

Willkommen in Berlin! We're off and running here with the first tours having already come back and the majority of students having checked in. Thanks for all your help so far! Here are the updates you need to know.

Important Generalities for both IGB Worlds and the Olympiad

1. Blast Emails

Going forward, a blast email will be sent on or around 9 pm each evening Berlin time (quite likely somewhat earlier in the evening in future days). **Please read these through in full as these will contain the all important information on where and when to meet for each events the next day!** We will also post these emails in PDF form to [the main IGB page here](#) and the [Contact Page](#) on the Olympiad website shortly after they are sent.

2. How This Will All Unfold From Here...

The sheer volume of events and the fact that we want to maintain a certain degree of flexibility to adjust things on the fly (e.g. if heavy rain is predicted), means that we are going to proceed from here on a "need to know" basis with many events and start times. At all times, what you need to know will either be on the websites (which you can assume are accurate and up to date), and/or in the blast emails **but specific start times and meeting times are best found in the emails!** Check these for all information, but try and understand that not all details need to be released at once. If you really need further details that haven't been made available yet, then feel free to email the...

3. Help Desk Email and Phone Number

The best way to get answers to your questions going forward is to email help@iacompetitions.com Some staff member of ours will be monitoring this email 24 hours a day (or very close to it). Nolwenn and I will keep checking our email accounts, but this is going to be the best way to get answers quickly (especially during the little time we're going to be sleeping). **Going forward, you should also call (please put this in your mobile phones!) this number as well: +49 1 76 75 98 52 33** That phone will get passed from staffer to staffer at all times, so someone is always monitoring it.

4. Follow Up Emails

Nightly blast emails have all the information that you really need, but follow up emails may be sent at any point, including to specific people on specific matters. **Another email will go out very late tonight to everyone in IGB only, but nothing in that email is needed for early tomorrow morning.**

IGB Updates Including Where to Meet in the Morning!

1. Morning Meeting Time and Place! It's Early!

Students at A&O Hostel: Wake up at 6am. Breakfast at 6:30. Leave Hostel at 7am sharp! Please wear your IGB Shirt and Hat and if you are a student, you will get your public transit ticket when you leave the hostel.

The Opening Ceremonies will begin at 8:30am in the Großer Saal in the first floor above ground level!

Parents, Coaches, and Students staying with Families in our official hotels:

Meet our staff in your hotel lobby at 7:15 (if staying at the InterCity Hotel, head to the lobby of the Moxy hotel)! We will leave at 7:30 sharp! If you are running late, come to the Hotel Adlon (very easy to find, right next to the Brandenburg Gate, use the S-Bahn stop Brandenburger Tor or take a taxi). We will be in the Grosser Saal (a big ballroom) on the floor directly above the ground level floor towards the back of the hotel.

2. Further event times tomorrow (all events at the Hotel Adlon in the same big ballroom unless noted):

Meet and Greet in Adlon Lobby: 9:40am

IGB Exam: 9:50am:

Group Photo outside in front of Brandenburg Gate (weather permitting): 12:10pm

Lunch (outside, whether permitting): 12:15pm

Refugee Discussion: 12:45pm

Treasure Hunt Briefing and Team Announcements: 1:40pm

Treasure Hunt Departure (for throughout Berlin): 2:15pm

Treasure Hunt End: 5:45pm

Geography Careers Panel: 7:00pm

Geographeud: 7:45pm

Medals and Closing Announcements: 9:45pm

3. Weather Update

Tomorrow may be wet, unfortunately. Bring a raincoat! The Treasure Hunt will require you to be outside! We'll have some trash bags for makeshift ponchos if needed, but bringing a rain jacket is certainly preferred.

4. Livestreaming

We will attempt to stream the Opening Ceremonies via Facebook on the [IGB Facebook page](#).

Olympiad Updates Only

1. To Bring...

If you haven't yet left for Berlin, please bring a water bottle and a towel. Of course any bottle of water you can buy in a store here can work in a pinch. If you can bring a towel, also please do so. If you need a towel, we can get you one, but it's better if you bring your own if needed.

2. Scramble Update

We have slightly broadened the Scramble topic. Note the following from our writing team: *This event will devote a lot of content to the era of the Scramble for Africa from 1850-1920, but it will broadly cover the entire era of European colonization in Africa and even test knowledge of the post-independence legacy of the colonization.*

Okay, that's all for now, I'll check in later with that update email too. Thanks, and hope you're all getting excited - we are too! See you early in the morning!

Best,

David and Nolwenn Madden