

Sports Article in Japan's Number one Karate Magazine

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This month we are introducing the Dojo, Kantosyo Karate Club in Calgary Canada. It is famous for being the entrance to the Canadian Rocky Mountains. It has the grandeur of the mountains to the west and it has the vast plains to the east. They have a famous festival in July the Calgary Stampede. There are many people who come from all over the world for the sight seeing in Calgary.

I visited the Dojo Kantosyo Karate Club in the middle of May in Calgary Canada, which is recognized by the All Japan Karate Federation Renbukai. Calgary is also famous for the Olympics which were held in 1988. I have visited Calgary 3 times. I remembered when I visited the first time, it was snowing and very cold in October. It was very warm temperatures around 25 degrees in May. But it had snowed the week before that.

I have friend Ray 4th Dan, Rob 2nd Dan and Glen 4th Dan who opened their Dojo Kantosyo Karate Club in January 2001.

There Dojo is located on Main street approximately 3 Km north of downtown Calgary, there are many Asian shops around it. As a member of Renbukai, I was so proud to see it has a (Karate do Renbukai) sign in Japanese on the entrance of the Dojo. The inside of the Dojo was so clean and I was so impressed to see that it had short curtains hanging on the dressing room entrances with life written in Japanese on them.

They each have occupations and after work they come to teach Karate from infants to adults Monday through Saturdays. They have little kids, youth classes and adult classes. Each class runs three times a week. Besides these they also have special classes called power and cardio. The cardio class is like aerobics which contain karate techniques, good for people who want to start to know Karate. The power class is hard and has no breaks for 45 minutes with basics practice the remind you of old Karate style.

They come to Japan every year to participate in the All Japan Bogu tournament. When they are in Japan they have received many titles and awards at tournaments.

They have been learning the mind of Bogu Karate and take over the skills and spirit from here to Calgary. They all have over 25 years experience in Karate and they have always been sincere to the Renbukai Karate style because they all come to Japan to take Dan rank officially. They love Japan and Renbukai's Karate and therefore their students are very earnest and the same as in a Japanese Dojo.

I have been staying at Glen's house while in Calgary, he just got married on May 3rd. The students and them took me on a trip to Radium British Columbia, which has a famous hot spring bath, we went by bus on the weekend. I changed into a swimsuit to bath. It was just like a big pool not like Japanese hot bath.

I had a great time with them.

Before coming back to Japan, we made a promise to one another to meet again at the All Japan Bogu tournament this September.