

World Race 101

Gap Year and Semesters

We are a culture that:

- Extends grace, gives feedback, encourages and exhorts, and listens for God's voice and responds in obedience.

World Race Leadership Structure:

- Seth Barnes, Executive Director and Founder
- Stephanie Jansen, World Race Director
- Squad Mentors & Coaches
- Alumni Leaders

Communication Expectations:

- Appropriate Appeal Process: We want to make sure that you are heard and valued, therefore, we welcome your questions and feedback, but ask that you take the time to communicate with those closest to the situation before involving additional parties.

Race Structure:

- Team Changes - teams may change while on the Race. This gives Racers the ability to serve with different people from the squad while giving new opportunities for growth and challenge.
- Role Changes - there are many opportunities to serve the squad by holding different roles, these roles are given to racers by the leadership team and may change throughout the year
- Race Routes - changes can happen to the route while squads are on the field. Factors include: cost, safety, relief efforts, opportunity, need, etc. These will be communicated through the leadership team.

Finances:

- Adventures uses all funds raised to offset the costs associated with your trip. Due to IRS regulations and ECFA guidelines, Adventures must, and does, exercise control and discretion of all uses of donated funds. As a participant, you do not have a say in how funds raised get used. For a full explanation of the policies and principles which govern Adventures' use of donated funds you can access the following link. <http://adventures.org/policies/policies.pdf>
- Budgeted Team Money - each team has a Treasurer who manages your team budget. This budget is designed for the team to live communally, buying and preparing meals and other essentials together. Your team's budget will not be sufficient if you try to distribute it up and live as individuals.
- Spending Money - Different Racers have different needs or desires. Some racers spend up to \$200 personal money/month. Others spend less than \$50.
 - We ask that you remember that many of the places you'll be in are in the 3rd world and be sensitive to spending personal money in ways, or amounts, that might be off-putting to the people you're ministering to.

Blogging:

- Storytelling is a ministry expectation of you as a world racer. Our goal is that you blog once a week. We want you to live a good story and tell a good story.
- This is an excellent way to keep partners informed about your journey and to share the incredible things that God is doing around the world.
- ALWAYS have a conversation with your host about what is appropriate in telling stories about their ministry. Ask for specific do's and don'ts (can you use names, take photos, show faces, tell people's personal stories, etc.) Please reference the Dignity Guidelines that we have given to you as you post blogs and on other forms of social media.

Insurance:

- Every racer is covered by insurance through a carrier associated with Adventures. This is what you use to cover medical costs above your deductible. Every racer should have the funds necessary to cover basic medical expenses. Typically, hospitals overseas will not accept insurance as a form of payment, but will require you to use personal funds. You will get reimbursed after you file a claim with your insurance. You need to have funds easily accessible (i.e. a credit card).
- Adventures is not your deductible. We will not cover hospital expenses except in the case of an emergency. Our default posture, with respect for medical expenses, is that we expect the racer to provide the adequate funds. If a situation arises where a racer is unable to provide the funds necessary to maintain health, we will allow Adventures funds to be spent as to not deny a racer medical attention.
- In the event you need medical care, you must contact your insurance carrier to let them know you need and are receiving care. This notification is important because it creates a claim which will then expedite the payment of benefits. Sometimes, failure to notify the insurance company results in a reduction of the benefit available. After you've done that, contact your Squad Mentor immediately.
- Insurance must be notified whenever someone checks into a hospital.
- Insurance provides care for 12 months after an illness. So, if a sickness has the potential to escalate, even if you aren't checked in to a hospital, notify the insurance. The number is on your insurance card.

Packages & Medication:

- We do not bring packages from home out to the field at debriefs. The only thing your squad mentor will bring you is a replacement ATM/Debit card if yours is lost or stolen. If needed, have that sent to Adventures to the attention of your Squad Mentor. 6000 Wellspring Trail, Gainesville, GA 30506. Let your Squad Mentor know if you're having a debit/credit card sent to the office so they can look for it.
- World Race staff and coaches will not bring prescription medication to the field. We do this to ensure that we are remaining within the laws of the countries we enter. If you need a prescription medication, either get a year supply before leaving or use the Expatriate Prescription Service (EPS) which you have learned about in the mobilization process. This is a link that will direct you to the EPS program (located in the resources section): <http://aim.missionsafe.com>.
- We ask that you don't have people send you packages on the field. Oftentimes it's difficult to receive packages overseas due to: your continued movement, delays at customs, or poor delivery systems in the country.

Documents:

- Bring colored copies of passport and have 6 blank pages in passport
- Alternate form of ID

- 6 passport photos for visas
- Power of attorney and living will (recommended)

Dating:

- The World Race is an opportunity for you to press into and experience what God has for you during your time on the field. Our expectation is that you will not have romantic relationships with your teammates, your squadmates, or with people you meet while on the World Race (ex: hosts, locals, ministry contacts, etc...)
- In the event you become attracted to someone we have two expectations. First, we expect that you inform your Squad Leader and Squad Mentor. Second, we expect that you lay that relationship, and the pursuit of that relationship, down during your time on the World Race. We believe that God has called you to the World Race for the purpose of accomplishing something in you. More often than not, dating relationships get in the way of that process.
- Additionally, dating relationships between people on teams/squads are often awkward and cumbersome for the rest of your team/squad. So we'll hold you accountable for behavior and accountable for perceived behavior of you and your teammates.
- We ask that you refrain from pursuing or giving the appearance of a romantic relationship with other Racers, ministry contacts, or locals while on the World Race.
 - This includes no cuddling, lying on each other, holding hands, long hugs, sharing hammocks/sleeping bags/beds and other actions of similar nature. This is to create an atmosphere of focus
- Consequently our expectation is that you'll not enter into those types of relationships while you're on the World Race with either squad mates, people you meet on the World Race, or those at home. We understand that you may become attracted to someone during your time on the World Race.
- Cultural implications—men and women behave differently overseas, please always ask your ministry partner what the cultural norms for men and women are and adjust your behavior accordingly.

Alcohol and Smoking:

- For Gap Year and Semesters trips, we require participants to not consume alcohol or nicotine regardless of their age.
- Furthermore, the illicit use of any drugs on the Race i.e. marijuana or any variations of Cannabis, THC, edibles, acid, or any other narcotic that is not prescribed to you is prohibited at all times regardless of legality in a specific country.
- We will choose to limit our freedom and act responsibly for the sake of the gospel and for our brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 9:19-23).

Appropriate Dress:

Dress and appearance carry a lot of weight around the world. When you minister in another country, you represent Christ, your local ministry host, and Adventures in Missions. Ministry is so much more than our preferences, so understand that your clothing choices this year may require sacrifice. The following dress guidelines have been created as a baseline expectation for your year. Within some countries, your ministry host may provide additional guidelines based on cultural norms. Racers are expected to honor these at all times, as we never want our dress or appearance to negatively affect ministry. As a guiding principle, ask yourself how far you can go to honor culture rather than how much you can get away with.

- You are expected to maintain personal hygiene.

MEN:

- Bring at least one pair of nice khakis, dress pants or slacks and a collared shirt.
- Regular swim trunks
- You should wear a shirt at all times unless sleeping or at the beach. (Even when doing manual labor.)
- Shorts should only be worn when deemed appropriate by your ministry partner. In these instances shorts must end no more than 5" above the top of your kneecap (about a palm's width.)
- Tank tops should be full coverage (no huge arm holes)

- No see-through clothing

WOMEN:

- Stomach must be covered
- Shorts should only be worn when deemed appropriate by your ministry host
- Shorts must be as long as fingertips
- Shirts cannot cover shorts (“lampshading”)
- No bra straps can be shown
- No spaghetti straps, strapless tops, or low hanging tank tops (on the front or side of your body)
- Skirts and dresses must hit the top of your knee
- Leggings and biker shorts are only allowed under other dress code appropriate clothing
- No jeans with excessive holes
- Full coverage one-piece swimsuit or tankini for women
- No see-through clothing

Tattoos and Piercings:

- In many countries it is not culturally appropriate to have tattoos and/or piercings. We will always default to the request of the ministry partner when it comes to removing piercings or covering tattoos. This is to honor culture and the countries that we are living in.

Visitors/Visits Home:

- By signing up to do the World Race, you are choosing to leave behind family and friends to travel to other countries for the entirety of your trip. We understand that this is difficult, but it is also part of the commitment you make by going. However, we also understand that there are circumstances in which someone you know may be in the same country or city where you are on your race. If you would like to see them, you may submit a request for approval at least one week in advance to your squad leaders/squad mentor. Our priorities are your safety and honoring our ministry commitments, and as such, each request will be reviewed case-by-case to determine if a visit/visitor will be approved.
- Guests may not stay overnight at your ministry housing and they will need permission to participate in ministry with you as we require background checks for all participants.
- World Racers are allowed to leave the field for immediate family members’ weddings or funerals, any other opportunities may be considered but must be approved by SQM and WR Leadership. Participants may be gone up to one week, from the time they leave the field until the day they return. They must personally cover all associated costs.

Travel on the Field:

- Off day travel plans that are 3+ hours away must be approved by your leadership team. Once the Squad Mentor and leadership team approve of a plan, the World Racers must then gain approval from the Ministry Host. Off-day travel should not interfere with ministry or burden a ministry host.
- Racers and leaders may not rent any cars, motorcycles or mopeds on the field.
- Racers and leaders also may not drive for ministry related activities.

Physical Fitness:

- The World Race is physically demanding and we expect racers to maintain a healthy level of fitness.
- Racers should be able to walk a few miles with their pack and all of their belongings

- Some ministry placements will require both manual labor and physically difficult hikes and walks to reach locations for ministry

Emergencies:

- Squad leaders always need to be able to get in touch with you, the Team Leaders must always have team phones on and charged
- Emergency Number: +1-877-356-9266. This number is answered 24 hours a day and is for EMERGENCIES only. If your family needs to contact Adventures for something other than an emergency our general number is either: 800-881-2461 or 770-983-1060. Parents can also contact Betty Means with Parent Ministry at 770-744-4542.
- Health/Wellness on the field—If you become ill, notify your leaders and/or your Squad Mentor. Your leaders will normally notify the office for you. Go to the clinic if you're not getting better within 2 days.
- We recommend taking malaria medication when advised by hosts or when in an area with known cases.
- Passports - If passports are stolen, lost, or in bad condition, go to the nearest US Embassy to obtain a new one.

Alone Time:

- Participants are not permitted to go anywhere alone. You must always have a buddy and must ensure that others know where you are going and how long you intend to be gone. Ministry partners will help determine in each location how many people must be together in order to leave your housing and ministry sites.