

KMAA STUDENTS VISIT KOREA



Team Aus!

During the July school holidays, Zach and Lachie Newman travelled with a group of Australian athletes led by Master Barry Jordan to Pyeongchang, Korea to compete in the World Hanmadang Competition.

This is a huge Taekwondo event with over 5,000 athletes from around the world.



Visiting the Kukkiwon

The boys adventure started in Gangnam which is where the Kukkiwon HQ is located.

Visiting the Kukkiwon has been a dream for the boys for a number of years so it was amazing to have a tour and watch some of the Kukkiwon demonstration team perform.

The boys were staying in a hotel walking distance from the Kukkiwon so enjoyed visiting on several days.



Day 1 of the competition

While in Gangnam, the boys also had the opportunity to train at one of the top Taekwondo schools under Master Jung Soon Ham.



Training with Master Jung Soon Ham

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This was an incredible opportunity and opened the boys eyes up to the training schedule of students in Korea!

The boys also experienced a trip to the Korean Demilitarised Zone and were able to look over to North Korea!



Korean Demilitarised Zone

Each day the boys trained both in fitness and Taekwondo as well as enjoyed Korean food and many tourist sights including the Seoul Grand Park (a huge wildlife park), the Seoul Tower and added a 'Newman' lock to the famous Love Lock Bridge.



Seoul Grand Park



Lachie training in the park



Love lock bridge



Zach training in the park

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Buddhist Accomodation

After 5 days in Gangnam, the boys travelled to Pyeongchang for the 5 day Hanmadang Competition.

The Australian team stayed at an incredible Buddhist retreat. It was a bit of a culture shock to begin with as there was no wifi, lots of prayer and silence was a priority!

However the surroundings were amazing and allowed for plenty of time for training and reflection.

The boys were too young to compete in any poomsae events at the Hanmadang (minimum age is 16 for international competitors), however they both competed in high jump kick board breaking and long jump kick board breaking.



Buddhist Accomodation



The boys from Aus!

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Go Lachie!

It was an amazing competition with Lachie finishing 5th out of 17 in high jump and 5th out of 23 in the long jump.

Zach finished 5th out of 13 in the high jump and equal 4th in the long jump.

Truly incredible results considering the boys had never competed in these events.



Go Zach!

Although the boys only competed in two days of the competition, they attended each of the five days to support their team mates and to experience an international competition.

The boys made many new Taekwondo friends during their time away and are so incredibly thankful for the opportunity to travel with the Australian team.

Written by the Newman Family.



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