



**Japan America Society of Colorado**

**コロラド日米協会**

*Presents*

# **Japan Cup**

*in partnership with*

**Colorado Japanese Language Education Association**

*and*

**Center for World Languages and Cultures**

*To be held on*

**Saturday, April 21, 2012**

*At the campus of*

**University of Denver, Sturm Hall**

2000 E. Asbury Avenue

Denver, CO 80208

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## I. 2012 Japan America Society of Colorado (JASC) Japan Cup Information

Since 2008, JASC has been hosting its Japan Cup competition. Prior to that, JASC participated in Japan Bowl, which was originally developed by the Japan-America Society of Washington, Inc., to encourage study of Japanese and to test the Japanese language and cultural knowledge of American high school students.

The goal of the JASC Japan Cup is to offer all interested high schools and colleges in the Rocky Mountain Region (Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and Wyoming) an opportunity to experience a competition testing Japanese language and cultural knowledge—independently of the JAS of Washington D.C. Japan Bowl.

Although similar to the regional elimination competitions offered in the past, the JASC Japan Cup is completely separate from the National Japan Bowl.

The JASC Japan Cup is similar in format to the Trivia Bowl and aims to provide an enjoyable and stimulating experience for high school and college Japanese language students. Teams of students compete to answer questions on Japanese language and culture.

See the document entitled, JASC Japan Cup Study Guide for information on the content of the questions which will be posed at each level. The 2012 JASC Japan Cup will be held on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at the University of Denver in Denver, Colorado.

For questions, please e-mail Claudine Locascio, JASC Executive Director, at [info@jascolorado.org](mailto:info@jascolorado.org).

### **Acknowledgement:**

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and kind assistance of the following volunteers of the CJLEA Question Making Committee:

*Setsu Kawada, Chair of Question Making Committee, University of Denver*

*Masako Beecken, Colorado State University*

*Mike Kleinkopf, Boulder High School*

*Hisako Schibli, Red Rocks Community College; Japanese Academy of the Rockies*

*Miwako Winters, Laredo Middle School*

## II. Application & Rules

Each competing team member and alternate must submit to the Japan America Society of Colorado office a completed application form with the **required fee of \$10 per student** by the **deadline of Friday, March 16, 2012**. On the day of the event, competing students will receive a registration packet, which includes a program (with all information necessary for the competition), merchandise ticket and lunch ticket. **Late registration applications risk forfeiting the team's opportunity to compete.** Team applications and fees **must** be submitted together by the supervising teacher of that school's team.

### **2.1 Eligibility for Students**

High school students who are currently enrolled in Levels 1, 2, 3 or 4 of Japanese language classes and college students in their second year of study are eligible to participate. **Please note: Beginning in 2011, we began allowing 8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school students who are at the same level as high school level 1 students to participate. There will be no limit on the number of teams a school may enter.** See the description of the different levels and the enclosed Study Guide to determine at which level each team should compete.

**Level 1** – High school students in their first year of Japanese language study, **and/or** 8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school students with the same level of language proficiency as high school level 1.

**Level 2** – High school students in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Japanese language study

**Level 3** – High school students in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Japanese language study.

**Level 4** – High school students in their 4<sup>th</sup> year of Japanese language study **and/or** college students in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Japanese language study.

In order to make the competition as fair as possible, **participants must follow the following rules:**

- Repeating a level from a past competition is **not permitted**.
- Students **may not compete** at a level lower than their actual level.
- Students who compete in a higher level will be **ineligible to compete next year**.
- Students who are native speakers of Japanese, or use Japanese at home, or have had substantial exposure to Japanese outside of the high school or second year college curriculum, or have spent a **combined total of 3 months or more** in Japan are not eligible to compete.

## 2.2 Eligibility for Teachers

In order to submit teams to participate in Japan Cup, **teachers must be a member of either JASC or the Colorado Japanese Language Education Association (CJLEA)**. Annual membership of JASC is \$25 for Japan Cup participating teachers; enrolling in CJLEA costs \$16 per year. Further information for JASC membership can be found at [www.jascolorado.org/membership.php](http://www.jascolorado.org/membership.php), or by calling 303-592-5364; CJLEA information can be found at <http://www.cjlea.org/info.htm>.

## 2.3 Team Requirements

- A team must have at least 2 or 3 members and designate one member as the team leader.
- One person will not be accepted as a team.
- Each team may wish to register another person as an alternate member by submitting his/her application before the competition. The alternate's application **must be approved beforehand** in order to be eligible to replace a team member as an alternate.
- The team that advances to the final round **must be comprised** of at least half of the original team members that competed in the earlier round.
- Teams should remain in the vicinity during the entire JASC Japan Cup day and must be at the competition location fifteen minutes before competition begins. **Late teams risk forfeiting their position.**

## 2.4 Observers

The Preliminary rounds are open to spectators. However, once the competition begins, no one will be permitted to enter or exit the room.

***Observers are asked to respect the integrity of the competition and refrain from distracting noise and actions such as talking and excessive applauding or cheering during the competition.***

Throughout the morning competition, students, teachers, parents and visitors may visit the variety of cultural presentations found in various locations throughout the venue (detailed activities and locations will be posted on the day of the event). The final rounds in the afternoon are also open to the public and all participants are encouraged to stay and watch the final rounds.

Please also note that **taking notes by the audience is also not allowed.**

## **2.5 Recording Devices**

No recording devices are permitted during the competition. Cameras are permitted, but tape and video recorders **are not allowed** unless approved beforehand by the Japan America Society of Colorado.

## **2.6 Grounds for Disqualification**

A student and his/her team may be disqualified for the following reasons:

- Improper application information or deliberate misrepresentation.
- Competing at the wrong level.
- **Improper attire. No jeans, T-shirts, shorts, athletic attire or shoes, miniskirts, bare midriffs or flip-flops are allowed on the day of competition.**
  - ***Recommended attire includes:***
    - Slacks and collared shirts **(Males)**
    - Dresses and skirts below the knees, or blouses and trousers **(Females)**
- Leaving the competition site.
- Offensive language.
- Challenging or showing lack of respect to the moderators, judges, volunteers or other participants. All judges and moderators will be informed of the range of possible correct answers. **Judges' and moderators' decisions are final.**

## **III. JASC JAPAN CUP FORMAT**

### **3.1 Preliminary Competition**

The preliminary competition round is **open** to the public. **However, once the competition begins, no one will be permitted to enter or leave the rooms.** Each competition room will have the competing teams, moderators, moderator's aides (timekeepers), and scorekeepers.

After the Preliminary Round, each team will be scored. If there is a tie that would result in four (4) or more teams occupying the top three positions, a tiebreaker round will be held among the teams involved in such a tie. The winning team in the tiebreaker will move on to the Final Round of competition. Teams not competing must remain in the designated area.

For all questions, there will be a 30-second time limit for the answer. The 30-second period begins as soon as the moderator has read the question the first time. The moderator's aide will give a ten (10) second warning. Answers must be clearly stated or written and the answers must begin before the limit is up. **Answers cannot be changed.**

When answering in Japanese, students should use the polite forms (です・ます) in complete sentences. The obvious exception is when answering questions in the Communication category, when students must choose the polite or casual form as appropriate for the context given in the question. Only completely understandable and correct answers will receive points.

***There will be three types of questions during the competition as follows:***

***(Group Round Questions will only be used in the Final Round)***

### **3.2 Bell Round Questions**

The question is presented. The first student to ring the bell answers. Team members **may not confer with each other before answering**. Points for a correct answer are awarded to the student's team that gives the correct answer.

**Any student** can answer bell round questions. Students must ring the bell to signal. The first student to signal will be called upon by the moderator's aide to answer the question. After the bell is rung, the students **must wait for the moderator's aide** to call upon the student who first rang the bell. Any answers given before being called upon **will not be accepted**.

If two or more students ring the bell at the same time, the moderator's aide will decide which student first rang the bell. If the moderator's aide decides there is a tie, team members will provide written answers. All correct answers will be awarded full points.

Students may ring the bell before the moderator has finished the question, but then the moderator will then stop reading the question.

If an answer is incorrect and a student from another team had rung the bell before the question was read in its entirety, the other student(s) who rang the bell next would be given a chance to answer the question, but the question will not be repeated in such cases. The moderator's aide will indicate the order in which the students had rung the bell.

If all given answers are incorrect, the question will be repeated **once**. A student from any team that had not already given an incorrect response may answer the question.

**Bonus questions:** Some questions will have a bonus question attached for an extra fifteen (15) points. If the student who rings gives a correct answer, that student's team has the chance to answer the attached bonus question. They may confer and must answer within 30 seconds. If the team's answer to the bonus question is incorrect, it is **not open** to the other teams.

If no team rings the bell even after the question is repeated, the moderator will move on to the next question. If all answers are incorrect, the moderator may then read the correct answer.

### **3.3 Pen Round Questions**

All teams have the opportunity to answer the same question ***in writing*** within 30 seconds. Certain questions may require answers to be written in Japanese or English. Points are awarded to all correct answers.

Team members are allowed to consult each other during the 30-second time limit. One team member will write the answer before the 30-second time period is up. When the moderator's aide announces the time limit, each team must immediately show their written answer. The written answer must be large enough for the judges and moderator to read. All teams with the correct answer will receive full points.

### **3.4 Team Round Questions**

In this round, questions are asked to one team at a time.

Within the 30-second period, all team members may discuss the answer amongst themselves but only the team leader can present the answer. The team leader must begin answering before 30 seconds are up.

The moderator will repeat a question once if a team requests. But the 30-second time period will not be paused.

### **3.5 Scoring:**

#### **Preliminary Round**

- 10 Pen Round Questions @ 10 points each
- 12 Bell Round Questions @ 10 points each + 2 Bonus Questions @ 15 points each

#### **Final Round**

- 6 Team Round Questions @ 10 points each
- 4 Visual Round Questions @ 5 points each
- 7 Pen Round Questions @ 10 points each
- 9 Bell Round Questions @ 10 points each + 2 Bonus Questions @ 15 points each

### **3.6 Final Round**

- The 3 top-scoring teams at each level will participate in the Final Round.
- All teams must be present in the Final Round room 15 minutes prior to the start of the competition for their level.
- If ***all*** members of a team are not present, that team's position will be forfeited to the next highest scoring team.

### **3.7 Closing Ceremony and Prizes**

All teams **must be present** at the closing ceremony at the end of the JASC Japan Cup. Prizes will be announced.