



2017-08-16

Australians arrive in athletes' village

Muggy 35°C conditions have welcomed the biggest ever Australian Uniroos team to the athletes' village for the 2017 Summer Universiade in Taipei, Taiwan.

Australian teams across a number of sports including athletes from water polo, gymnastics, swimming and taekwondo have touched down in Taiwan's capital, and moved into the dedicated athlete's village over the past couple of days.

Whilst some athletes arrived weary after the 8+ hour journey, others were upbeat and excited to arrive to a cheerful welcome from the host-city's volunteers.

"I slept from take-off and woke up as we touched down, so I'm pretty good," said University of Technology Sydney Mathematics and Finance student Oliver Signorini, who will be competing in the 10km open water swim later in the Games.

Others, such as fencer and RMIT Bachelor of Biological Science student Victoria Mentor, had to face the extra challenge of travelling with their competition equipment.

"Thankfully I didn't have any issues bringing weapons on the flight," said Mentor, who will be competing in the women's foil on the 21 August.

The athletes will spend the next few days settling in, training and importantly adapting to the weather conditions.

More athletes will continue to arrive in Taipei throughout the coming days, as the men's water polo team prepare to kick-start the Australian campaign when they match up against Argentina on Friday.

The official opening ceremony will be on Saturday 19 August, with competition to extend until 30 August.

Photography by Sam Thompson.



