

26TH AUSTRALIAN SCOUT JAMBOREE QUEENSLAND CONTINGENT

QLD NEWS FROM AJ, SATURDAY 11.01.2025



HELLO FROM THE AUSTRALIAN JAMBOREE!

*** Future Scout Day and Visitor Day will be impacted by wet weather. If you are not already in the Hervey Bay/Maryborough region, we ask that you reconsider attending due to the impact of the weather forecast. ***

If you are still planning to attend, please be aware that there will be delays in the offsite parking process.

There will be no visitor access to Tuan or Fraser Coast sub-camps due to the rainfall overnight.

Please prepare for a variety of weather.

More information is available at aj2025.com.au/visitordays

Hello Queensland families!

We hope you're all staying safe and well, especially if you're affected by the current weather. Here at the Jamboree, our preparations are well underway to manage the risks and ensure the safety of both our young participants and volunteers. The copy above is direct from our Jamboree Team who are doing an amazing job keeping us all informed and providing direction. We guess that's what happens when your motto is Be Prepared. Scouts can do anything!

Camping Standard Awards 🏆

Our Scouts have continued to showcase their outstanding camping skills, even with the wet weather around. We're excited to announce a few more winners for the Camping Standard Awards:

- C033
- C057
- FC018

Gateway Awards 🏆

The gateways at the Jamboree are truly impressive! We've captured all the photos of them now and you can find them per sub-camp on Facebook posts from Friday 10.01.25. And now, for the Gateway Awards:

- C040

Your Seaside Awards 🏆

At Seaside, Scouts engage in eight distinct activities that challenge and captivate, earning points based on skills and teamwork. This fun, competitive environment motivates Scouts to refine their abilities, work together, and enjoy a diverse range of activities. Results:

Friday 10.01.25

- 1st place - TO39, with a whopping 1427 points!
- 2nd place - CO58, 986 points.
- 3rd place - FCO62-5, 950 points.

Volunteer Shout Out

Our incredible Scout volunteers—adult supporters, leaders, rovers, and venturers—are the backbone of this jamboree. Their dedication and enthusiasm make every moment unforgettable. Some have arrived for this event, others have worked for years towards delivering this Jamboree. Many will not finish after the Closing Ceremony as the monster job of packing up the site will begin on the 16th.

Volunteers ensure we have everything we need, providing valuable guidance and resources. They also bring out the best in us and our young people, encouraging teamwork and adventure. With their wealth of experience, they help keep everything running smoothly, each person a key cog in the machine of a Jamboree. Some even infuse the event with fresh energy and creative ideas bringing smiles all round. They create an amazing, dynamic environment that truly captures the spirit of Scouting. Our young people wouldn't have this amazing experience without them!

If you're a fan of this page, or parent/carer at home thinking about making an impact in your community, consider talking to the volunteers at your Scout Den about how rewarding this journey is for a volunteer. We'd love to have you onboard!

Scouting, Searching, and Surviving: A Parent's AJ2025 Adventure

By an anonymous parent

The lead-up to AJ2025 was a journey in itself. It all started with the packing list. Determined to foster independence, we handed it over and encouraged our Scout to pack solo. After all, this was their adventure, and they'd spent months preparing. "You've got this!" we reassured them, though we couldn't resist a last-minute check. The day before departure revealed the inevitable: no pyjamas. "Unlucky for your patrol!" we joked, imagining the late-night chaos. Despite that, their efforts impressed us — they were ready.

The big day arrived, and we waved them off with a mix of tears and cheers. As the bus pulled away, emotions ranged from lump-in-the-throat goodbyes to celebratory high-fives and shouts of "We're free!" from parents. But, as the quiet set in, so did the obsessive Facebook stalking. The Australia AJ2025 page, the QLD contingent page, the unit group page — all were combed through daily for any sign of life. "Is that my kid?" face-spotting became a new home sport.

The posts showed incredible activities: zip lining, mud running, concerts, comedians, hatchet throwing, badge swapping, mountain biking, woodworking — and the secret hope crept in: "I hope they get to do all the best things." By day three, with no sightings, the mum-guilt set in. Should I ask the leaders? They're juggling 37 Scouts with little sleep, and I know they're doing their best. But my heart needed reassurance. So, I sent a polite nudge.

Soon after, the photo floodgates opened, and the new sport began: zooming in. "Do they look happy? Tired? Are they eating? Drinking water? Brushing their teeth?" Then there was the bank account checking. We'd given them free reign over spending, trusting their responsibility, but the temptation of endless badge swaps and Scout stalls was strong. So far, so good — but we know not every kid's self-control is holding up!

I told myself to be a “cool parent,” but cool parents don’t send emails and care packages covered in love notes, right? I couldn’t help it — a Bundaberg sugar supply in sweet form was on its way! Sorry, leaders!

As visitors’ day approaches, I remind myself: “I can do this.” Day seven is here. I’ll try to play it cool when I see them, but the moment I do, I’ll squeeze them tight and fire off a million questions they’ll hate. This camp is epic, and I’m so thankful for Scouts, the superhuman leaders, and the memories shaping our kids for the future. AJ2025, you’re a win for all of us!

Ps. The apron strings are almost cut 😊👉

Yours in Scouting,
The Queensland Contingent Jamboree Team

PS - Leaders & Volunteers: We'd love to feature your stories or observations in our newsletter! If you'd like to contribute, please email dc@capricorn.scoutsqld.com.au

Don't worry about writing the full piece; even just bullet points will do, and we'll craft it into a story for you.