



# GIRLS VOLLEYBALL 2015

15–18 October 2015

hosted by Senri & Osaka International Schools  
Minoh City, Osaka, Japan

[www.senri.ed.jp](http://www.senri.ed.jp)

[sabers.senri.ed.jp](http://sabers.senri.ed.jp)



## 6 Teams

Korea International School (KIS)  
Senri and Osaka International Schools (SOIS)  
Seoul International School (SIS)  
Yokohama International School (YIS)  
Nagoya International School (NIS)  
Senri and Osaka International Schools JV (SOIS JV)

## Outline of Schedule

Thursday early evening: KIS, SIS, YIS arrive  
Thursday evening, KIS and SIS: dinner with host families  
Friday morning: NIS arrives  
Friday: tournament play  
Friday evening: team dinners; coaches dinner; YIS, NIS overnight in school  
Saturday: tournament play  
Saturday evening: banquet, awards ceremony

Sunday morning: team departures

11 September 2015

## **Greetings, AISA activities directors and volleyball coaches.**

Please consider this letter of preliminary information as your official invitation to the 2015 AISA girls volleyball tournament hosted by Senri & Osaka International Schools ([SOIS](#)).

### **Dates**

2015 October 15–18 (Thursday–Sunday)

### **Tournament webpage**

<http://sabers.senri.ed.jp/aisa-volleyball.html>

### **Facility**

[SOIS gymnasium](#) (wood floor)



### **Arrival times**

***Please provide travel details as soon as possible.***

We at SOIS will accommodate your travel arrangements as best we can. Below is an ideal situation.

1. Overseas teams arrive at KIX (Kansai International Airport) at similar times between 15:00 and 16:00. Then clear immigration, pick up bags, clear customs, **exchange money**, **rent cell phones**, buy a snack for the bus ride, and get on the bus.
2. A **90-minute bus ride** puts you at school between 18:00 and 19:00 PM, a good time for our host families to meet their guests and get them home at a decent time for dinner. (Long bus ride to the school; be prepared. Many – though not all – host families live close to school.)

### **Departure times**

Please schedule your flight departure from KIX for about noon on Sunday, if possible. A noon flight means you should check in at 10:00 AM, which means you would depart the school at 8:15 AM.

### **Visas**

Visitors of most nationalities enter Japan on a tourist visa. (Forms are handed out on the airplane and are also available at immigration.) Please check your visa requirements.

### **Tournament entry fee**

- US\$200 for AISA member schools
- ¥45,000 for non-AISA schools (NIS)

### **Rosters, team photos, t-shirt orders, homestay preferences, coaches hotel**

Please e-mail ([pheimer@senri.ed.jp](mailto:pheimer@senri.ed.jp)) the separate form with all information as soon as possible.

## Rosters

- 10 players, 2 coaches.

## Rules, referees, match schedule

- [FIVB rules](#) (2015-16 edition) and as outlined in the AISA handbook.
- Referees: local, experienced Japanese referees who are familiar with AISA tournaments.
- Match schedule on the tournament website: <http://sabers.senri.ed.jp/aisa-volleyball.html>.

## Weather

Autumn weather in Osaka is mild and pleasant, usually dry but with some possibility of rain. The Sabers gym is not heated or air-conditioned, so it may be cooler or warmer than you are used to. Layered clothing is recommended.

## Water, food

- Each team will be provided with one case of bottled water each day. More water and drinks can be purchased from drink machines in the school or at nearby convenience stores.
- Tap water in Osaka is safe if you want to fill up your own water bottles.
- Snacks, energy drinks, and food can be purchased at nearby shops and convenience stores.
- There are many restaurants and shops near the school.
- Coaches will be provided with food and drink throughout the tournament.
- Friday night: coaches dinner. Saturday night: banquet meal.

## Currency exchange, costs

Prices in Japan are higher than those in South Korea. There is no place near the school to exchange money; **please exchange currency at KIX airport upon arrival, or before at your departing airport.** A typical fast food meal costs 800 yen. Taxi fare from the school to the nearest shopping center (10-minute drive) or coaches hotel is approximately 1600 yen. Starbucks coffee, 500 yen. Visiting students will need money for some meals, shopping, and perhaps taxis and public transportation (which can cost up to 500 yen or more one-way – please budget accordingly).

## Personal safety

Theft and threats to personal safety are rare in Japan. Still, please protect your valuables. SOIS is located in a very safe suburban area in the city of [Minoh](#). Minoh is 45 minutes from central Osaka City by public transportation.

## Medical care

A qualified, experienced nurse will be on duty. Quality hospitals and clinics are nearby.

## Transportation

- Public transportation in Japan is excellent and easy. Visiting players and coaches will be provided with a set of directions to the school for use with taxi drivers.
- Players will have little time to venture far from the school during the day other than to walk to nearby restaurants and food shops. Students will travel to and from school with their homestay buddies, usually by car or on foot, or by public transportation.

★ ADs and coaches: Be sure to budget money for taxis rides to/from the hotel and school.

## Homestays

SOIS families look forward to hosting visiting students from overseas.

- Our families live in small houses or apartments. Visiting students can expect a clean, comfortable, welcoming homestay experience, though in homes a bit smaller and less private than they might be used to. For example, visiting students might sleep on the floor on Japanese-style futons, sharing a room with a teammate or host buddy. Usually, there will be only one shower used by all members of the household.
- SOIS homestay host students are fluent or very capable English speakers as are most – though not all – parents.
- Many families – though not all – are able to provide private vehicle transportation to school. Some visiting students will travel via public transportation with homestay buddies (which can cost up to 500 yen or more one-way – please budget accordingly).
- The SOIS community is spread far and wide; we will try to house students near the school, but this might not always be possible.

Visiting students should:

- be respectful and helpful to the host family;
- communicate clearly with the family, especially about schedules, meeting places, meals;
- show appreciation of the host family's support, without which the event would not run.

## Showers, laundry

Showers and changing rooms are at the school (and at the host family's home, of course).

Host families will provide towels, soap and shampoo, and will help with laundry.

## Tournament t-shirts

Tournament t-shirts must be ordered in advance at a cost of approximately 1800 yen (US\$15 – apologies for the higher costs in Japan). Please order the exact number and sizes on the team roster. Sizes in Japan are similar to US sizes, perhaps about a half-size smaller.

## Curfew

As with all AISA events, curfew is set at 10:00 PM. Each coach is responsible each night for calling the host families' residences (not student cell phones) to ensure that students have arrived home safely and on time.

### Coaches hotel

Coaches will stay at the [Senri Hankyu Hotel](#), located near the large [Senri-Chuo train station](#), a 10-minute taxi ride (1600 yen) from the school. **Reservations will be made by SOIS.** It is assumed that all coaches will need single rooms (non-smoking; breakfast included). Please advise if there is a change.

### Cell phone

Coaches will need at least one cell phone to make curfew calls and communicate in cases of emergency. Coaches must rent cell phones at KIX airport and share the telephone number with their students and the SOIS AD.



### Coaches meetings

1. First meeting: Thursday evening, soon after arrival at SOIS, in the theater
2. Second meeting: upon completion of Friday's matches to confirm Saturday's schedule
3. Post-tournament meeting: immediately upon completion of Saturday's matches; submit all-tournament team selections; provide feedback

### Coaches dinner

SOIS will host a coaches dinner Friday evening at [a restaurant](#) near the coaches hotel. We hope everyone can attend as it is a good way to spend friendly, non-competitive time together. As indicated on the roster form, it is assumed that all coaches will attend the coaches dinner; please advise otherwise, and please advise if a vegetarian meal is needed.

### Banquet

The banquet will be held after the completion of play Saturday evening in the SOIS cafeteria.

### Awards

Awards will be presented in the SOIS theater immediately after the banquet.

The entire SOIS Sabers community looks forward to hosting you for this event. Please contact me at any time with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

**Peter Heimer** 

SOIS activities director, Senri & Osaka International Schools, [pheimer@senri.ed.jp](mailto:pheimer@senri.ed.jp)

- in-country school tel: 072-727-5050 / from overseas: +81-72-727-5050
- in-country office tel: 072-727-2137 / from overseas: +81-72-727-2137
- in-country cell phone: 080-1469-3788 / from overseas: +81-80-1469-3788

**SOIS school websites**

[www.senri.ed.jp](http://www.senri.ed.jp)

[sabers.senri.ed.jp](http://sabers.senri.ed.jp)



**SOIS school administrators**

Senri International School head: Mr. Kazunori Masago

Osaka International School head: Mr. Bill Kralovec

SIS MS/HS principal: Ms. Mayumi Ito

OIS MS/HS principal: Mr. Kurt Mecklem

