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UNION INTERNATIONALE
DE PENTATHLON MODERNE



**World Pentathlon
Newsletter**

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CAIRO (EGY) TO HOST 2021 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



Cairo (EGY) will host the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in June after the event was moved from Minsk (BLR). See Page 2

UIPM World Championships updates



Action from the Fencing Bonus Round during the UIPM 2017 Pentathlon World Championships in Cairo (EGY)

Cairo (EGY) to host UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships

The capital city of Egypt, Cairo, will stage the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships from June 7-13.

The city hosted the UIPM 2017 Pentathlon World Championships and has become a perennial UIPM Pentathlon World Cup venue in recent years.

The move to Cairo (EGY) for the flagship competition of the 2021 season came after the UIPM Executive Board (EB) decided that Minsk (BLR) could no longer stage the combined World Championships in 2021 due to special unforeseen circumstances in Belarus.

The move is another demonstration of Egypt's hosting capacity and sets up a busy summer of UIPM Sports in the North African country.

Egypt will also stage the UIPM 2021 Junior and Youth World Championships in Alexandria in July, five months later than originally scheduled after a COVID-19 Coronavirus-enforced postponement.

The UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Championships will be the final opportunity for pentathletes to qualify for the rescheduled Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, now taking place in 2021.

President Dr Schormann said: "On behalf of the Executive Board and the entire UIPM Sports community I am grateful to our partners in Egypt

who have stepped in to make sure this vital competition can take place in an established, world-class Modern Pentathlon venue.

"Of course we are all facing a very difficult challenge to overcome the pandemic and enable athletes at all levels to return to sport. But the relocation of the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships to Cairo gives everybody hope of a memorable event in June 2021 to end the qualification for the Olympic Summer Games Tokyo 2020 in 2021.

"In fact we can now look forward to an exciting summer of UIPM Sports in Egypt, which has become a true pillar of our global movement.

"Approaching the start of the 2021 season, UIPM will do everything it

can to support all host cities that are preparing to organise Olympic qualification competitions and World Championships for all age groups. The health and safety of all participants and supporting personnel will be paramount in all preparations."

Hisham Hatab, President of the Egyptian Olympic Committee, said: "We receive with great joy the announcement of UIPM choosing Egypt and the city of Cairo as host for their most important competition of the year and the last direct Tokyo Olympics qualifier.

"I congratulate the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation for all its efforts and its wonderful organization of major UIPM events. We totally support this competition and will work together with our government and EMPF in ensuring a great competition with a unique experience to all participants here in the beautiful city of Cairo in June."

EMPF President Sharif El Erian added: "We are honoured and privileged that UIPM have agreed to put their trust once again in us to deliver a high-performance Tokyo qualification event.

"We promise to do our utmost, working closely with our NOC and our Ministry of Sports, to ensure a well-organized, fair and enjoyable competition for all. We wish everyone the best and hope to see you all soon once again in Egypt."

The UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships will be the third competition to combine the core Olympic sport founded by Baron Pierre de Coubertin with UIPM's most popular development sport, after Mexico City (MEX) in 2018 and Budapest (HUN) in 2019.

The new UIPM competition season is scheduled to get underway with UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Budapest from March 24-28.

UIPM Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Minsk (BLR) postponed

The UIPM Executive Board voted to postpone the UIPM Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Minsk, Belarus scheduled to take place in June 2021.

The EB was unanimous in its commendation of the local organizing committee, led by the Belarusian Federation of Modern Pentathlon (BFMP), and expressed its commitment to the combined World Championships taking place in Minsk (BLR) at a future date.

Outlining the reasons for the postponement, UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "The UIPM Executive Board has been closely monitoring developments in Belarus in recent months and assessing the viability of the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships



Action from the women's individual Laser Run during the UIPM 2020 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo

taking place in Minsk as planned. The sanctions imposed by the International Olympic Committee on the National Olympic Committee of Belarus in December 2020 were also noted.

"Having remained in close contact with the Belarus Federation of Modern Pentathlon throughout this process, it was important that a decision was made that would protect this strong partnership and the future development of our sport in Belarus.

"The EB reviewed the situation this week and, first of all, declared its complete confidence in the Local Organising Committee being able to stage a competition of the highest quality in the wonderful city of Minsk when the time is right.

"After a detailed discussion, the EB voted to move the UIPM Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Minsk to a future date because of a growing concern that the present instability in the host nation could jeopardise the success of UIPM's flagship competition.

"There was a particular concern that numerous competing nations would be reluctant to travel to Belarus at this time, and EB members wanted to protect the fairness of the competition and the Olympic qualification process without adding pressure to the already difficult circumstances of the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic.

"In many ways our combined World Championships represents the pinnacle of our sport. It aligns the showpiece elements of Modern Pentathlon – this year with the additional context of Olympic qualification – with the exciting development opportunities provided by the inclusion of the most popular UIPM Sport, Laser Run.

"I am pleased that, in taking the difficult decision to move the competition to an alternative venue in 2021, the EB has protected the sanctity of this

event while expressing a commitment to the future development of our sporting movement in a very active and progressive Modern Pentathlon country."

UIPM 2021 Junior and Youth World Championships rescheduled

The UIPM Executive Board voted to postpone the UIPM 2021 Junior World Championships and UIPM 2021 Youth World Championships, both of which were scheduled to take place in February 2021.

The competitions have been rescheduled to take place in Alexandria (EGY) on the following dates:

July 4-10: UIPM 2021 Youth World Championships (U19/U17)

July 11-17: UIPM 2021 Junior World Championships

To accurately assess the viability of the upcoming championships, the EB was provided with information about the global impact of the ongoing COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic, travel restrictions facing incoming teams from other countries and current virus levels in Egypt.

The EB was also presented with a report on the readiness of local organisers in Alexandria (EGY) to stage the proposed competition in line with UIPM's new Event Organizers COVID-19 Infection Prevention Guidelines.

After assessing all of the information at its disposal, UIPM's highest decision-making body voted to postpone the competition in the interest of protecting the health of all participants.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "With great regret we announce the postponement of the UIPM 2021 Junior World Championships and UIPM 2021 Youth World Championships.

"The Coronavirus pandemic is seriously testing the resolve of most countries around the world and health must be the priority at this uniquely challenging time. I feel very sorry for our junior and youth athletes that they must continue to wait for their chance to compete on the world stage again.

"I say to those athletes today: be assured that you are the future of our movement. Across our global community we will continue to work tirelessly to provide you with the opportunities you deserve. Keep training in a safe way, listen to the advice of your government and medical experts and look after your health. Your time will come!

"While the EB has decided to reschedule these competitions to a later date in 2021, we have every confidence in the local organising committee to organise these competitions in the safest possible circumstances with all precautions in place according to the UIPM guidelines.

"I thank our friends from the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation and the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport for their understanding and their patience."

Sharif Elerian, President of the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation, said: "We have waited for nearly a full year for official Pentathlon competitions to take place again. An extra four-month delay we can all withstand together.

"The most important thing is the safety and good health of all our athletes, coaches and other participants. This delay will give more time for all our athletes worldwide to prepare better and thus give everyone a fairer chance in competition. I thank UIPM, the Arab Academy for Science, Technology, and Maritime Transport, the Egyptian Olympic Committee and Egyptian Ministry of Sport, for their understanding and cooperation in this matter and their full support for the new timing in July."

BOUNCING BACK IN 2021!



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- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| 1 | 24.03. - 28.03. | UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Budapest | Budapest, HUN |
| 2 | 07.04. - 11.04. | UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Sofia I | Sofia, BUL |
| 3 | 15.04. - 18.04. | UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Sofia II | Sofia, BUL |
| 4 | 13.05. - 16.05. | UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final | Seoul, KOR |
| 5 | 07.06. - 13.06. | UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Championships | Cairo, EGY |
| 6 | 07.06. - 13.06. | UIPM 2021 Laser Run World Championships | Cairo, EGY |
| 7 | 04.07. - 10.07. | UIPM 2021 Tetrathlon Youth World Championships (U17/U19) | Alexandria, EGY |
| 8 | 11.07. - 17.07. | UIPM 2021 Pentathlon Junior World Championships | Alexandria, EGY |
| 9 | 05.08. - 07.08. | Games of the XXXII Olympiad | Tokyo, JPN |
| 10 | 26.08. - 29.08. | UIPM 2021 Biathlon/Triathlon World Championships | Weiden, GER |

UIPM has governed the core Olympic sport of Modern Pentathlon since its formation in 1948. Today it oversees a range of multi-discipline sports (Tetrathlon, Triathlon, Biathlon, Laser Run and World Schools Biathlon) which form a development pyramid with Modern Pentathlon at the top.

Find out more info about Modern Pentathlon and other UIPM multi-discipline sports, Broadcast our World Cups and World Championships, Email us at media@pentathlon.org



ROAD TO TOKYO

Athlete interviews



Marina Carrier (AUS) is all smiles ahead of her Olympic debut in Tokyo (JPN), postponed by 12 months to summer 2021

Marina Carrier (AUS) emerges from the waves with feet on the ground

Athletes deal with uncertainty in different ways. Marina Carrier hit the ocean.

Negotiating the waves of the Tasman Sea was a calming distraction for the pentathlete during the enforced lockdown of 2020, not least because she was recovering from a stress fracture to her thigh. Now she feels fit and ready to take the air and travel to Tokyo for the rescheduled Olympic Games.

The Australian, 24, has the unenviable task of following in the footsteps of Chloe Esposito this summer. But if expectations are raised because of her compatriot’s spectacular success at Rio 2016, Carrier (AUS) seems to be keeping her feet very much on the ground.

She has a strong support network around her, including fellow qualifier and training partner Ed Fernon (AUS), and a solid grounding in Modern Pentathlon going back to her early days competing in the Nanjing 2014 Youth Olympic Games, then impressing with

an 8th place in the UIPM 2017 Junior World Championships, followed by numerous strong performances in the UIPM Pentathlon World Cup and other international competitions in Europe.

In the latest Road to Tokyo interview, Carrier (AUS) talks about her motivations, her memories and the sheer magic of watching a fellow Australian show that anything is possible in Modern Pentathlon if you train hard and commit.

Q: How did it feel when you discovered you had secured a qualification place

for the Tokyo Olympics for Australia?
A: Pretty surreal, to be honest! It was back in February 2020 at a time when things were really uncertain with COVID and the postponement of the Olympic Games. With everything that’s happened over the last 12 months it’s still sinking in.

Q: Did you watch the Modern Pentathlon at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games? What were you thinking?
A: I absolutely did! I remember it was early morning, and I was watching before I went to training for the day. I got goosebumps watching Chloe take the lead on that last lap. She worked so hard and to see her win for herself and for Australia was just epic.

Q: What would it mean to you if selected to compete for Australia at Tokyo 2020 in 2021?
A: I’ve been officially selected to the Australian team and it’s the ultimate testament to all the hard work that my team and I have put in for so long. I’m excited to see what we can do at the Games.

Q: What do you think about the Olympics being postponed until 2021?
A: I’m so grateful to everyone in the Australian Olympic Committee, International Olympic Committee and Japanese Government for their commitment to making the Games as safe and successful as they can be. Personally for me, I was very injured through 2020, so the postponement was an unexpected opportunity for me to take the time to recover fully and be as strong as I can be for the Games this year.

Q: How have you been keeping up your physical and mental health during the Coronavirus crisis?
A: In Australia we’re so lucky to have access to so much beautiful nature; swimming in the ocean when the city was locked down was really calming and uplifting for me.

ROAD TO TOKYO: OLYMPIC GAMES QUALIFIERS			
Women		Men	
 Haydy Morsy (EGY)		 Sherif Nazeir (EGY)	
 Laura Asadauskaite (LTU)		 Joseph Choong (GBR)	
 Mariana Arceo (MEX)		 Charles Fernandez (GUA)	
 Samantha Schultz (USA)		 Esteban Bustos (CHI)	
 Leidis Laura Moya (CUB)		 Sergio Villamayor (ARG)	
 Ieda Chaves (BRA)		 Lester Ders (CUB)	
 Lourdes Cuaspud (ECU)		 Amro Elgeziry (USA)	
 Kate French (GBR)		 James Cooke (GBR)	
 Iryna Prasiantsova (BLR)		 Valentin Prades (FRA)	
 Annika Schleu (GER)		 Martin Vlach (CZE)	
 Natalya Coyle (IRL)		 Lukasz Gutkowski (POL)	
 Gintare Venckauskaite (LTU)		 Bence Demeter (HUN)	
 Marie Oteiza (FRA)		 Justinas Kinderis (LTU)	
 Adelina Ibattulina (RUS)		 Alexander Lifanov (RUS)	
 Sarolta Kovacs (HUN)		 Patrick Dogue (GER)	
 Volha Silkina (BLR)		 Valentin Belaud (FRA)	
 Elena Micheli (ITA)		 Woongtae Jun (KOR)	
 Sehee Kim (KOR)		 Jihun Lee (KOR)	
 Natsumi Takamiya (JPN)		 Shuai Luo (CHN)	
 Alise Fakhrutdinova (UZB)		 Pavel Ilyashenko (KAZ)	
 Mingyu Zhang (CHN)		 Shohei Iwamoto (JPN)	
 Elena Potapenko (KAZ)		 Alexander Savkin (UZB)	
 Marina Carrier (AUS)		 Edward Fernon (AUS)	
<div><div></div><div>All athletes listed have secured a quota place for their country and their participation is subject to selection by their National Olympic Committee</div></div> <div><div></div><div>All quota places listed will be protected in the revised Tokyo 2020 qualification process</div></div>			

Doing as much training as I could and keeping up a routine was also very helpful, as was regularly keeping in touch with friends and family as best I could given the restrictions.

I've mostly been so grateful for all the good people I've had around me - I've had some very low points but they make it so much easier to get through those tough times.

Q: What has been the most challenging part?

A: The uncertainty of everything. It's frustrating when things can change so rapidly, it's so hard to make plans. You feel powerless.

Q: And what positive things have you seen?



Carrier (AUS) is pictured in the Swimming pool on the way to finishing 8th in the UIPM 2017 Junior World Championships in Szekesfehervar (HUN), and demonstrates her Riding prowess (below)



Carrier (AUS) enjoyed an impressive junior career and is now ready to compete at the highest level at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

A: People - friends, family and complete strangers - connecting in so many wonderful and heart- warming ways. I know it may be cliched, but I've loved the shifting of priorities and people reassessing what's important in life: friendship, family, home, health, simple pleasures.

Q: When, and why, did you take up the Modern Pentathlon?

A: I lived in England for a year in 2010, where I was introduced to it at school - I just fell in love with the idea of it, and couldn't wait to get started! I had a bit of a break from the sport when I moved back to Australia but was re-introduced to it by my training partner, Ed Fernon, at the end of 2012.

Q: What motivates you in training?



Bearing her national flag, Carrier (AUS) is a proud Australian

A: The enjoyment and satisfaction at the end of a training session is always pretty awesome - as is the hot shower and food afterwards!

Q: Describe yourself as an athlete in three words.

A: Energetic, chatty, organised.

Q: Who are your role models in sport, and in life?

A: Too many to name! Mostly I'm inspired by all the people who I see around me: my training partners, my coaches, my friends, my family, my partner.

Martin Vlach (CZE) stays strong and focused on his goals

One of the breakthrough pentathletes of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic cycle, Martin Vlach of Czech Republic has a physical and mental strength that promises to take him far.

After a top-10 finish at the 2014 Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing (CHN), the teenager continued to progress well at youth level and became UIPM Biathlon Under 19 world champion in Lisbon (POR) in 2016, just a few weeks after watching the Rio 2016 Olympic Games on TV.

Graduating to the five disciplines, he won European junior bronze in Barcelona (ESP) the following year and finished 5th alongside Marek Grycz (CZE) in the Men's Relay at the UIPM 2017 Pentathlon World Championships in Cairo (EGY). He kept working hard and returned a year later to claim a stellar silver in Mexico City (MEX) alongside the experienced Jan Kuf (CZE).

On the back of some excellent individual performances on the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup circuit, Vlach (CZE) performed superbly in a highly competitive field to win bronze



Powerful runner Martin Vlach (CZE) is a picture of athleticism as he sets off on a Laser Run circuit

at the European Championships in Bath (GBR) to comfortably secure the coveted prize of a qualification place at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games for his country.

In the latest Road to Tokyo interview, the 23-year-old reflects on the unwanted interruption to his career in the past 12 months and makes it clear he has refused to let it alter his goals.

Q: How did it feel when you won bronze at the 2019 European Championships to secure a qualification place for the Tokyo Olympics?

A: It was my first big individual success in the senior category and in conjunction with Olympic qualification it was an amazing feeling.

Q: Did you watch the Modern Pentathlon at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games? What were you thinking?

A: I did. It was interesting to watch some athletes I know personally from competitions or trainings camps. I felt sorry for some of them for what happened in Riding because I knew they were experienced riders and they



Vlach (CZE) aims to improve his position during a UIPM Pentathlon World Cup event



Bronze medallist Vlach (CZE) poses with silver medallist Valentin Prades (FRA) and champion James Cooke (GBR) after the European Championships Final



Vlach (CZE) clears an obstacle during the Riding discipline in the UIPM 2018 Pentathlon World Championships in Mexico City (MEX)

did not deserve that.

Q: What would it mean to you to be selected to compete for Czech Republic at Tokyo 2020 in 2021?

A: I would be proud to represent my country. Not so many athletes get a chance to do that.

Q: What do you think about the Olympics being postponed until 2021?

A: In my opinion, it was the best decision that could be made at that time.

Q: How have you been keeping up your physical and mental health during the Coronavirus crisis?

A: It was not such a big deal for me. Training conditions were not optimal but there were still ways to keep in good physical shape. In some aspects it was a disruption of stereotype. I could also focus on my other hobbies

and spend more time with my family.

Q: What has been the most challenging part?

A: Probably the beginning of the pandemic when nothing was certain and we as athletes did not know anything about the upcoming season or anything else actually.

Q: And what positive things have you seen?

A: I do not see many positive things but if I have to name one, it would probably be re-evaluating possibilities and rights I considered to be certain and unalienable a year ago, but now I see that we should appreciate them more.

Q: When, and why, did you take up the Modern Pentathlon?

A: I started when I was 13 years old. At that time my coach was looking for athletes in swimming clubs to join Modern Pentathlon. It seemed

interesting so I gave it a chance.

Q: What motivates you in training?

A: I still enjoy doing it, so I do not need any other motivation at all.

Q: Describe yourself as an athlete in three words.

A: It is hard to say...calm, determined, hard-working

Q: Who are your role models in sport, and in life?

A: In sport it is, for example, Libor Capalini [bronze medallist at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games]. In my life I enjoy doing things 'my way' so having a role model would be counter-productive.

Q: What is your ultimate ambition in Modern Pentathlon?

A: I want to be better at every competition. Who knows where it is going to lead?

News from around the world

Aya Medany OLY becomes Member of Egyptian Parliament

Three-time Olympian and leading athlete ambassador Aya Medany OLY has begun a new career in politics after being appointed as a Member of the Egyptian Parliament.

The appointment by His Excellency President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi is the latest accolade for Medany (EGY), who is Chair of the UIPM Athletes Committee and sits on two Commissions within the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The former pentathlete, who competed in her first Olympic Games aged 15 (Athens 2004) and went on to compete at Beijing 2008 and London 2012, is a strong advocate for equal representation and rights in sport.

A former teacher, Mrs Medany took the constitutional oath in the Egyptian Parliament in Cairo on January 12, embarking on a five-year term of service as a national politician.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann led the tributes to the UIPM Executive Board Member, saying: "I was so delighted to get a call on January 7 from Sharif Elerian, President of the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation, to inform me that Aya had just been appointed as one of 100 members of the Parliament from the President of Egypt.

"Immediately I called Aya and congratulated her and she said 'you are the first person giving me congratulations. You called before my family and friends!'

"On behalf of the global Modern Pentathlon community I would like to



UIPM Athletes Commission Chair Aya Medany OLY takes the constitutional oath in Cairo (EGY) as she embarks on a new career as a Member of the Egyptian Parliament

express my deep respect and pride in Aya's achievements, and I wish her a lot of success in this new political carrier.

"It's a new challenge for her and for UIPM also a prestigious moment linked to the image of UIPM athletes and officials. Aya follows in a long line of Modern Pentathlon athletes and administrators who have held high political office at regional and national levels."

Sharif Elerian, President of the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation, added: "We are extremely proud and honored by the choice of His Excellency President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi of Aya Medany, our pentathlon champion and icon. We wish her all the best."

Yane Marques elected President of Olympic Athletes Commission in Brazil

Brazil's first Olympic Modern Pentathlon medallist, Yane Marques, has been chosen to represent her fellow Olympians on the Board of the Brazil Olympic Committee (COB).

Marques (BRA), who won bronze at

the London 2012 Olympic Games, received 73% of the vote in a virtual election on 12 January and was duly elected President of the COB Athletes Commission.

The 37-year-old, who flew the flag for Brazil at the opening ceremony of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, said: "The experience I've had over the last four years has added a lot to encouraging me to make the decision to run for president of CACOB.

"Having been a member of the Board of Directors, being in charge of the Executive Secretariat of Sports of Recife and having done the Advanced Course of Sports Management, added a lot to me as a manager and the career in which I am investing. Now, as President, I know my duties and responsibilities. I'm prepared for this challenge."

Marques (BRA) has an excellent record of ambassadorial work on behalf of Modern Pentathlon and Olympic athletes generally. In 2018 she was recruited as an Athlete Role Model for the 3rd Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires (ARG).

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann

said: "I am very proud of Yane Marques after hearing of her election as President of CACOB, which underlines the high respect in which she is held and the trust and confidence that she established during her very successful sporting career as a Modern Pentathlon athlete.

"Yane truly represents the ideas and follows the philosophy of our creator Baron Pierre de Coubertin."

Aya Medany OLY, Chair of the UIPM Athletes Committee and Member of the IOC Athletes Commission, added: "Yane is one of the strongest role models in our sport and I'm delighted to hear that her fellow Olympic athletes in Brazil have chosen her to lead them as President of the Athletes Commission.

"As an Olympic medallist and flagbearer, elite athlete and Youth Olympic Games ambassador, Yane is not only a leader for her fellow athletes in Brazil – she is also an inspiration for all women and girls worldwide who seek empowerment in the world of sport. On a personal level, Yane and I used to compete together and I'm so proud to call her a friend."



Bronze medallist Yane Marques (BRA) poses on the London 2012 Olympic Games podium with gold medallist Laura Asadauskaite (LTU) and silver medallist Samantha Murray (GBR)



Former pentathlete and UIPM Sport Director Philipp Waeffler (SUI)

Olympic pentathletes Heather Fell (GBR) and Philipp Waeffler (SUI) appointed AFEC Assessors

Two well-known Olympic pentathletes are poised to take on a key role in helping student athletes balance their sport and their education.

Heather Fell of Great Britain, silver medallist at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, and Philipp Waeffler, who competed for Switzerland at the Atlanta 1996 Olympic Games, graduated recently from the Olympic Athlete Friendly Education Centre (AFEC) Assessor Training Programme.

The Modern Pentathlon duo were among a group of 20 former athletes whose qualifications were officially conferred during an online graduation ceremony hosted by Joel Bouzou OLY, President of the World Olympians Association and Vice President of UIPM, and World Academy of Sport (WAOs) Director Chris Solly.

As AFEC Assessors, the ex-pentathletes

will certify educational centres that provide flexible learning and support structures to enable student athletes to balance their sport and education.

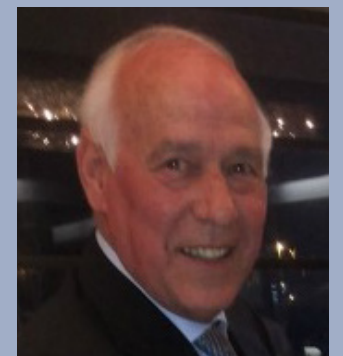
Fell (GBR) retired in 2013 after a 14-year career in Modern Pentathlon. She was junior world champion in 2003 and won six individual UIPM Pentathlon World Cup medals and two individual silver medals in the European Championships.

Waeffler (SUI) finished 29th in his only Olympic appearance at Atlanta 1996 and went on to enjoy success in coaching, including a stint as men's head coach for Pentathlon GB. After that he worked for UIPM as Competition Manager and Sports Director between 2015 and 2019.

During the online ceremony, Joel Bouzou OLY said: "Congratulations to my fellow Olympians on achieving this important qualification and for adapting to the challenges of completing your training in a virtual environment.

Valter Magini (1943-2020)

Tributes have been paid to one of Modern Pentathlon's most admired administrators, Valter Magini, after his death aged 73. The popular former President of the International Modern Pentathlon Federation (FIMP) died in Italy on January 7 after contracting the COVID-19 Coronavirus. Across Italy, Valter promoted the development of Modern Pentathlon with passion and expertise for 40 years. He fulfilled various elected positions within the FIMP and served with distinction as



President. He was also Vice-President of the European Modern Pentathlon Confederation. UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann, a close friend of Valter and his family for more than 30 years, said: "Throughout the world of Modern Pentathlon and UIPM, we know that the contribution of Valter Magini was highly regarded and appreciated. We took a wonderful journey together and we say goodbye with heavy hearts." Giovanni Malago, President of the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI), added: "His great passion for sport has brought him to the top of the discipline he loved most. We will miss his humanity and his competence. Italian sport owes him great affection and gratitude."



Heather Fell (GBR) demonstrates her running prowess on the way to winning a silver medal at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games

Education Centre Assessor is a unique accomplishment and will provide many new opportunities. As Olympians, you have already inspired communities around the world during your competing careers, and now you have the opportunity to enhance your legacies and support future generations of sports men and women."

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Inside UIPM: Secretary General Shiny Fang's message



Have your say in shaping our sport

Athletes and coaches of the UIPM movement, this is your time to stand up and make your voices heard.

We are looking for 13 nominations for two important democratic institutions – the UIPM Athletes Committee and UIPM Coaches Committee. And thanks to the changes made to our Election Rules in 2018, more candidates have the opportunity to express themselves.

Let's look at the UIPM Athletes Committee first.

This is an opportunity that our athletes treasure; I truly believe pentathletes want to have their voices heard when it comes to our sporting movement. We are blessed with many intelligent, educated role models in the athlete community who have strong opinions and the ability to influence.

And with so much uncertainty in the sporting world right now, so many challenges to overcome, it has never been more important that our global movement is represented by strong-minded individuals with a passion for Modern Pentathlon and UIPM Sports.

This year, as we look forward to the return of UIPM competitions a little later



than expected, we don't only have one position on the Athletes Committee up for grabs. There are seven places to be occupied for the next Olympic cycle, and all of them will be decided by election during the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Cairo (EGY) in June.

I'm excited to see who will come forward, especially as we already have 12 excellent nominations from last year, when we didn't have the opportunity to arrange a vote. Don't forget that not only will the successful candidates sit on the AC for an Olympic cycle, there may also be the opportunity for one of them to chair the committee and take a seat on the UIPM Executive Board, where Aya Medany has made an excellent contribution since she became Chair of the AC in 2017.

The same applies to the Coaches Committee, where there are six places available for the next Olympic cycle and also subject to an election in Cairo (EGY).

This is where the voice of experience really counts.

UIPM is fortunate to have a global community of highly skilled and dedicated coaches – I've been to the World Coaches Conference in Manchester (GBR) enough times to know the depth of knowledge and expertise that lies within this group of people.

It's time for the voice of experience to be heard, so I'm hoping we will see a wide array of nominations from across all continents. Same as the Athletes Committee, there may be an opportunity not only to sit on the CC but also the UIPM EB, as Christian Roudaut has done in recent years with so much authority.

I would encourage all NFs to nominate candidates with the vision, patience and motivation to fulfil these positions. It is important that our athletes and coaches speak for themselves and join UIPM in our mission to shape the sport in the best possible way.

Inside UIPM: President's statement and activities



The UIPM President, Dr Klaus Schormann, has issued a statement of hope and reassurance about the rescheduled Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games as the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic continues to affect global sport at the beginning of 2021.

Dear colleagues and friends of the UIPM movement,

In 2020 I wrote to you about the impact of the COVID-19 Coronavirus and expressed a wish that we should stay

together, stay united and show patience to get through the pandemic and return to the wonderful sporting life we all enjoy.

We are now in the Olympic year 2021, we are all focusing on the Olympic Summer Games in Tokyo with the Opening Ceremony on July 23, and I need to ask you once again for your patience.

The pandemic continues to stretch us to our limits, right across all global society, and we still have to overcome a number

of issues linked to health to be secure for training and for normal life. Within our sporting movement, I promise you that we, the UIPM Executive Board and all Committees and Commissions, will try our best to give you full support.

In the case of athletes, coaches and support teams, we will support you in every way possible as you prepare to qualify and to compete later in the Olympic Games. Please don't listen to the rumours or speculation from people who are speculating that the Games

in Tokyo will not happen. I assure you, the Games will happen. And we will all do our best – the National Olympic Committees, the National Federations, the Union, all responsible people in sport society – to make it the best possible Olympic experience.

Today I am writing to ask you personally, please don't lose your motivation. Please go and train hard as you did always. I know it is not easy in these days, but never give up. The hope will never die and we will always focus on our goals in a positive way.

One of the reasons to be hopeful in 2021 is the availability of vaccines. While we have been making sacrifices in our lifestyle, the global science community has been working hard to play its part in defeating this virus, and now the help is coming our way.

There is much we do not yet know

about how and when vaccines will be made available, but I strongly support the vaccination of athletes, coaches and officials involved in the Olympic Games. Everything possible must be done to ensure the health and safety of all participants in the Olympic Games, so I urge you to be open-minded about this.

While the International Olympic Committee works on developing a plan with the World Health Organisation, the Japanese Government and vaccine manufacturers, we will stay in close communication with your National Federations and your NOCs. Vaccination can be a very positive step towards giving you more confidence and a feeling of security about training and competing.

To all athletes standing at different places on the road to Tokyo, I ask you please to keep your spirit intact, focus on your motivation to be a strong athlete, and keep preparing mentally and physically

to perform at a high level in the qualification competitions in Budapest, Sofia, Seoul and Cairo. We will see each other soon, in good health and good conditions, well trained and supported by your coaches and federations.

And to all athletes and participants at different levels of the UIPM Sports pyramid, I ask for your patience too. This is a test of our resolve and we must pass the test – your time will also come.

For now let's look forward in a very clear way, starting with the Olympic Games in Tokyo in 2021. The Olympic Games is the motor of the global sporting movement. Yes, we will be there.

With my best personal greetings and wishes for good health,

Dr Klaus Schormann

UIPM President



The Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games is scheduled to open on July 23, 2021 as envisaged when the postponement was announced in 2020

12.01.2021: Meeting with Malta

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann had a video conference with Marco Tomasini, General Secretary of the Malta Sport for All Federation, to discuss the possibility of establishing Modern Pentathlon in Malta.

President Dr Schormann explained all the necessary steps for becoming a member of UIPM and underlined that the first official contact should come through the National Olympic Committee of Malta. UIPM Development Manager Maxime Papillon and Executive Assistant Lena Nussbaumer joined the meeting.

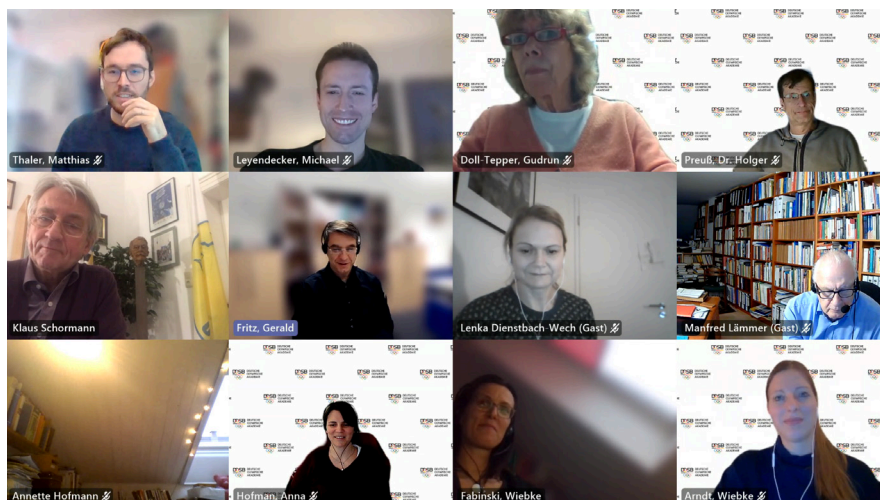


UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann meets with UIPM Development Manager Maxime Papillon (top right), Malta Sport for All General Secretary Marco Tomasini and UIPM Executive Assistant Lena Nussbaumer

19.01.2021: German Olympic Academy (DOA) meeting

President Dr Schormann attended an online session in his capacity as an Executive Board Member of the German Olympic Academy (DOA).

The EB Members discussed topics relating to the future of Olympism, efficiency and achieving objectives, the Olympic values and how they can be promoted, taught and transferred through various pillars of society. The session ended with workshops in which the EB members combined their points.

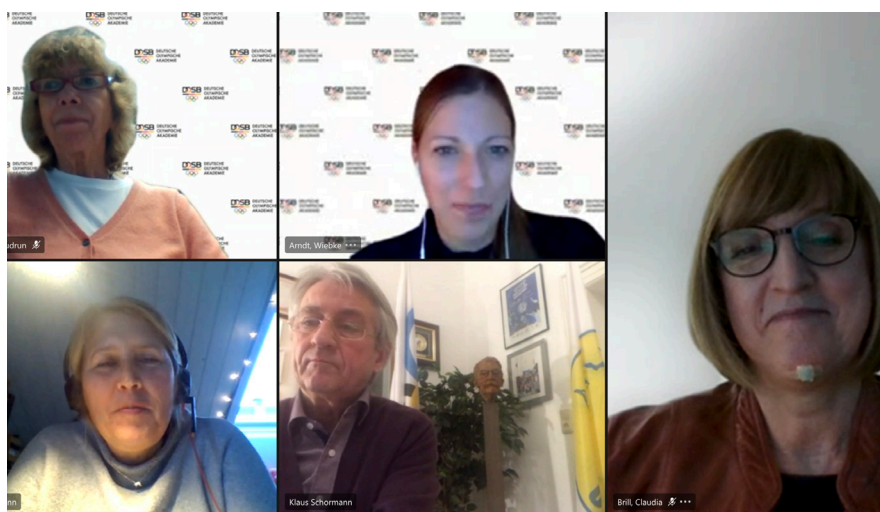


UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann participates in an online session with fellow Executive Board Members of the German Olympic Academy. His involvement in the session included a workshop (below) with (clockwise from top left) Prof Dr Gudrun Doll-Tepper, Wiebke Arndt, Claudia Brill and Prof Dr Annette Hofmann

25.01.2021: Meeting with IOC President

The IOC President, Dr Thomas Bach, briefed all Olympic Summer Sport International Federations (IFs) about preparations for the Olympic Summer Games Tokyo 2020, now taking place in 2021.

Dr Bach gave a clear statement about the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic and how the IOC, the World Health Organisation and the Tokyo 2020 Organizing Committee are constantly evaluating the worldwide situation and sharing information with NOCs and IFs.



UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann participates in the International Federations Session led by IOC President Dr Thomas Bach

The IOC President made clear that the IOC's view is that medical staff and the most vulnerable people in society should be vaccinated first, but also that athletes and coaches should have the possibility to get the vaccination. During the discussion the IFs gave strong support to the IOC statement and said they were looking forward to the Games, doing their best to ensure a fair qualification process for athletes.

26.01.2021: Darmstadt Laser Run meeting

President Dr Schormann and his Executive Assistant, Lena Nussbaumer, held a video conference with the Sport Director of Darmstadt (GER), Martin Westermann, to discuss the planned Global Laser Run City Tour in June 2021. During the discussion they underlined how important it is during the pandemic to arrange sport events to help athletes and members of society overcome difficult times.



IOC President Dr Thomas Bach (top, centre) leads a briefing to International Federations about the rescheduled Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games



UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann and Executive Assistant Lena Nussbaumer join a meeting with Martin Westermann, Sport Director of the city of Darmstadt (GER)

President Dr Schormann and Ms Nussbaumer participate in the 'Be Active Through Sport' taskforce with (clockwise from top left) Dr Michael Dorr, Prof Dr Markus and Prof Dr Nicole Mau, and DOA President Dr Gerald Fritz

26.01.2021: 'Be Active Through Sport' taskforce brainstorming

President Dr Schormann has assembled professionals from German sport and international business to form a taskforce entitled 'Trimm Dich' (Be Active Through Sport). The taskforce works on general sport development

and how sport and health can have an impact on society, with projects to be tested first in Germany. The taskforce comprises DOA President Dr Gerald Fritz, marketing experts Prof Dr Markus and Prof Dr Nicole Mau, Dr Michael Doerr (a former world-class pentathlete, sport scientist and personal coach) and Executive Assistant Lena Nussbaumer.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Peciak (POL) joins the pantheon



Janusz Peciak (POL), who continues to be centrally involved in Modern Pentathlon to this day as UIPM Executive Board Member for Sport, celebrates his gold medal at the Montreal 1976 Olympic Games



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."

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