GAKUSEI SHIEN:

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Student Support Newsletter

CONTENTS

Pl	P2	P3	P4
●Start of the 63rd Summer	●Marine Sports Festival	 76th Tohoku University Festival National Pension Plan	Reminder on Traffic
Seven Universities Athlet-		(Kokumin Nenkin) Special	Rules and Etiquette
ic Meet (Nanadaisen)		Payment System for Students	for Cyclists

Start of the 63rd Summer Seven Universities Athletic Meet (Nanadaisen)

The Nanadaisen is a yearly sports competition between Hokkaido University, Tohoku University, University of Tokyo, Nagoya University, Kyoto University, Osaka University, and Kyushu University. The 63rd Nanadaisen summer tournament, which is being hosted by Nagoya University, begins in June, features 40 events, and will end in late September.

A kickoff party was held on May 15 by the Gakuyu-kai's Ohendan (cheerleading group). Athlete representatives passionately pledged to pursue victory in both the overall university ranking and their respective events, after which the Ohendan performed a cheer routine to wish them success.

Below we will showcase some details and highlights of the student clubs who will be competing in the tournament. You can find a schedule of the events on the Nanadaisen website (http://www.7univ-nanadaisen.jp/). Please join us in supporting our athletes!





Handball Club

The Tohoku University handball club is practicing daily at the Katahira gymnasium with the aim of moving into the top of the 1st division league and winning the Nanadaisen competition. In the Spring League they were the 4th team in the 1st division, progressing to the East Japan Intercollegiate for the first time since 2013.

Last year they achieved victory at the Tokyo Nanada-



isen tournament. They are putting all their effort into achieving a second victory this year. This year's events will be held from August 14th to 17th at Nagoya City Gymnasium, on the 18th at Moriyama Sports Center, and on the 20th at Paloma Mizuho Arena.

During the Nanadaisen, pay close attention to the goalie, Akagi Yuki (No. 12). In the previous tournament he was voted MVP of the tournament although only a 2nd year student, and was subsequently selected for the Best 7. Over the week, he achieved an average save rate of 37.4%. This year too he and his dynamic saves are expected to be TU's guardian angel.

The entire team is preparing for the East Japan Intercollegiate, Nanadaisen, and the Autumn League with the aim of shooting to the top, so please give them your full support!



Badminton Club

The Badminton Club is working to achieve their dual goals of reaching the top division at the Tohoku Regional League and winning the Nanadaisen men's and women's events. In this year's Spring League both the men's and women's teams stayed in the 2nd division, but they are training harder than ever to move up in the Nanadaisen and Autumn League.

At last year's Nanadaisen, the men's and women's teams got 5 wins and 1 loss, resulting in 2nd place, just shy of a dual victory. Although losing at the hands of the opposing university's powerhouse players, it was a disappointing result given the TU teams' high overall abilities. This year too they want to leverage their collective strengths to achieve their goals. This year's events will be held from August 11th to 16th at the Nakamura Sports Center.

One of the players to watch for at the Nanadaisen is 4th year student Todoroki Naoya. A regular player since his 2nd



year, he specializes in rallying with incomparably precise shots. Last year and the year before he was blocked by the opposition's guards, but "the third time's a charm," so this year he is hoping for his first victory. Another main feature of the badminton event is the competitive cheering between the universities. Before the match each university's supporters let out a yell, and during the rallies the teammates shout encouragement from the sidelines, filling the gymnasium with cheers. You really have to see it for yourself.

Marine Sports Festival

Greetings from the Rowing Club! We train daily at Kawauchi Hall, or on holidays at Teizan channel (Iwanuma City), with the aim of becoming Japan's top team. At last year's intercollegiate we got the bronze medal in the co-ed "eight" event, earning a place on the podium for the first time in 17 years. In the sport of rowing, the teams row their boats along a straight line for a predetermined distance, competing for position. They repeat the same rowing motion for the entire course. It sounds simple, but this sport's depth is its charm.

- Because the rowers face backwards, only the team at the front of the pack can see the entire situation.
- The outcome is influenced not just by the strength of the rowers, but environmental factors such as the weather.
- The sport employs advanced boating equipment and a steerer (called a cox).

As we want everyone to experience boat racing, we are hosting a boat race at the Marine Sports Festival. Take a flight into the world of marine sports and make this summer memorable!

Date September 29 (Sun.).

Place Tohoku University Rowing Club Boathouse, Iwanuma-shi, Kūkō Minami 6-chōme 4-3

Access 15 minutes by bus from JR Tatekoshi Station, or 15 min. walk from Sendai Airport Transit

Event Coxed Four

How to sign up Each team has 4 members. Access the Google form on the Student Affairs Information System or university website.



76th Tohoku University Festival

The Tohoku University Festival Office's 200 members are preparing daily for the 76th Tohoku University Festival, which will be held from October 25th (Fri.) to the 27th (Sun.).

The theme of this year's festival will be "Composing our Memories of this Day." Humans preserve their memories in various forms, but most often as written words. For the 76th Tohoku University Festival, "this day" will become a single page on which we want everyone to compose a memory. Although the festival will eventually fade into the past, we hope that all the participants will "compose" something that will become their own "memory of this day."

The Tohoku University Festival Office is always striving to "improve and advance the Tohoku University Festival." Through trial and error, we are preparing everyday to make a memorable festival for the guests, participating organizations, and students.

Both the office and the participating organizations are planning intensively. Please don't miss the diverse large-scale performances on the stage in the pavilion or the science workshops at the Student Laboratories. We are also planning stalls that will let you enjoy even more foods and drinks than last year. We have many amazing plans, so please be sure to attend the Tohoku University Festival.

Last but not least, the cooperation of the students is critical to the success of the festival. We kindly ask for your help to make this year's festival even more polished than the last one!





National Pension Plan (Kokumin Nenkin) Special Payment System for Students

All people age 20 and older living in Japan, including international students, are required by law to pay into the National Pension Plan. However, students with low yearly incomes (defined as earning 1,280,000 yen or less for the previous fiscal year) may apply for **the Special Payment System for Students** to defer payment during their university enrollment.

You can apply at the Student Services Division, Desk ① (Education and Student Support Center, 1F), the National Pension System department of the city (ward) or town office where you have a Resident Registration, or a nearby Japan Pension Service office. Digital application is also possible via the government Myna Portal website. Please apply at your convenience.

What is the Special Payment System for Students?

This is a system that allows students who had low yearly incomes in the previous fiscal year to defer National Pension System payments.

Please apply for the Special Payment System for Students instead of failing to make pension payments.

- ① An application must be made each fiscal year while you are enrolled at university.
- ② You can apply even if you did not apply in the last fiscal year or moved your Resident Registration to Sendai.
- ③ Application procedures and completing the application form:
 - Application forms are available at the Student Services Division, Desk ①.
 - Please bring the following if you want to complete the application form at the Desk.
 - Ocopy of your Student ID or certificate of enrollment
- ODocumentation showing your pension number or Social Security and Tax Number (My Number), for example your pension book or My Number Card
- ④ After applying, you will receive an approval or rejection notice from the Japan Pension Service.
- ⑤ The time during which you are in the Special Payment System for Students will be included in your contributing years for your pension.

In the event of unforeseeable injuries, illness, disability, or death while in the Special Payment System for Students, disability pension and survivor annuities can be collected.

(6) Being on the Special Payment System for Students will reduce the amount of future pension that you receive compared with paying the full amount.

However, you may repay the deferred amount later, as long as you do so within 10 years.

Education and Student Support Department, Student Services Division, Support Planning Section Kawauchi Kita Campus, Education and Student Support Center, 1F, Desk ①

Phone **022-795-7819**

Reminder on Traffic Rules and Etiquette for Cyclists



Bicycles are convenient, but failing to obey traffic rules while commuting may lead to serious accidents.

- Riding double and riding abreast with multiple riders are illegal.
- Drunk cycling is illegal.
- •In general, bicycles must be ridden on the street and keep left.
 For this reason, bicycles must obey the same rules as motor vehicles regarding stoplights etc.
 There are a few areas around Kawauchi Kita Campus where special caution is required.

Intersection in front of Sendai Daini High School

The stoplight at this intersection uses "exclusive pedestrian phasing." What is "exclusive pedestrian phasing?"

This is a type of stoplight that has pedestrians-only and vehicles-only phases to ensure pedestrian safety by preventing accidents involving turning vehicles.

At the intersection in front of Sendai Daini High School, pedestrians cross in both directions simultaneously while all vehicles are stopped, although **crossing diagonally is not permitted**.

Pedestrians should follow the designated crosswalks and proceed with caution when crossing.



Street from Kawauchi Kita Campus (Kawauchi Post Office) to Miyagi Museum of Art



This street is on a steep hill, enabling cyclists to pick up speed rapidly.

This road is also used by elementary and middle school students, so please use extreme caution and do not cycle down this hill excessively fast. In FY2024 there will be construction at the Miyagi Museum of Art, so large trucks will be using the road too.

Please moderate your speed, keep an eye out for pedestrians, and ride safely.

T-intersection in front of Hayasaka Aiseikai Hospital

Please obey the stoplight. When the light is red, cyclists must also stop. There are road markings in addition to the light.



Tohoku University has received complaints from nearby residents, the neighborhood association, and the police about the poor road etiquette of student cyclists. Please observe traffic rules and etiquette and be considerate of those sharing the road with you.













