

18 JUL 2019

UIPM 2019 YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (U19 & U17): EGYPT KICK OFF WITH MEN'S RELAY GOLD



- Karim & Mohamed (EGY) defeat Korea in dramatic U19 opener
- Russia hold off France to win bronze in Sofia (BUL)
- U17 women qualify for final in first combined championships

Egypt crowned a historic day with gold as **Noureldin Karim** and **Omar Mohamed** won the Under 19 Men's Relay at the first-ever combined UIPM Youth World Championships (U19 / U17).

The opening day of the championships also featured qualification for the U17 Women's Individual Final but it was a gripping duel between the senior youths from Egypt and **Korea (Hyeong Taegeuk & Lee Suhan)** that brought a dramatic close to proceedings in Sofia.



he result was a reversal of the UIPM 2018 U19

World Championships in Caldas da Rainha (POR), where Korea triumphed in the Men's Relay with Egypt picking up bronze behind silver medallists China.

Behind the race for gold was an equally compelling contest for bronze, eventually won by **Russia (Andrei Smirnov & Anton Gadetckii)** ahead of **France (Mathis Rochat & Melvin Perrier)**.

Great Britain (George Case & Toby Price) finished 5th and **Germany (Marc Spletzer & Alexander Netz)** completed the top six.

HOW THE MEDALS WERE WON

France (Rochat/Perrier) led the way in Swimming with a time of 1:55.55, closely followed by **Italy (Giorgio Micheli & Federico Alessandro)** and **Sweden (Jakob & Ludvig Rasmuson)**.

Hungary (Dominik Szentpronai & Peter Andras Barany) stood out in Fencing with 27V/15D, managing one more victory in the Ranking Round than Korea (Hyeong/Lee) and two more than Great Britain (Case/Price) and Germany (Spletzer/Netz). Italy (Micheli/Alessandro) added seven points in the Bonus Round.

Korea (Hyeong/Lee) started the Laser Run with a 3sec advantage over Hungary (Szentpronai/Barany) and Germany (Spletzer/Netz) and Great Britain (Case/Price) coming immediately after them.

The big movers were Egypt (Karim/Mohamed) and France (Rochat/Perrier), who started with handicaps of 20sec and 31sec respectively. The excellence of these two teams created two mini-contests, both of which were settled only with sprints to the line on a thrilling final lap.

[Click here to see the full results.](#)

CHAMPIONS' REACTION

Karim (EGY) said: "It's an amazing feeling. I think we organised the disciplines well. We started with Swimming and he was better, and same with Fencing, and in the end I think we just played the game well."

“I’m looking forward to the individual semi-finals and final, and hopefully we’ll get another gold medal there – or any medal.

“I would like to thank all my coaches and family, especially my grandmother, because she died recently. I give her this medal.”

Mohamed (EGY) added: “I am very happy with the victory today, and I hope to achieve more in the future. I dedicate the medal to my family and friends and my coaches, and to my partner.”



U17 UPDATE

Fifty-two athletes took part in qualification for the U17 Women’s Individual Final, with **Ohta Natsu** and **Ohta Kaede** of **Japan** emerging as the top two performers, followed by **Anastasia Malasenoka** of **Latvia**.

The 36 successful qualifiers for the final on Saturday, 20 July are listed below.

HOST NATION REACTION

Andrey Kuzmanov, President of the Bulgarian Modern Pentathlon Federation, said: “I’m very glad that Bulgaria is hosting this UIPM competition, which for the first time is for both Under 17 and Under 19 athletes.

“The first day went really well with a lot of athletes from 40 nations here in Bulgaria. I hope that the rest of the competition will also go very well. I’m very glad to welcome all the young athletes and their coaches here, and I hope they will enjoy their stay in Bulgaria and that we will welcome them again.”

WATCH AND FOLLOW

The UIPM 2019 Youth World Championships (U19 / U17) in Sofia (BUL) runs from July 18-24 and continues on Friday, July 19 with the U19 Women's Relay and qualification for the U17 Men's Individual Final.

Visit the UIPM website or download "UIPM Central" from your app store to keep track of live results throughout the championships. Follow UIPM on Facebook or Twitter to see daily video and photo highlights.

Rank	Name	Nation	MP Points
1	OHTA Natsu	JPN	972
2	OHTA Kaede	JPN	969
3	MALASENOKA Anastasia	LAT	965
4	SZCZUR Nela	POL	964
5	ZGUROVA Svetla	BUL	962
6	HÄNEL Rosalie	GER	957
7	DOBRONYI Dorina	HUN	954
8	TÓTH Dorka Sára	HUN	954
9	TYCHKINA Elizaveta	RUS	954
10	LASZLO Beata	HUN	954
11	MYRDA Paulina	POL	953
12	KOZMA Reka	HUN	949
13	ISMAIL Malak	EGY	948
14	BUDEIKINA Kristina	RUS	944
15	GULEL Selen	TUR	944
16	BUß Lola	GER	943
17	PONDAVEN Isabela	GUA	943
18	RASHED Zeina	EGY	942
19	CIESIELSKA Zofia	POL	941
20	YEZHELEVA Lizaveta	BLR	941
21	PYATUNINA Anastasiya	KAZ	941
22	SALA Elisa	ITA	941
23	KOLOBOVA Arina	RUS	940
24	BEHEIRY Nouran	EGY	939
25	BOSOVSKAYA Arina	RUS	938
26	DOBROVOLSKAYA Anhelina	BLR	932
27	GINEITYTE Medeja	LTU	931
28	HAURONSKAYA Alena	BLR	928
29	SPEAKMAN Gina	GBR	925
30	TCHIRIKHTCHIAN Audrey	FRA	924
31	STOYNOVA Victoria	BUL	922
32	HANNAM Larissa	GBR	920
33	LEH Cicelle	GER	910
34	ANIKEYENKA Palina	BLR	909
35	VULETIC Antonija	GER	905
36	GOCEK Nil Eylul	TUR	901