTI Message may be saved to CD or played from your computer at any time during the weekend. [Chief Scout's Jamboree On The Air/Jamboree On the Internet Message](#)

Hear it on the Internet

The Address will also be published on the Internet as a Real Audio file, <http://www.wia.org.au/vk4>, so that you may hear the Address if you cannot receive it via Amateur radio. You will need to download the latest Real Player, and the audio file will be available on the QNEWS web site in weeks before JOTA/JOTI.

EchoLink for JOTA

Echolink allows PC users and amateur radio stations to directly communicate with each other. In fact, you do not need amateur radio equipment to make a contact with radio stations anywhere in the world. You need a PC with a soundcard, speakers and a microphone. Your PC transmits your voice signals over the internet, to an Amateur Radio station which is connected directly to the internet.

Echolink connects for example two-way repeater radio stations and / or computers to each other. That means that you can make contact with your portable radio set to a local repeater station. Your signal is then transferred from this repeater, via the internet, to another repeater or to a computer on the network. The other repeater re-transmits your signal in its local area. In this way you can speak to an amateur radio station in that area. Or to a radio amateur connected with his personal computer directly to the echolink network. E.g.: a Scout camping in Nijkerk, Netherlands makes radio contact with the local repeater station in Amersfoort. Using the internet, his signal is transferred to the main repeater in Sydney, Australia. Via this system, he has a pleasant conversation with another Scout in Paramatta, close to Sydney, who uses a portable radio station at his local camp site. Another Scout, located in Roanoke Virginia, USA, uses the computer room of the local high school. He too connects himself to the Echolink network and can speak to the Scouts in Nijkerk and Sydney at the same time.

Advantages for use during the JOTA.

Suppose you are at a location that does not allow you to put up antennas. Or you have easy access to computers, now you have the chance to take part in, simply by connecting to Echolink.

Validation:

Your radio amateur has to validate his call sign with Echolink so his license can be checked. This can now be easily done on-line and takes only a few days to return the validation to you. But don't wait till the last moment to prepare your Echolink. **MUST Validate with Echolink before 10 October** if you intend to use it for JOTA.

Scouts Australia recommends the use of Echolink as a means of providing youth members with an efficient and positive JOTA experience on demand. Echolink is a free download from <http://www.echolink.org>

Protection against internet abuse.

Because of licence regulations and the possibility to actually transmit via a connected radio station, you do need the assistance of a licensed radio amateur. That the same regulations apply as for the regular, on the air, radio contacts. The transmissions are identified with the radio call sign, so they are not anonymous, and can be traced to the responsible operator. The license of the operator is checked before access to the system is granted. In this way, Echolink protects youngsters from unwanted elements present on the public internet and ensures child safety.

Special-event call signs

Special-event call signs can be used on Echolink, but not to register; instead you must use the call sign of the 1st operator. The software, however, allows you to set a station descriptor; JOTA stations are asked to put in their station descriptor "JOTA: your call sign", so they can easily be recognized on the system. A detailed instruction for JOTA stations is available on web page – '[Echolink Set Up – Special Event Call Signs](#)'

If your JOTA station does not have an internet connection available on site, you can still use the Echolink system. Ask your radio amateur to determine which VHF or UHF link station is nearby and within reach of your JOTA station. Next, obtain the co-operation of the operator of your local link station. Set up instructions can be found on <http://www.echolink.org/el/links.asp>. and on web page – '[Echolink Set Up – RF Link](#)'

More info.

For details and technical assistance to your radio amateur on how to use Echolink, please see – <http://www.echolink.org>

SOFTWARE TO USE - mIRC which can be downloaded from www.mirc.co.uk (the file is the size of a floppy disk - will take 10 minutes to download). Install this on your computer that you are using for JOTI.

JOTI CHAT ROOM LOCATIONS

Dedicated Scout/Guide Chat Rooms are available through *The Scoutlink Project*, a group of volunteer Scout and Guide Leaders who maintain chat rooms for your use. The following server addresses take you to a free server in the particular area of choice (Australia, America or Europe). Program *mIRC* to go to anyone of these:

Server Location	Server Address	Ports
Random Scoutlink server	chat.scoutlink.net	6667-6668
Random Australian Scoutlink server	chat.au.scoutlink.net	6667-6668
Random American Scoutlink Server	chat.am.scoutlink.net	6667-6668
Random European Scoutlink server	chat.eu.scoutlink.net	6667-6668

BROWSER CHAT - If you are using a network of computers at a school, university, library or commercial business you may experience problems with *mIRC* from the computer's firewall. *Scoutlink* offers a facility to chat via a normal Internet Browser (Microsoft Internet Explorer or Netscape). Go to their web site www.scoutlink.net and go to "Web Chat (Java)" section. Browser chat uses the similar layout to *mIRC* and is easy to use. Please follow their instructions on the web page. Please use browser chat as a last resort measure and not as a replacement to *mIRC*.

NATIONAL JOTA/JOTI ADDRESS - There is a Real Audio file of the National JOTA/JOTI Address, which is heard over the airwaves at 1.00pm (Eastern Standard Time). You are welcome to download this file and play it at your JOTI gathering. You will need to download a free Real Player to listen to the Address.

Download Real Player at: www.real.com.au

Download the National JOTA/JOTI Address at: www.wia.org.au/vk4 (and follow the links)

The 'J' Code

The J code is a tool that enables a very basic conversation in those cases where there is no common language between the youngsters. The J – Code is simply a set of abbreviations similar to the Q – Code used by radio amateurs. Both Codes are available through our JOTA / JOTI web site (www.tas.scouts.com.au). It is NOT a code intended to hide the contents of the transmissions, quite the opposite, it is intended to enable communication. As such it can be used over amateur radio and in internet chat contacts.

JOTA Sked Book

You wish to make an appointment for a radio contact beforehand? Scout.org/jota offers the possibility for individual Scout groups to pre-arrange radio contacts for the JOTA weekend. One can simply click the icon of the JOTA sked book and send an email message to the system.

Enter in the message the details of your desired contact

- Date and time in GMT
- Radio station call sign
- Name and location of your Scout group

Alternatively. You can respond to similar messages from other Scout groups.

Scout groups without internet access are invited to send skeds on paper to the World Scout Bureau in Geneva; the Jota staff will enter then into the sked book for you, as an extra service.

Please be aware of the rules of JOTI. An official Netiquette guide, published by the World Scout Bureau, Geneva is available under the section '[Guidelines for JOTA](#)'

'Thankyou' - Thankyou for enabling Scouts to participate in this year's JOTA.

Your Scout Group or Section should submit a JOTA station report before the 20th NOVEMBER 2021 including your name, call sign (VK7.....), and a brief summary of contacts and participants.

Happy Chatting,

