



# GIRLS VOLLEYBALL 2019

10–13 October 2019

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**

International School Busan (ISB)

Korea International School (KIS)

Korea International School Jeju (KISJ)

Senri and Osaka International Schools (SOIS)

Seoul International School (SIS)

Yokohama International School (YIS)

## **Outline of schedule**

Thursday early evening: all teams arrive

Thursday evening, ISB, KIS, KISJ, SIS: dinner with host families

Friday: tournament play

Friday evening: team dinners; coaches dinner; YIS overnight in school

Saturday: tournament play

Saturday evening: banquet, awards ceremony

Sunday morning: team departures

02 September 2019

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

Please consider this letter of preliminary information as your official invitation to the 2019 AISA girls volleyball tournament hosted by Senri & Osaka International Schools ([SOIS](#)).

### **Dates**

2019 October 10–13 (Thursday–Sunday)

### **Tournament webpage**

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

### **Facility**

SOIS gymnasium (wood floor; air conditioned)



### **Arrival times**

We 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 14:00 and 15:00. 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. An **80-minute bus ride** puts you at school between 17:00 and 18:00 PM, a good time for our host families to meet their guests, get them dinner, and get them home at a decent time. (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 check in at 09:30 AM, which means you depart the school at 8:00 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.

### **Weather**

Autumn weather in Osaka is mild and pleasant, usually dry but with a possibility of rain. Morning and evening temperatures are cool. The Sabers gym is air conditioned. Layered clothing is recommended.

### **Tournament entry fee**

- US\$300 for AISA member schools
- 32,000 yen from YIS.

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

- The roster form and team photo folder are available in the shared Google folder.

### Rosters

- 10 players, 2 coaches.
- Managers: Teams can bring a female manager but she counts as one of the roster spots.

### Rules, referees, match schedule

- [FIVB rules](#) (2017-20 edition) and as outlined in AISA handbook.
- **AISA rule modification for substitutions:** per set, 8 total “connected” substitutions – a player can be substituted off the court only once and substituted back onto the court only once, only for the same player.
- Officials: certified, experienced Osaka Prefecture Volleyball Association referees who are familiar with AISA tournaments.
- Line judges: Sabers JV players.
- Table officials: SOIS student volunteers who are trained and experienced.
- Match schedule (draft) on tournament webpage: <http://sabers.senri.ed.jp/aisa-volleyball.html>.

### Water, food

- Each team will be given one case (24 bottles) of bottled water each day. Water and drinks can be purchased from drink machines in the school and at nearby convenience stores.
- Tap water is safe if you want to fill up your own water bottles. A water fountain is in the gym.
- Snacks, energy drinks, fruit, food can be purchased at nearby convenience stores and grocery 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

- There is no place near the school to exchange money; **please exchange currency at KIX airport upon arrival, or before at your departing airport.**
- Prices in Japan are higher than those in South Korea. A typical fast food meal costs 800 yen. Taxi fare to/from the coaches hotel (12 minutes) is approximately 1700 yen. Starbucks coffee, 500 yen. Visiting students will need money for some meals, snacks, 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 and do not go out alone. 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 shops. Students will travel to and from school with their homestay hosts, usually by car or on foot, or by public transportation.
- **ADs and coaches: Be sure to budget 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 try to house students near the school, but this is not always possible.

Visiting students should:

- be respectful and helpful to the host family;
- keep their sleeping room and the shower area tidy;
- 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.
- A large laundromat is located near the school if teams want to wash and dry uniforms.

## Tournament t-shirts

Tournament t-shirts must be ordered in advance at a cost of approximately **1800 yen** (apologies for the higher costs in Japan). Please order the exact number and sizes on the team roster. Sizes in Japan *might* be about 1 size smaller than US sizes (but this varies).

## Curfew calls

Coaches must contact their students or homestay hosts at 10:00 each night to confirm that the students are in the host family homes. Contact may be made by voice (by phone) to the homestay host parents or by video (e.g., via Facetime or Skype) directly to a student if the student can visually verify via video his/her presence at the host family home. (Coaches must not contact students only by text or by voice; they must be able to confirm the students' locations.)

## Cell phone

Coaches will have their own or will rent a cell phone – or a SIM card – at KIX airport to make curfew calls and communicate. Coaches will share contact info with their students and the host AD.

## Coaches hotel

Coaches 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 need single rooms (non-smoking; breakfast included).

### Coaches meetings

1. First meeting: Thursday evening, soon after arrival at SOIS.
2. Second meeting: upon completion of Friday's matches.
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. It is assumed that all coaches will attend the 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 athletic director, Senri & Osaka International Schools, [pheimer@senri.ed.jp](mailto:pheimer@senri.ed.jp)

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### SOIS school websites

- school: [www.senri.ed.jp](http://www.senri.ed.jp)
- athletics: [sabers.senri.ed.jp](http://sabers.senri.ed.jp)



### SOIS school administrators

- Senri International School head: Ms. Mayumi Ito
- Osaka International School head: Mr. Miles Jackson
- SIS MS/HS principals: Ms. Fran Namba, Mr. Mamoru Tanaka
- OIS MS/HS principal: Mr. Kurt Mecklem