

VICENCZA HEARNE SENSEI (TEAM MEMBER)

On 10 December 2013 we set off to Mumbai India for the 6th Karate-do Goju Kai world championship. Not realising it at the time, but four years had already passed since the most successful world championship in Cape Town.

I did not know what to expect from this journey. All I knew is that we had arrived and was as ready as I could be.

The day before the competition started we had our first training session as a team. This was not possible back home because where would we train over 200 students. We arrived at the venue and ready to train where we bonded as a team and built lasting relationships a South African unit.

Competition day 1 was the day for the seniors to set the bar and do the best they could do to make the juniors proud. We arrived at the venue at 09:00 only to face the challenge of starting a little later. That did not get us down as we patiently waited and went out to do our best with the utmost enthusiasm.

Competition day 2 was the day for the juniors and cadets. Well they certainly made us proud by displaying an unforgettable performance and only motivating our kids who were up next to do even better.

Competition day 3 was the day our amazingly talented kids took to the floor and set the bar even higher for the championships to come.

This was an unforgettable tour and would not have been as successful as it was without the encouragement and support of our amazing instructors. They made it possible for us to believe in ourselves and they never stopped believing in us, last but by no means least the management team who we would have been lost without.

Also to an amazing icon and hero, Hanshi Peter Brandon for allowing us to not only represent the country he represents, but allowing us to represent him. He shines through us.