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**World Pentathlon
Newsletter**

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UIPM 2019 PENTATHLON WORLD CUP FINAL TOKYO



Laura Asadauskaitė (LTU) and Joseph Choong (GBR) celebrate their individual victories at UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final Tokyo, which earned each of them a qualification place at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. See Pages 2-14



UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final Tokyo

Pentathlon out in front during first Tokyo 2020 Olympics test event

Tokyo and pentathlon demonstrated perfect synergy during a spectacular UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final, which doubled as the first official test event for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

Laura Asadauskaite of Lithuania and Joseph Choong of Great Britain joined the African champions on the qualification list after winning the individual events.

Dr Klaus Schormann, UIPM President, said: "It is important to underline that Modern Pentathlon is the first Olympic sport to have a test event here in Tokyo. We are seeing high performances from

many of our best athletes in preparation for Tokyo.

"Special thanks go to the organising committee, where Tokyo 2020 has prepared with the Modern Pentathlon Association of Japan in a fantastic way. We have never seen such close to attention to the infrastructure and what is needed for the Games. We were happy to see the high level of the horses and the excellent parkour.

"Congratulations to all the athletes for the places they have achieved, especially to Laura who has qualified for the Olympic Games, and we are looking forward to the men's event and the Mixed Relay. We can already say that next year we are going to have the perfect Olympic Games."

Women's Individual: Asadauskaite (LTU) secures Olympic place with glorious gold

As the only Olympic champion in the field, Laura Asadauskaite of Lithuania proved that class is permanent as she won her third Pentathlon World Cup Final gold medal and qualified for her fourth Olympic Games.

With a winning margin of 11 seconds over silver medallist Elodie Clouvel of France and 28 seconds over bronze medallist Annika Schleu of Germany, Asadauskaite (LTU) sent a reminder that she remains the athlete to beat, even at the age of 35.

Now she will be able to map out her preparations for the return trip to



Valentin Prades of France takes over from team-mate Elodie Clouvel during the Mixed Relay in Tokyo (JPN)



Gulnaz Gubaydullina (RUS) is captured by the underwater camera during the Women's Individual swimming, where competition was fierce (below)

Tokyo in July 2020, having joined the African champion, Haydy Morsy of Egypt, on the qualification list. It was another signature performance from one of pentathlon's enduring greats, and a fitting outcome for the historic first official test event of the 2020 Olympic Games.

With only one Olympic place up for grabs, it was a fierce contest in humid conditions, with Asadauskaite (LTU) and Clouvel (FRA) swapping the lead throughout the various disciplines. Ultimately a slightly better performance in Fencing and Riding and the superior Laser Run speed of the London 2012 Olympic champion won out over the Swimming prowess and all-round consistency of the Rio 2016 silver medallist.

World silver medallist Schleu (GER) proved her calibre once again with an impressive bronze, and she fought off a remarkable finish from 4th-placed Gintare Venckauskaite (LTU) on the final straight. The European dominance was continued by Gulnaz Gubaydullina of Russia and Iryna Prasiantsova of Belarus in 5th and 6th respectively, with Elena Micheli of Italy and Kate French



of Great Britain finishing the top eight.

The home crowd, who had come out in numbers to watch this official Tokyo 2020 test event and cheer on the athletes from Japan, were left nursing a feeling of anti-climax as Natsumi Tomonaga faded from 5th to 10th in the Laser Run.

Medallists' reaction

Asadauskaite (LTU) said: "Today is a very happy day. I had a very good fence, a good ride and swim and also a good Laser Run. I'm very happy because I have the qualification for the Olympic Games. See you next year when I will

come back here – I like this city very much.

"I think I am ready for the Olympic Games. Now I am ready."

Clouvel (FRA) added: "It was very difficult in the Riding because my horse had a problem and was not the best. But I used my experience and tried to focus. After that it was difficult to concentrate in the Laser Run but I said 'OK, Elodie, go for that ticket to the Olympic Games', and I tried to focus on that, but Laura was the winner today. She is very fast and good with shooting, and she was the best today.



Anna Buriak (RUS) takes a hit on the arm during the Fencing Bonus Round

"I would like to say that the organisation has been very good and the complex is amazing, and I am confident about coming back to Tokyo for the Olympic Games."

Schleu (GER) said: "In the beginning

of the Laser Run it was pretty good, I moved up to 3rd place and I said 'OK, it's easy to hold it' but my shooting was not on point. That made it pretty hard on the last lap and there were some very tough girls chasing me. The conditions were difficult – it's not

the heat, it's the humidity – and we were sweating all the way through the Riding and the Laser Run. We all have to qualify for the Olympic Games – it's only Laura who has qualified today – but I think we will have many chances to get to Tokyo."



A capacity crowd looks on during the Riding discipline of the first official Tokyo 2020 test event

Swimming

Gubaydullina (RUS) and Clouvel (FRA) engaged in their now-familiar shoot-out in the pool, timing 2:09.92 and 2:10.12 respectively. Another perennial contender, 2016 world champion Sarolta Kovacs of Hungary, was next-fastest with 2:10.93.

Local supporters in the Musashino Forest Sports Plaza complex were delighted to see two Japanese athletes, Rena Shimazu and Tomonaga, record the 7th and 8th fastest times respectively.

Fencing

To mirror the Olympic Games format, the Fencing Ranking Round was held on the first day of competition, in this case Thursday 27 June. It was a riveting affair and Asadauskaite (LTU) came out on top, scoring 27V/8D, one more hit than Clouvel (FRA) and Anna Buriak (RUS) could manage.

World No.1 Marie Oteiza (FRA) also stayed in contention with 24V/11D, with Volha Silkina (BLR) leading a strong effort from her country with 23V/12D.

The Bonus Round saw an amazing surge from Schleu (GER), who eased the pain of her disappointing 18V/17D with seven victories on the showpiece piste. Tamara Alekszejev (HUN) added three points of her own and Clouvel (FRA) was the last woman standing with three wins for a useful four additional points.

Riding

With the humidity rising, six athletes kept their composure and kept their horses under control to achieve a perfect round: Gubaydullina (RUS), Tomonaga (JPN), Schleu and Janine Kohlmann (GER), Venckauskaite (LTU) and Oteiza (FRA).

Asadauskaite (LTU) kept her victory charge on track with only one knockdown for a score of 293, but Clouvel (FRA) struggled and was relieved in the end to only conceded 18 penalty points.



Modern Pentathlon founder Pierre de Coubertin keeps a watchful eye on Riding standards



Rio 2016 Olympic bronze medallist Oktawia Nowacka (POL) grits her teeth during the Laser Run



Annika Schleu (GER) takes aim as she makes her way from 8th to 3rd in an exciting Laser Run

The result of that ordeal for Clouvel (FRA) was reduction in her lead to just 3sec over Oteiza (FRA) and 9sec over Asadauskaite (LTU).

Laser Run

Everyone in pentathlon knows that if Asadauskaite (LTU) is anywhere near the business end of a Laser Run, there is a good chance she will be the one to break the tape.

So it proved as the 2012 and 2015 World Cup Final winner immediately ran past Oteiza (FRA) on the first lap and caught up with Clouvel (FRA) by the time they arrived back at the range. She hit her five targets and moved into the lead, and apart from a wobble during her fourth shoot, looked as composed as ever in the pursuit of victory.

To her credit, Clouvel (FRA) refused to let anyone else have a sight of second place, and when Oteiza (FRA) faded there was a gripping battle for bronze,



Iryna Prasiantsova (BLR) takes a selfie of the Women's Individual podium athletes

ultimately controlled by the composed Schleu (GER). The best time of the day went to Venckauskaite (LTU), who surged round the course in 11:32.20 to come within 1sec of a bronze medal. Gubaydullina (RUS), the 2017 world



Women's Individual Final podium

champion, timed 11:43.10 while Ilke Ozyuksel of Turkey made progress from the back of the pack in also breaking the 12min mark.

Men's Final: Choong (GBR) finishes fast again to book Olympic ticket

Joseph Choong of Great Britain shook off the bridesmaid's tag to earn a dramatic gold medal at the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final and earn a return trip to Tokyo next year.

After two silver medals during the regular season in Sofia (BUL) and Prague (CZE), Choong (GBR) was always going to be a strong contender for the sole qualification place at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, but he twice had to come from behind to claim the prize.

A day after the women's gold medal went to 35-year-old Laura Asadauskaite, it looked like experience would again be decisive as Alexander Lesun of Russia led the way through the disciplines. But Lesun (RUS), who

turns 31 on Monday, came unstuck at the third shooting during the Laser Run.

Even then, Choong (GBR) had more work to do as Marvin Dogue of Germany snatched the lead at the start of the final lap. A classic duel ensued, and Choong (GBR) had just too much energy for Dogue (GER) in a reprisal of the dramatic battle for silver between

the two athletes in Prague (CZE). The result was a young-looking podium, led by 24-year-old Choong and 23-year-old Dogue and completed by 22-year-old Li Shuhuan of China. The bronze medallist rose 15 places with an astonishing Laser Run performance to claim his first medal at a senior UIPM competition.

A batch of big names crossed the



Action from the Swimming pool as the Men's Individual Final begins

line behind them, lead by world No.1 Valentin Prades of France and Pavlo Tymoshchenko of Ukraine and Patrick Dogue (GER), elder brother of Marvin. Lesun (RUS) finished 7th, one place ahead of Justinas Kinderis (LTU).

Hikaru Shimano of Japan was the highest finisher for the host nation of this official Tokyo 2020 Olympic test event in a creditable 18th.

Medallists' reaction

Choong (GBR) said after the breathless finale: "It feels amazing. In the early stages I just wanted to stay in contention, knowing that when it came to the last lap I would back myself as I have done all season.

"Two of my shoots weren't great and created a bit of pressure on me but a few others didn't manage to hold their nerve either, and luckily when it came to the last lap I was still up there.

"Lesun has been world champion and Olympic champion and everything in between, so it's always nice to try and get one up on him from time to time.

"As we came into the last two laps,



Alexander Lesun (RUS) scores another hit during the Fencing Bonus Round

I knew the Chinese athlete wasn't far behind, but I felt that even if he overtook me I would overtake him on the last lap.

"I actually feel a bit sorry for Marvin because I did the same thing to him in Prague. But it feels so good to have the Olympic place. I'd like to thank UK Sport and my parents for their support over the years. They've been fantastic."

A silver medal at a Pentathlon World

Cup Final will be a strong source of consolation in time for Dogue (GER) but he was disappointed to be caught for the second consecutive race by the same athlete on that final lap.

Dogue (GER): "I started very slowly with very bad shooting but I didn't feel under much pressure because I thought everyone in front of me was good. But then I saw that some of them were starting to struggle on the shooting range, maybe because of the



More action from the Fencing Bonus Round at the Pentathlon Arena in Musashino Forest Plaza in Tokyo (JPN)

weather. I was catching up and tried to push myself and focus on myself and I realised I had nothing to lose.

"I knew Joe was fast from the last World Cup when he beat me in the same situation. This time I started to push myself but he had more than me again. I tried my best to push myself as hard as I can but I will have to keep working on my sprints, because this shouldn't happen again."

The big surprise of the day was the surge of Li (CHN), ending a long wait for his country to claim a major individual medal.

Li (CHN) said: "I am a very young athlete and this is my first time at the World Cup Final, and I am very happy [to have won a medal]. Thanks to all the coaches and the other members of the Chinese team. Today the competition was very good, very nice. I will keep racing and training and I hope to be here for the 2020 Olympic Games, which will be very good."

Swimming

Typically, the British duo of Choong and world champion Jamie Cooke set the pace in the pool, with Cooke (GBR) edging out Choong (GBR) 1:57.59 to 1:58.14. Gustav Gustenau of Austria also broke the 2min mark by 0.07sec.

Fencing

After a victory at Pentathlon World Cup Prague that was built on a strong Fencing foundation, Rio 2016 Olympic champion Lesun (RUS) maintained his exceptional form on the piste with a dominant performance.

Lesun (RUS) scored 26V/9D in the Ranking Round and added two points in the Bonus Round. Behind him, Rio 2016 silver medallist Tymoshchenko (UKR) managed 23V/12D along with Patrick Dogue (GER) and Ivan Khamtsou of Belarus.

Riding

With rain falling and one or two horses proving tricky to manage, the Riding



A blur of colour and movement as the Riding event takes centre stage



World No.1 Valentin Prades (FRA) clears another obstacle

event was fraught with tension but five athletes managed a clean round, including Shimano (JPN), and another four came within two points of the maximum score of 300.

Marvin Dogue (GER, 298), Partick Dogue (GER, 293), Prades (FRA, 293) and Jung Jinhwa of Korea kept themselves in contention, leaving the top two athletes to walk a tightrope.

Choong (GBR) looked to have mastered the challenge only to dislodge the last two obstacles to incur 14 penalty points. The tension was even higher for Lesun (RUS), riding a horse that had been difficult for others to manage on both competition days. But the supreme pentathlete of his generation summoned all his experience and Riding expertise to get round with only one blemish for a score of 293.



Surprise bronze medallist Li Shuhuan (CHN) shows his athleticism on the running track

Laser Run

Lesun (RUS) started with a 15sec cushion over Choong (GBR), 23sec over Patrick Dogue (GER), 27sec over Prades (FRA) and 29sec over Marvin Dogue (GER), and for the first half of the Laser Run there was no hint of the drama to come.

However, it was the third visit to the shooting range, with rain falling increasingly heavily, where the leader came unstuck, taking numerous attempts to get his second shot away. Choong (GBR), who is renowned for his strong finish, seized the moment with an 8sec shoot.

Suddenly there was a whole new complexion to the race, with Li (CHN) right up there in contention for a medal of any colour. At the fourth shoot, it was anyone's game and it was Marvin Dogue (GER) who stormed out of the range to take pole position.

For anyone who had seen the climax in Prague, the result looked somewhat inevitable when Choong (GBR) exited the range only a few seconds behind his rival, with Lesun (RUS) now out of



Joseph Choong (GBR) overtakes Marvin Dogue (GER) in the final stages of a thrilling Laser Run

contention. Choong (GBR) duly hunted down Dogue (GER) and passed him around the halfway stage. Dogue (GER) kicked back in the final straight but the big prize of Olympic qualification proved elusive.

In the final analysis, Li (CHN) timed an impressive 10:44.10 but it wasn't even the fastest Laser Run of the day. That honour went to Martin Vlach of the Czech Republic, whose exceptional 10:37.10 earned him 12th place.

Mixed Relay: Prades savours his redemption as France win gold

Elodie Clouvel added Mixed Relay gold to individual silver and Valentin Prades shook off the disappointment of 4th place as France ended the competition on a high.

performance by two-time champions Natalya Coyle and Arthur Lanigan-O'Keefe.

Lithuania (Gintare Venckauskaite & Justinas Kinderis) joined them on the podium after bravely holding off the challenge of 4th-placed Poland (Oktawia Nowacka & Daniel Lawrynowicz).

Medallists' reaction

Two days after narrowly missing out on Olympic qualification as she was beaten by Laura Asadauskaite of Lithuania, Clouvel (FRA) said: "It was a very good day. I had to focus really hard on the race for first place with the Lithuanian girl, but we managed to win in the end. An amazing day and congratulations to Tokyo on the great organisation."

The alliance of the Rio 2016 women's silver medallist and the men's world No.1 proved irresistible to the rest of the field, although Ireland ended up within 2sec of gold after a strong

Prades (FRA) had also been in contention for the Olympic qualification spot before struggling with his shooting in the men's event. He wore an expression of relief as he

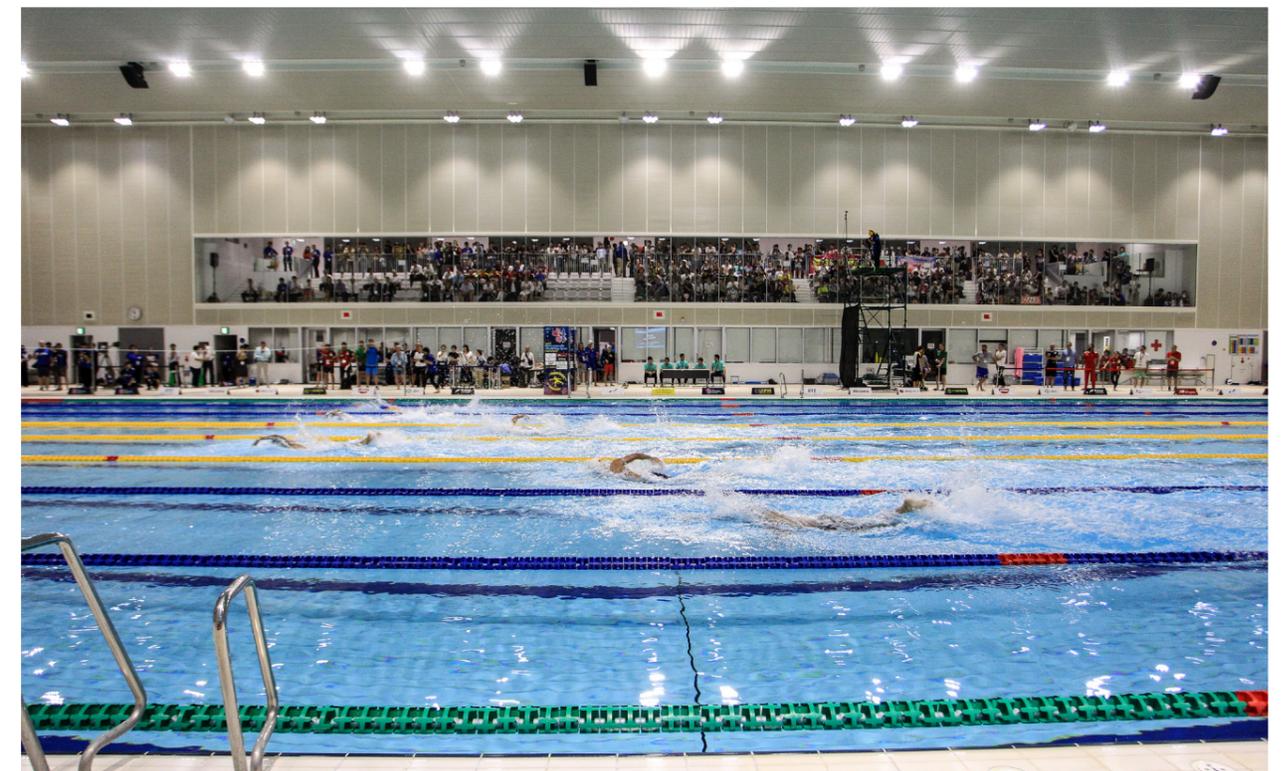
said: "I feel like I redeemed myself after yesterday's performance when my shooting was bad."

"My last lap was easy because Elodie did such a good job to stay close on her second lap to the Lithuanian, a very fast woman. It was a good fight with Justinas Kinderis on the first lap but I managed to shoot better. It was very close. I'm looking forward to coming back to Tokyo for the Olympic Games."

Both members of the Ireland duo expressed satisfaction at their performances after disappointing results in the individual events, where the Riding discipline was their downfall.

Coyle (IRL) said: "The competition was very tough. It's quite humid out here as well, so it was a really tough finish. We didn't have the individual competitions we would have liked after the Riding, so it's really nice to cap it off with a silver medal."

"Our big competition this year is the



Crowds watch the Mixed Relay Swimming event from poolside in the 2020 Olympic Games host city

European Championships, which is our main Olympic qualifier, so it's brilliant to be coming home on that long-haul flight with a medal."

Lanigan-O'Keeffe (IRL) added: "My individual event was going really well until the Riding, which didn't go my way, so there was a bit of determination and a bit of anger today. It went well and we won silver so I'm really happy. I took a lot of motivation from Joe Choong, who hunted down Marvin Dogue to win the gold medal yesterday, and I tried to do the same today with Prades. So thanks Joe!"

Kinderis (LTU) added: "It was difficult conditions for everyone, although in Lithuania we are used to the rain. Valentin Prades had a hard competition yesterday and so did I, and I think

"Arthur was a bit fresher because his individual competition ended in the Riding. It was tough. I think this was great preparation for the European and World Championships and a good result and good practice for us ahead of the Olympic Games."

Swimming
Immediately France (Clouvel/Prades)



A gesture of teamwork in the Swimming pool

set the tone for the day as they won the final swimming heat in a time of 1:55.85. Ireland (Coyle/Lanigan-O'Keeffe) were not far behind in 1:56.58 while Russia (Gulnaz Gubaydullina & Kirill Belyakov) were next-fastest in 1:57.85.

Fencing

With the competition following a clear pattern, favourites France (Clouvel/Prades) continued to lead from the front on the piste with a result of

24V/10D in the Ranking Round and the maximum two points in the Bonus Round. Ireland (Coyle/Lanigan-O'Keeffe) scored 23V/11D while Poland (Nowacka/Lawrynowicz) stayed in contention with 22V/12D.

Riding

A perfect score of 300 in the Mixed Relay is more unusual than in the individual events but Lithuania (Venckauskaite/Kinderis) showed high-



A dramatic overhead image of a men's bout during the Mixed Relay Fencing Bonus Round



Valentin Prades (FRA) sets the Riding standard again on his way to gold alongside Elodie Clouvel

class horse management to achieve two clear rounds. Russia (Gubaydullina/Belyakov) also performed superbly with only one time penalty conceded. But there was no material change at the top of the standings as France (Clouvel/Prades) scored 295 and Ireland (Coyle/Lanigan-O'Keeffe) 290.

Laser Run

Starting with a 15sec cushion over Coyle (IRL) and 20sec ahead of Venckauskaite (LTU), Clouvel (FRA) struggled with her first shoot and got stuck on the range for 26sec. It was Venckauskaite (LTU) who reacted fastest to the opportunity, overtaking Coyle (IRL) and gradually hunting down the leader until they reached the second shoot together.

To her credit, Clouvel (FRA) refused to let the Laser Run specialist leave her behind, but Venckauskaite (LTU) handed over a 1sec lead to Kinderis (LTU), while Coyle (IRL) protected her position in 3rd. Immediately Prades (FRA) made a statement of intent with a

rapid shoot, while Lawrynowicz (POL) began to put pressure on Lanigan-O'Keeffe (IRL).

At the final shoot, Prades (FRA) took 14sec to get his five shots but it was

enough to give him a clear run to gold, as Kinderis (LTU) had fallen back into the battle for silver and bronze. This was where Lanigan-O'Keeffe (IRL) seized the moment with a 7sec shoot and a lung-bursting final lap that even



Natalya Coyle (IRL) looks determined on her way to a silver medal alongside Arthur Lanigan-O'Keeffe



Japanese Olympic Committee President Tsunekazu Takeda (centre) joins UIPM office-bearers, national federation leaders and sponsors on June 30

had world No.1 Prades (FRA) looking over his shoulder on the final straight.

The fastest Laser Run of the day came from Germany, with individual bronze medallist Annika Schleu and silver medallist Marvin Dogue recording an impressive 10min 44sec to finish 5th overall.

Russia (Gubaydullina/Belyakov) completed the top six and host nation Japan finished 7th (Natsumi Tomonaga & Tomoyuki Ono) and 13th (Shino Yamanaka & Hikaru Shimano) with their two teams.

UIPM reaction

Christian Roudaut, Chair of the UIPM Coaches Committee, said: "In the name of all the coaches of the world and those present here in Tokyo, we are all pleased with the high-quality organisation of this official Tokyo 2020 Olympic test event.

"We could see that the athletes were very happy to compete and to engage with the public in very good conditions.



A victory pose from Valentin Prades and Elodie Clouvel of France

On behalf of the coaches I congratulate the organisers."

Janusz Peciak, 1976 Olympic champion and UIPM Executive Board Member for Sport, added: "I was very happy about the Riding at this Tokyo 2020 Olympic test event, because it was the first time since the Rio 2016 Olympic Games that we had 4ft jumps.

"It was a good test and we could see that only the best riders scored high points. Everybody really has to think about this and work on their Riding because it will be the same for the Tokyo Olympics. I'm very happy with the Riding course design by Olaf Petersen.

"My goal is that all future World Cups will include jumps at the same level as we had here."

UIPM 2019 Global Laser Run City Tour



A mass gathering under the start/finish line as Chinese Laser Runners enjoy their first taste of the sport, which includes laser shooting (below)

China joins the party in Beijing and Changsha

Laser Run was introduced to the world with the aim of giving people from urban communities in all countries an entry point to UIPM Sports. Now it has been embraced by the world's most populous nation, and in spectacular style.

In June 2019, the Global Laser Run City Tour took place in China for the first time, with one instalment in Beijing on June 1 and another in Changsha on June 8, both arranged by the Chinese Modern Pentathlon Association (CMPA).

In Beijing, the iconic Olympic Centre at Forest Park venue hosted more than 500 racers. On International Children's Day it was fitting that the majority of participants were children, and the organisers had the novel idea of running a combined event for children and their parents.

The youngest Laser Runners were



accompanied by their mother or father throughout, while older children formed a team with a parent with each completing one lap.

Chinese running legend Sun Yingjie, who was world 10,000m bronze medallist in 2003 and world half-marathon champion in 2004, led a mass warm-up while celebrated rowing twins Li Tong and Li Meng were also involved.

The event attracted a lot of media attention and was streamed live with professional presentation. It was attended by politicians from the sport department of central government, representatives of the Chinese Olympic Committee and by Viacheslav Malishev, UIPM Executive Board Member for Development.

A spokesperson for the local organizing committee said: "It was wonderful to



Boys and girls race each other around the running track and (below) two girls practise their laser shooting

see the teamwork and determination of so many families who took part in the combined event. We are very grateful to the many volunteers and staff who helped us to make a success of the first Global Laser Run City Tour in China."

In Changsha on June 8, Helong Sports Centre also managed to enable more than 500 people to enjoy their first taste of Laser Run, and again the parent-child combined race was a great success. Cao Zhongrong, head coach of China's national pentathlon team and Olympic pentathlon silver medallist at London 2012, told everyone his motto: "If you do your best, you have won. Don't give up."

Shen Kejian, CMPA Secretary General, said: "For all the children participating in this kind of competition, learning to commit and work hard is more important than results. We are pleased to have found and cultivated interest in Laser Run."

A spokesperson for the local organising committee added: "Many of the parents helped to spread the



message that sport helps children to learn the importance of cooperation, to experience the joy of winning and frustration of losing and to be able to stand up again."

Li Ping, Vice Chairman of Changsha Municipal People's Political Consultative Conference and Director of Changsha Municipal Sports Bureau, attended the event.

The next GLRCT in China is approaching fast, with Shanghai hosting the latest instalment on July 6.

LA 2028 buzz brings crowds to Davis (USA)

With an Olympic Games on the horizon in Los Angeles in 2028, all Olympic sports will have additional magnetism in the United States and



The senior men's race begins in Davis, California (USA)

particularly on the west coast in the coming years.

Local organisers in Davis, California sought to capitalise on the 2028 buzz when they engaged members of various running, fencing, swimming and riding clubs in the first Global Laser Run City Tour to take place on the US Pacific coast.

Laser Run, like other UIPM development sports, was created to make it easier for people from communities with no Pentathlon heritage to gain an entry into the UIPM Sports pyramid, which has the core Olympic sport of Pentathlon at the top.

On a warm and sunny day, athletes of all ages were drawn to Davis Community Park to be a part of history, with schools participating in the event along with sports clubs and parents following their children on to the Laser Run course to have their first try of UIPM's fastest-growing sport.

Simon Pitfield, event director and local organizing committee chair, said: "This



Male competitors try their hand at laser shooting in Davis (USA)

is a wonderful event! We're having a lot of fun and people are coming from all over. I'm impressed with the great participation both in terms of volume and diversity for this first-ever Laser Run on the west coast.

"There were athletes competing from the ages of five to 87 with ability levels from walking to Olympic running."

Apart from giving people access to UIPM Sports, the GLRCT in Davis also generated income for a wide range of local non-profit organisations. Simon added: "I'm extremely pleased with our ability to raise several hundred dollars for local schools and non-profits."

Dan Browne, USAP Pentathlon technical delegate, said: "This is a great

start for Laser Run within the United States. Exposing interested individuals to this activity is a great beginning step towards introducing them to the sport of Pentathlon in the future.”

A beacon of hope in Barina (VEN)

Delivering newsporting opportunities in urban communities takes a high degree of commitment at the best of times. Imagine, then, the dedication it must have taken to put Venezuela on the Global Laser Run City Tour map at a time when the country is disrupted by serious political and social unrest.

In spite of this adversity, the Venezuela Modern Pentathlon Federation succeeded in putting on a Laser Run showcase for 214 boys and girls in the city of Barina, with another GLRCT to follow in Miranda on June 29.

A spokesperson for the local organising committee said: “It was an event developed with much enthusiasm and sacrifice, but above all with the responsibility of guaranteeing the expansion and popularisation of our sport in the country.

“In this event we counted on the participation of 214 boys and girls, each of them very happy and enjoying each of the disciplines that characterise our sport. Our Venezuelan Federation feels very pleased about this beautiful project and hopes to guarantee in the next Laser Run a better organization and development in spite of the various economic limitations.”

Fond memories for all in Sachkhere (GEO)

A busy season of UIPM Sports in Georgia continued with the first Global Laser Run City Tour to be held in the city of Sachkhere. More than 260 people took part in racing at Chikhura’s central stadium having come from Tbilisi, Sachkhere, Rustavi, Poti, Gori and Chiatura.

A spokesperson for the local organising



Young boys and girls treasure their medals in Barina (VEN)



A Laser Run podium bow for athletes in Sachkhere (GEO), where older girls also competed (below)



Young boys are closely supervised as they try out Laser Run for the first time in Ouahigouya (BUR)

committee said: “The event was very exciting and friendly and attended by many spectators who will take away fond memories, as will the parents and athletes.

“I hope this Global Laser Run City Tour will have an impact with more children becoming involved in Modern Pentathlon.”

It was in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, that the GLRCT was born in 2017 and Georgia’s next event will be held in Rustavi city on 30 June 2019. Also in June 2019 there will be a Biathle-Triathle National Tour in Tbilisi.

Staying cool in Ouahigouya (BUR)

It has already been a remarkable year for the Global Laser Run City Tour in Africa, with six cities in five different countries enabling 1750 people to take part in UIPM’s fastest-growing development sport.

The latest venue to join the circuit was Ouahigouya in Burkina Faso, where more than 300 racers sampled the thrill of Laser Run for the first time.

Burkina Faso’s first GLRCT will not be its last – far from it. On July 6 there will be another event in Tenkodogo, with a third instalment following in November in Bobo-Dioulasso.

A spokesperson for the local organising committee said: “The first Global Laser Run City Tour in Burkina Faso was a great success. We were blessed to have cool weather all day, a very large number of participants who were highly motivated, the great determination on the side of the organisers and the commitment of the technical supervisors.

“Our outlook is the effective creation of a Pentathlon club in Ouahigouya, and a project to organise a Laser Run competition before the national championship.”

Eye-opener for athletes in Dnipro (UKR)

The universal appeal of Laser Run was underlined in Dnipro, Ukraine, on May 31 when a host of athletes from different sports experienced the sport for the first time.

The second Global Laser Run City Tour in Dnipro was attended by more than 200 participants from eight regions of Ukraine – as well as well-known onlookers from triathlon, athletics, fencing and marine multisports who left the Meteor sport complex with a new awareness of one of the world’s fastest-growing urban sports.

A spokesperson for the local organising committee said: “After extremely weather last year, this time the weather conditions were excellent. Sunny weather and the good mood of the athletes, their parents, coaches and visitors created an unbelievable atmosphere at the venue.

“The event was well organized and attracted many athletes from different sports. Many of them admitted that Modern Pentathlon is one of the best and fun sports they ever heard about.”

Sergei Timarev, President of the regional Dnipro Modern Pentathlon Federation, said at the opening ceremony: “This competition is a good opportunity for young athletes to check their sport performance and open the road for the next disciplines.”

“The Laser Run format is the first small step for our big sport – Modern Pentathlon. I am also happy that this competition brought here many athletes from the elite division who are planning to compete at the European and World Championships this year.”



Happy Laser Runners pose in the sun in Dnipro (UKR)

Bursting on to the scene in Belarus

The GLRCT has gained another new host country after Belarus staged its first two instalments of the urban sports phenomenon. Athletes of all ages flocked to regional capitals Brest and Grodno on May 11/12 and June 23 respectively to take part.

Brest made history with the first GLRCT in Belarus in a central park venue. Participants came from inside and outside the city, as well as Ukraine and the Russian city of Smolensk. The youngest participant was six-year-old Klim Gnedchik, whose brother has enjoyed success at European and world level in Biathle/Triathle.



Spectators in Belarus watch a young boy focus on his running, and it's all smiles at the end (below)

On International Olympic Day, Grodno welcomed another large and diverse group to the historical Zhiliber Park. A spokesperson for the local organising committee said: “People greeted the idea of Laser Run with great enthusiasm and this competitions is one of the first steps to establishing Modern Pentathlon in Grodno region.”

Two more GLRCTs will take place in Belarus after the summer - in Vitebsk on September 8 and the capital Minsk on September 14, on City Day.



News from around the world



World Urban Games Budapest

13 – 15 September 2019

Sprint Laser Run showpiece awaits 32 athletes at first-ever World Urban Games

A group of Laser Run specialists and pentathletes will make history as the first UIPM athletes to participate in the World Urban Games later this year in Budapest, Hungary.

The athletes who qualify for the inaugural event – eight male and eight female athletes from visiting countries and the same quota from host nation Hungary – will compete in the new Sprint Laser Run format in front of a global TV audience.

The format of Sprint Laser Run is four laps of 400m running and four laser rounds of shooting demanding athletes to hit five targets in 50sec.

There will be a Men’s Final, a Women’s Final and a Mixed Relay during the three days of competition (September 13-15) with a limit of one athlete per gender from each visiting country.

The qualification system will see some athletes earn their place through past performances in the UIPM 2018 Laser Run World Championships in Dublin (IRL) and the first two UIPM Pentathlon World Cups of 2019 in Cairo (EGY) and Sofia (BUL).

Others will qualify based on their Laser Run world rankings. Four continents must be represented in each gender category.

Laser Run takes its place on the programme of this inaugural event as a showcase sport, alongside indoor rowing. When the WUG returns to Budapest (HUN) in 2021, it will be an official competition sport.

The sports on the competition programme for 2019 are 3x3 basketball, BMX freestyle, breaking, roller freestyle, parkour and flying disc.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “Our global sporting community is excited to be part of the World

Urban Games Budapest 2019. As UIPM’s most popular and fastest-growing development sport, Laser Run will be an excellent addition to the programme and we are delighted that it was successful in the selection process – more than 20 sports were nominated for inclusion.

“I am sure that we will have some very high-quality athletes, both Laser Run specialists and pentathletes, representing our movement in Budapest and they will be excellent ambassadors for UIPM Sports.”

Viacheslav Malishev, UIPM Executive Board Member for Development, added: “The World Urban Games will be another important landmark in the growth of Laser Run.

“Along with Biathle and Triathle, this sport is giving many people around the world an entry point into the UIPM Sports pyramid and I am certain that Laser Run, an urban sports phenomenon, will sit very comfortably

alongside the other sports on show in Budapest.”

Youth World Championship hopefuls warm up in Sant Boi (ESP)

Many of the world’s best teenage athletes came together in Sant Boi de Llobregat, Spain, for the 25th annual International Open European Cup.

The Catalan Modern Pentathlon Federation organized the competition, which attracted 120 athletes from Spain, Guatemala, Egypt, Mexico, Germany, Portugal, France and Austria.

Amira Kandil (EGY) and Oriol Rutllan Dominguez (ESP) were the individual winners at Under 19 level, while Nouran Beheiry (EGY) and Juan Ochoa (GUA) came out on top at U17 level.

Egypt continued their recent record of dominance in youth events by winning five of the six women’s medals on offer. There was also one Masters category and a Para Laser-Run event.

Many of the athletes who competed in Sant Boi will be reunited in Sofia, Bulgaria when the first combined UIPM Youth World Championships (U19/U17) take place from July 18-24.



UIPM Vice President Viacheslav Aminov (left) with Russian NOC President Stanislav Pozdnyakov

Special award in Russia for UIPM Vice President Aminov

One of the pentathlon movement’s leading administrators has been recognised with a special award in his native Russia.

Viacheslav Aminov, UIPM Vice President for Business Affairs, President of the Russian Modern Pentathlon Federation and Vice-President of the Russian Olympic Committee (ROC), was awarded the highest award of the ROC in the week of his 60th birthday.

The award is conferred “for merit in the development of the Olympic movement in Russia” and it was presented to Mr Aminov on June 6 during a meeting of the executive committee of the Russian Olympic Committee. “Viacheslav Aminov is awarded the honorary sign of the Russian Olympic Committee for his great work on the development and popularization of modern pentathlon,” said ROC President Stanislav Pozdnyakov.

Mr Aminov, who has led the RMPF since 2009, turned 60 on June 10.

Tournament & Training
Camp Invitations

This is an important notice for all Athletes and Competitions organisers to continuously check pentathlon.org for all information related to invitations and visa letters.

Navigate to the National Federations Portal or to www.pentathlon.org to stay up to date with all tournament news.

COMPETITION / EVENT INVITATIONS

UIPM Pentathlon Junior World Championships Drzonkow (POL) JULY 7-13	UIPM Tetrathlon Youth World Ch's (U17/U19) Sofia (BUL) JULY 18-24	ECMP European Championships Bath (GBR) 6-11 AUG
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Medical and Anti-Doping
Corner

WADA PUBLISHES 2019 LIST OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has published its 2019 List of Prohibited Substances and Methods, an important resource for anyone involved in the UIPM Sports and the wider international sporting movement.

The list, which came into force on January 1, 2019, is accompanied by the 2019 Summary of Major Modifications and Explanatory Notes - which serves to help athletes, coaches and other support personnel to understand the latest changes - and the 2019 Monitoring Program.

“WADA is pleased to announce the publication of the 2019 Prohibited List,” said WADA Director General, Olivier Niggli. “It is one of the cornerstones of the global anti-doping program. Every year, we review the List in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders. It is vital that we stay ahead of those that endeavour to cheat the system so in reviewing the List, experts review sources such as scientific and medical research, trends, and intelligence gathered from law enforcement and pharmaceutical companies.”

For a substance or method to be added to the List, it must be determined that it meets two of the following three criteria: a) it has the potential to enhance or enhances sport performance; b) it represents an actual or potential health risk to the athletes; c) it violates the spirit of sport. Athletes who have a legitimate medical reason for using a prohibited substance or method that is on the List may be accommodated if they meet the criteria outlined in the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions (ISTUE).

The 2019 Prohibited List, Summary of Modifications and Monitoring Program are available for download on WADA’s website in English, French and Spanish.

Inside UIPM: Monthly activities of President Dr Schormann



UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann joins the crowd of participants at the end of the Global Laser Run City Tour in Darmstadt (GER)

08.06.2019, Darmstadt, GER

The UIPM Global Laser Run City Tour was held in Darmstadt in the Hesse region of Germany, where UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann held discussions with the Mayor, Rafael Reisser, about future Laser Run competitions in the city.

The City Government is strongly supporting this urban competition, which brings a part of an Olympic sport directly to people for all age groups.

09.06.2019, Wiesbaden, GER

The UIPM President met with members of the German horse society at the international show jumping competition in Castle-Biebrich. They discussed the development of horse sport worldwide and close cooperation



Dr Schormann with the Mayor of Darmstadt, Rafael Reisser



between equestrian sport and Modern Pentathlon.

10.06-12.06.2019, Moscow, RUS

On June 10, UIPM President Dr Schormann met European Modern Pentathlon Confederation (EMPC) President Dmitry Svatkovsky and Secretary General Tatiana Ardabieva (also Secretary General of the Russian Modern Pentathlon Federation) to speak about the 2019 European Championships and Olympic qualification event in Bath (GBR) and other European Championships across the age categories. They highlighted the development of youth projects and Laser Run competitions as strong promotion for Modern Pentathlon at the base of the UIPM Sports pyramid.

On June 11, Dr Schormann signed a memorandum of understanding on behalf of UIPM with the Rector of the Russian International Olympic University in Moscow, Prof Lev Belousov. Tatiana Ardabieva and RMPF Director Edouard Zenovka joined the meeting.

In the evening the UIPM President attended the 60th birthday of UIPM Vice President Viacheslav Aminov. UIPM Executive Board Member for Development Dr Viacheslav Malishev was also present along with Olympic champions Anatoly Starostin (Moscow 1980), Dmitry Svatkovsky (Sydney 2000), Andrei Moiseev (Athens 2004 and Beijing 2008), bronze and silver medalist Edouard Zenovka (Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996) and Tatiana Ardabieva.

14.06.2019, Frankfurt/Main, GER

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann took part in the opening ceremony of the General Assembly of the European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation in the Frankfurt Römer, the historical City Hall.

23.06-24.06.2019, Lausanne, SUI

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann congratulated colleagues at the



Dr Schormann with Rector Lev Belousov from the Russian International Olympic University



Dr Klaus and Karin Schormann with the Aminov family in Moscow (RUS)



International Olympic Committee on the opening of Olympic House as he visited the new headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland on June 23.

The building was hailed by IOC President Dr Thomas Bach as a "home for the entire Olympic movement" during an inauguration ceremony on June 23 attended by UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann, Honorary President HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, Vice President Joel Bouzou and Secretary General Shiny Fang. Dr Bach was flanked by his Vice Presidents, including UIPM 1st Vice President Juan Antonio Samaranch, during the ceremony.



IOC President Dr Thomas Bach holds aloft the 'key' to Olympic House in Lausanne (SUI)

The legacy of Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympic Games and creator of Modern Pentathlon, is evident in the new building where a lifesize sculpture of the pioneering administrator stands. Tributes were paid to Coubertin's legacy on the 125th anniversary of the first IOC Session, which he organised.

IOC President Dr Thomas Bach said at the inauguration ceremony: "On our 125th anniversary, we clearly see what a great visionary Pierre de Coubertin was. "By bringing the entire world together in peaceful competition, the Olympic Games are a symbol of hope and peace for all humankind."



UIPM Honorary President and IOC Member HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco (right) with Dr Bach

Dr Schormann and Mrs Fang met with HSH Prince Albert and Vice President Samaranch during the 134th IOC Session on June 24 to discuss important steps relating to the future presentation of Modern Pentathlon after the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

UIPM President Schormann said: "On behalf of our global pentathlon community we are proud to have taken part in the official opening of the new IOC headquarters, which stands as a wonderful monument to the history of the Olympic movement. It is also a powerful symbol of unity as we look to the future.



UIPM Secretary General Shiny Fang and President Dr Klaus Schormann at Olympic House

"The legacy of Coubertin has never



UIPM Vice President Joel Bouzou, President Dr Klaus Schormann and Secretary General Shiny Fang with the statue of Pierre de Coubertin

been more visible than in recent weeks when the work of our founder has been celebrated across the Olympic movement. At UIPM we are committed to protecting Coubertin's legacy while promoting sport as a vehicle for unity, inclusion and peace.

"We are committed to the goals of Olympic Agenda 2020 and look forward to developing our UIPM Sports movement in partnership with the IOC and other partners in the years to come."

26.06.-02.07.2019, Tokyo, JPN

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann met National Federation Presidents from Egypt, Germany, Georgia, Japan, Korea, Poland, Ukraine and Uzbekistan and was briefed about their activities during the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final and Olympic test event.

President Schormann had a special discussion with Egyptian Federation of Modern Pentathlon (EFMP) President Sharif Elerian (also Secretary General of



Left to right: Annika Schleu (GER), Shiny Fang and President Dr Klaus Schormann of UIPM, Modern Pentathlon Association of Japan President Nobuo Namikoshi and Secretary General Ichiro Tomiyasu, and Hikaru Shimano (JPN) during the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final Tokyo press conference



UIPM office-bearers are hosted by the Modern Pentathlon Association of Japan at a dinner reception

the Egypt Olympic Committee) about new UIPM member countries from Africa.

Sangwoo Park, President of the Asian Modern Pentathlon Confederation, briefed Dr Schormann about the UIPM Pentathlon World Cup Final in May 2020 in Seoul (KOR) and the development of new UIPM member federations in Asia. Gary Lu, CEO of Absolute Fencing, talked to the UIPM President about upcoming steps linked to the company's UIPM sponsorship contract, which runs until 2024.

Tsunekazu Takeda, President of the Japanese Olympic Committee, attended the Mixed Relay on June 30, the final day of his presidency, and presented medals along with Dr Schormann.

The UIPM President and Secretary General met with numerous departments of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games Organizing Committee (OCOG) during the competition days to agree next steps for the preparation of the Olympic



The UIPM President with (left) Yasuo Mori (Deputy Executive Director, Games Operations) and Katsura Enyo (Deputy Director, General Bureau) from the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games Organising Committee

Modern Pentathlon at Tokyo Stadium in August 2020.

On July 1 Dr Schormann had special briefings relating to accommodation, transportation, accreditation, ticketing, food and beverage, presentation of the sport and other issues. The meeting was arranged by OCOG Modern

Pentathlon Competition Manager Noriyuki Nakamura and Sports Director Koji Murofushi took also part in the meeting. UIPM Operations Director Dr Alexandre Franca, Administration & Logistics Manager Coralie Kreidel and Technical Assistant Alexandra Sumina accompanied the President from the UIPM side.



UIPM President Dr Schormann and Sport Director Janusz Peciak attend the presentation ceremony for a group of new technical officials



Olaf Petersen, UIPM's specialist Riding course designer



President Dr Schormann and Secretary General Shiny Fang are joined by Tokyo 2020 Sports Director Koji Murofushi at the competition venue



An operational meeting between UIPM and Tokyo 2020 representatives



New Balance World Rankings

The PWR is updated live on www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at July 3, 2019:

MEN			
RANK	NATION	NAME	POINTS
1	FRA	Valentin PRADES	201
2	GBR	Joseph CHOONG	190
3	GBR	Jamie COOKE	178
4	UKR	Pavlo TYMOSHCHENKO	177
5	GER	Marvin DOGUE	172
6	GER	Patrick DOGUE	168
7	CZE	Jan KUF	165
8	CHI	Esteban BUSTOS	157
9	RUS	Alexander LESUN	151
10	EGY	Ahmed ELGENDY	151
11	LTU	Justinas KINDERIS	151
12	FRA	Valentin BELAUD	148
13	CHN	LI Shuhuan	143
14	CHN	ZHANG Linbin	142
15	HUN	Adam MAROSI	141
16	ITA	Riccardo DE LUCA	131
17	GER	Fabian LIEBIG	130
18	GBR	Thomas TOOLIS	127
19	MEX	Manuel PADILLA	126
20	GER	Alexander NOBIS	123

WOMEN			
RANK	NATION	NAME	POINTS
1	GER	Annika SCHLEU	191
2	FRA	Marie OTEIZA	190
3	GBR	Kate FRENCH	171
4	RUS	Uliana BATASHOVA	171
5	FRA	Elodie CLOUVEL	171
6	HUN	Sarolta KOVACS	166
7	LTU	Laura ASADAUSKAITE	165
8	BLR	Anastasiya PROKOPENKO	164
9	RUS	Gulnaz GUBAYDULLINA	164
10	HUN	Tamara ALEKSZEJEV	152
11	TUR	Ilke OZYUKSEL	151
12	MEX	Mayan OLIVER	147
13	ITA	Alice SOTERO	143
14	LTU	Gintare VENCKAUSKAITE	142
15	IRL	Natalya COYLE	140
16	RUS	Anna BURIAK	137
17	GER	Janine KOHLMANN	135
18	HUN	Zsofia FOLDHAZI	132
19	BLR	Volha SILKINA	130
20	ITA	Elena MICHELI	130

! The full New Balance World Rankings are available at www.pentathlon.org

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02-08 Sept UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Championships
Budapest, HUN

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10-14 Apr Pentathlon World Cup Sofia *BUL*
02-06 May Pentathlon World Cup Szekesfehervar *HUN*
21-26 May Pentathlon World Cup Prague *CZE*
27-30 Jun Pentathlon World Cup Final Tokyo *JPN*

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Baron Pierre de Coubertin

"The Modern Pentathlon event would test a man's moral qualities as much as his physical resources and skills, producing thereby the ideal, complete athlete."

UIPM HEADQUARTERS
Stade Louis II – Entrée E
13 avenue des Castelans, MC-98000 Monaco
Tel. +377 97 77 85 55 | Fax +377 97 77 85 50
E-mail: uipm@pentathlon.org

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