

Coronavirus Situation

The coronavirus situation is hanging over all of our heads, but we are cautiously optimistic that we will be able to hold SCOA's 2021 summer camp this coming summer. We think that with the change in administrations and the vaccine that will be available that environment will be such that Americans will be able to travel to Japan next summer.

Japan is very motivated to hold the Olympics this summer and it just announced that it will let a large number of foreign visitors in for the Olympics. They will no longer require a 14-day quarantine but will require a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of departure. Visitors will also have to download a smartphone tracking app. It was implied that if a visitor is vaccinated, then he or she can enter without restrictions. So, it looks really good for SCOA's camp next summer!

Japan has done a very good job of containing the coronavirus up to this point. As of December 1, there were only 2,442 new cases in all of Japan, a country with 125 million people. Total cases to date are 153,000 and deaths 2,210. Of course, the situation can change, but for the time being, daily life in Japan is pretty normal – we do note that almost 100% of Japanese wear masks when inside.

