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UNION INTERNATIONALE
DE PENTATHLON MODERNE



World Pentathlon Newsletter

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UIPM 2021 PENTATHLON WORLD CUP FINAL



Kate French (GBR) and Valentin Prades (FRA) celebrate winning the individual gold medals at the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final



ROAD TO TOKYO

UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final



Gold medal-winning couple Annika Schleu and Christian Zillekens (GER) celebrate their UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final success with a kiss

A golden finale for Great Britain, France and Germany

Athletes aiming to qualify or finetune their preparations for the rescheduled Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games competed fiercely over three days at the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final in Szekesfehervar (HUN).

A women's individual gold medal for Kate French completed a remarkable season for Great Britain, who won a total of four gold and four silver medals across this season's four World Cup events in Hungary and Bulgaria.

France finished second in the medal table thanks to a men's gold medal won by Valentin Prades - his third individual success in the Pentathlon World Cup Final.

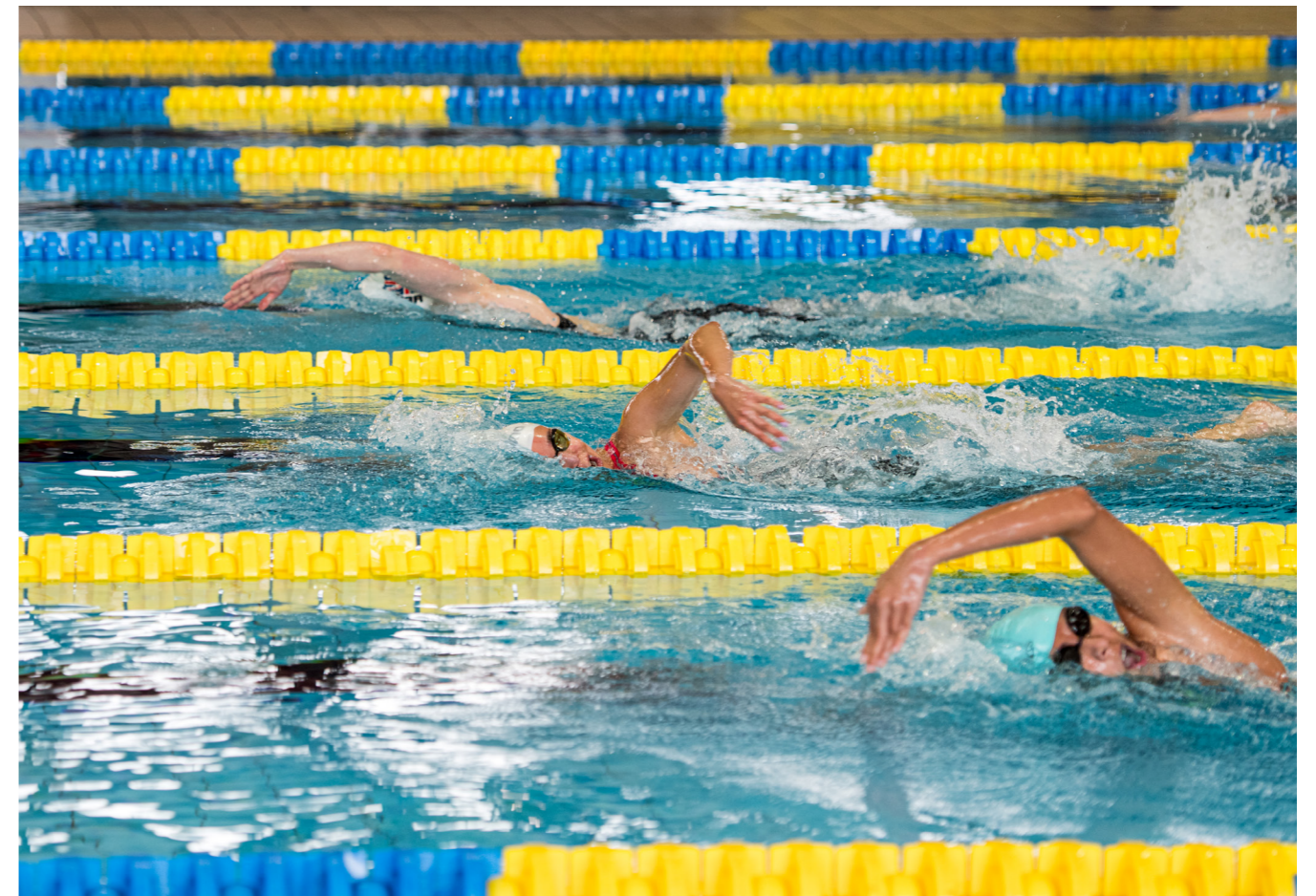
Hungary finished third in the overall standings with five medals, two more than Germany who finished on a high with a Mixed Relay gold for Annika Schleu and Christian Zillekens.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "At the end of this World Cup Final I can underline again how important it is to have strong organisers with excellent facilities, good horses and volunteers and fair referees. This

competition has shown which way our Union is going in future, with high-profile athletes supporting the whole movement.

"We are looking forward now to Cairo in June and the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships, which will be the last qualification competition for the Olympic Summer Games Tokyo 2020 taking place in 2021.

"I would like to thank all media and sponsors as well as the volunteers who have assisted us in staging a showpiece competition. In the centre, I always underline, are the athletes



Women's final participants such as Elodie Clouvel (FRA), below, show their athleticism in the Swimming pool

- highly motivated and still looking to qualify for Tokyo, which will be a great Olympic Games that we are all optimistically looking forward to."

Women's Final: French (GBR) completes season of supremacy

It started and finished with gold, sandwiched with silver. An extraordinary season for Kate French of Great Britain ended in victory at the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final.

Having won gold in Budapest (HUN) and silver in Sofia (BUL) during her previous appearances in this year's Pentathlon World Cup, world No.3 French (GBR) saved the best for last with a sumptuous victory in the showpiece competition.



Only 36 female and 36 male athletes earned the right to compete in the Pentathlon World Cup Final, which mirrors the competition structure of the upcoming Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

World No.4 Annika Schleu of Germany showed her enduring class to claim silver – her first medal since the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final in Tokyo (JPN) – having obliterated the field from a starting place of 14th in Laser Run.

The emergence of Mexico athletes has been one of the features of the 2021 season and Mayan Oliver also aced the Laser Run to finish 4th, one place ahead of Natalya Coyle of Ireland with Joanna Muir (GBR) pipping Alice Sotero of Italy in a sprint to the finish line for 6th.

With only one remaining opportunity to gain Tokyo 2020 qualification points on offer at the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Cairo (EGY) in June, the athletes left nothing in their lungs in a frantic dash to the line.

MEDALLISTS' REACTION

French (GBR) said: "It has been a long process to get to this point so I'm really happy. It was definitely a tough day and I can't say I felt amazing today, so that makes me even happier to come away with gold.

"I always go into the Laser Run thinking about my performance and aiming to pick people off. I think it was the third lap when I caught [Amira Kandil of Egypt].

"I'm heading in the right direction and hope to keep training hard and aiming for gold in Tokyo."

Schleu (GER) said: "I'm so happy, I never expected to be so strong. I was thinking about top six but then I started running and suddenly I was in 4th and I took my chance.

"I think we're nearly there in preparation



Mariana Arceo (MEX) becomes one of 13 victims of Rebecca Langrehr (GER), who set a new world record for the Fencing Bonus Round in Szekesfehervar (HUN)



Michelle Gulyas (HUN) stays on course for a podium finish during the Riding event



Leva Serapinaite (LTU) is pursued out of the shooting range but Gulyas (HUN), below, overtook her again to claim bronze

for Tokyo. I never thought about a medal - that's 100% true - because the girls were so strong, but I overtook so many people at the third shoot because the sun was so deep. To finish in 2nd place, I'm overwhelmed."

Gulyas (HUN) said: "It's an incredible feeling, it's my first World Cup Final and to get on the podium is incredible.

"I think the audience were cheering me to make the podium so I was very happy. I'm proud of my country and hope they are proud of me too.

"I had a really good day, I had some issues with shooting but I had time to fix it so I think it's going to be really good this year.

"I'm still doing Junior World Championships this year and it's much more difficult at this level, of course, especially in Fencing and Laser Run."

SWIMMING

Rio 2016 Olympic silver medallist Elodie Clouvel of France consigned Gulnaz



Gubaydullina of Russia to a rare defeat in the pool, timing 2:09.35 compared to her rival's 2:09.79 with Sotero (ITA) third-fastest in 2:11.58.

FENCING

The Fencing Ranking Round was held on May 13 and featured standout performances by Amira Kandil of Egypt and Xiaonan Zhang of China, with French (GBR) also scoring heavily.

Kandil (EGY) ensured she would be the last woman standing in the Bonus Round, defeating Zhang (CHN) in the final bout – but the star of the day in Fencing was an athlete who had started way back in the pack.

Rebecca Langrehr of Germany started the elimination ladder in 27th place, but she would occupy the piste for almost a third of the event, claiming an



Gold medalist Kate French (GBR) stands atop the podium at the end of the Women's Final

astonishing 13 victories.

It was a new world record for the Fencing Bonus Round and a stunning demonstration of how a fencer can improve their overall position by a significant margin.

Standing tall with her left-handed double-thrust, Langrehr (GER) put together an amazing run finally ended by 2017 World Cup Final champion Tamara Alekszejew (HUN).

RIDING

As throughout this season, there was a high standard of horse management as eight athletes scored the maximum 300 points, including overall leader Kandil (EGY), experienced duo Schleu (GER) and Clouvel (FRA), Oliver (MEX) and reigning world champion Volha Silkina of Belarus.

French (GBR) and Coyle (IRL) stayed on course with scores of 296, while at

the other end of the scale there was elimination agony for Alekszejew (HUN) and Laura Salminen of Finland.

LASER RUN

A lead of 25sec would have been unassailable in some competitions, but such was the quality of the chasing pack it never looked like Kandil (EGY) would have an untroubled experience in pole position.

With only 10sec separating the rest of the top 10, it was always going to be a thrilling Laser Run and the remarkable performances of Oliver (MEX, 11:34.61) and Schleu (GER, 11:38.58) demonstrated what can be achieved from the mid-part of the field.

French (GBR) has earned a reputation as the "ice queen" of Modern Pentathlon and it came as a surprise to nobody when she calmly wore down the lead of Kandil (EGY), who shot very well, in the first half of the race and then

seized a lead that she was never likely to relinquish.

Fresh from her gold medal at the last Pentathlon World Cup in Sofia (BUL), Gulyas (HUN) seemed the most likely threat to French (GBR) alongside Marie Oteiza (FRA), but a sharp exit from the third visit to the shooting range saw Schleu (GER) propel herself into medal contention. Gulyas (HUN) has had a brilliant breakthrough season but as her legs tired on the final lap, the more experienced Schleu (GER) seized her opportunity to turn bronze into silver.

Men's Final: 'The accident of Mexico is finished for me'

He lost the title of world champion in a moment of infamy, but Valentin Prades of France seems determined to make sure his career is remembered for gold and not silver medals.

Already established as one of the greatest pentathletes of his generation, Prades (FRA) was crowned winner of the UIPM Pentathlon World Cup Final for a third time after an epic battle with silver medallist Thomas Toolis of Great Britain, adding to the titles he won in Nizhny Novgorod (RUS) in 2013 and Vilnius (LTU) in 2017.

For all his success, it has been difficult for the 28-year-old to escape the connotations of the UIPM 2018 Pentathlon World Championships in Mexico City (MEX), where he was overtaken on the finish line by James Cooke (GBR) after a premature celebration.

The drama of that moment even eclipsed the near miss Prades (FRA) suffered at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, when he missed out on the bronze medal by 1sec.

On the evidence of this competition, he is focused on erasing both of those memories and creating a new career-



Action from the Swimming pool as the Men's Final gets under way

defining snapshot at the rescheduled Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

Toolis (GBR) gave Prades (FRA) exactly the test he needed during an astonishing

Laser Run in Szekesfehervar (HUN).

They started only 1sec apart and Prades (FRA) had a healthy lead going into the final shoot, but he froze and spent



Action from the Fencing Bonus Round as the world's leading male pentathletes compete for additional points



Action from the Riding event as the tension rises during the Men's Final

25sec on the range, enabling Toolis (GBR) to snatch the lead. Knowing he had only 800m to catch his rival and get some much-needed revenge in the ongoing Anglo-French rivalry, Prades (FRA) timed his attack superbly and muscled past his opponent in the final 200m before collapsing with exhaustion at the finish.

Toolis (GBR) was not the only first-time medallist on the podium as bronze was won by Shuai Luo of China, the 2017 Asian champion and 2019 silver medallist, making his way up from a starting place of 11th.

With only one remaining opportunity to gain Tokyo 2020 qualification points on offer at the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Cairo (EGY) in June, many experienced and decorated pentathletes left nothing in the tank in a sprint to the line.

Fabian Liebig of Germany finished an



Valentin Prades (FRA) takes aim against his rivals - and the sun - with his visor and glasses

exceptional Laser Run in 4th place and was followed across the line by five former world champions – current title-holder Valentin Belaud (FRA), Justinas Kinderis of Lithuania, Jinhwa Jung of Korea, Adam Marosi of

Hungary and Pavlo Tymoshchenko of Ukraine.

MEDALLISTS' REACTION

Prades (FRA) said: "I feel very good. It's a nice competition and I love this event

with the Olympic format - it's good preparation for Tokyo.

"It's my third victory in the World Cup Final and it's good. I had a terrible last shoot and Tom [Thomas Toolis] was fast, he was 5-6sec ahead of me but I'm a crazy boy and I said 'come on, you can do it'. The last 50m was very hard."

Asked about the UIPM 2018 Pentathlon World Championships in Mexico City (MEX), where Prades (FRA) was beaten to gold on the finish line by James Cooke (GBR), he said: "This time I win. The accident of Mexico is finished for me."

Toolis (GBR) said: "I can't actually believe it. It's been a good season but I've never had a podium before and it feels amazing.

"All I wanted to do was shoot well, because I know I can run. The sun came out and I think it actually helped

me, and I knew if I shot well I would have a chance.

"I know how fast [Prades] is and it's really frustrating. When I went out for the last lap I knew he would come hard and I thought 'how long can I hold him off?' I gave it my all, and I pushed at 200m but he took me at about 150m and I didn't have the legs. Congratulations to him for first place."

SWIMMING

The dominant figure in the pool was another former world champion, Cooke (GBR), who took advantage of the absence of Joseph Choong (GBR) and Woongtae Jun (KOR) to win convincingly in 1:59.03 ahead of Bence Kardos (HUN, 2:02.58) and Toolis (GBR, 2:03.16).

FENCING

The Fencing Ranking Round was held on May 13 - two days earlier - and featured standout performances by Jung (KOR), Prades (FRA) and

Tymoshchenko (UKR). Jung (KOR) was the last man standing after defeating Tymoshchenko (UKR) in the final bout in the Bonus Round, which had earlier seen gains for Ilya Palazkov of Belarus (five wins) and Alexander Lifanov of Russia (four).

RIDING

A heavy shower interrupted the tranquillity but otherwise it was another serene day of high-quality equestrian in Hungary.

Nine athletes managed a perfect score of 300 including Prades and Belaud (FRA), Luo (CHN) and the Egypt duo of Ahmed Hamed and Eslam Hamad, while seven others incurred only minor time penalties including Toolis (GBR), Tymoshchenko (UKR), Marosi (HUN) and brothers Patrick and Marvin Dogue (GER).

The drama was reserved for the final ride, where Jung (KOR) dislodged three obstacles to relinquish his overall lead.



Shuai Luo (CHN) moves up the field on his way to a memorable bronze medal in Szekesfehevar (HUN)

LASER RUN

Any athlete who can complete a Laser Run 15sec faster than the rest of the field is a threat from any position, and so it proved that Liebig (GER) made up 20 places from a starting position of 24th to come within 3sec of a medal.

His experience also underlined the tightness of the field, where the first four starters were separated by just 6sec.

In that sense it was surprising that it became a private battle for gold between Prades (FRA) and Toolis (GBR), a gripping duel that the underdog almost won.

The standard was as high as the level of motivation, with 15 athletes timing under 11min. Liebig (GER) clearly stood out with a time of 10:16.45 while Luo (CHN) impressed with 10:36.61 and 2018 Youth Olympic champion Ahmed Elgendy (EGY) finished 16th after a time of 10:32.98.

Mixed Relay: Germany save their best for last

Germany saved their best for last as Annika Schleu and Christian Zillekens won the Mixed Relay at the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final.

On the final day of the Pentathlon World Cup season, an impressive Laser Run pursuit enabled the German team to win their first gold medal of the campaign and deny Belarus the same accolade, as reigning individual world champion Volha Silkina and Ilya Palazkov collected their team's third silver medal of the season.

That said, there was no sense of disappointment anywhere on the podium and there was unbridled joy for Guatemala as they got their names on the medal table after a super Laser Run double act from Sophia Hernandez and Charles Fernandez.

For the German team it was a satisfying end to a season where their athletes,

especially on the men's side, have been constant fixtures at the business end of the racing but never quite turned the power into plaudits.

That all changed on the final day when Schleu (GER) surged to an individual silver medal, setting up a dramatic finale in which she and Zillekens (GER) overcame a 37sec deficit to Belarus (Silkina/Palazkov) to snatch the title by 4sec.

MEDALLISTS' REACTION

Schleu (GER) said: "It's just amazing. I didn't know we were going to make it but Mixed Relay has its own rules. We're super happy in the end."

Zillekens (GER) added: "It was amazing, great fun to fight with the other countries and I'm very happy about the last 800m. I knew from two years ago how to take off in the corner, and the result was the same."

Palazkov (BLR) said: "That was so hard - so, so hard. We didn't rest from the



A high five in the Swimming pool for Mixed Relay team-mates Gulnaz Gubaydullina and Alexander Lifanov (RUS)



Christian Zillekens and Annika Schleu (GER) enjoy another victory in the Fencing Ranking Round on their way to victory; action from the Riding, below

individual finals and after my running yesterday, to get second place was nice for us."

Hernandez (GUA) said: "That was amazing - I can't believe it. I almost had a heart attack when we won the medal. We had a really good swim and won our heat, but in the Fencing we struggled - mostly me. Our horse was eliminated and we had to change, but in the end we did OK. The Laser Run was amazing, we both did a goob job and Charles smashed the run."

Fernandez (GUA) added: "We started the Laser Run in 7th and it was definitely a tough competition. We have a great team behind us and they got us ready to go after two days of individual competition.

"To come here and take the bronze medal home is absolutely amazing. Yesterday I started 7th and dropped back four places, which was a little bit difficult for me, but today was a nice turnaround.





Ilya Palazkov (BLR) strives to retain the lead during the Laser Run as his adversaries take their shots; joy at the finish line for bronze medallists Sophia Hernandez and Charles Fernandez (GUA), below



"Hopefully this will be good preparation for me for Tokyo and will help Sophia in her bid to qualify for the Games. We're looking forward to the World Championships in Cairo."

SWIMMING

A really tight competition in the pool ended narrowly in favour of Russia (Gulnaz Gubaydullina & Alexander Lifanov), whose time of 1:57.93 was fractionally faster than Lithuania (Ieva Serapinaite and Justinas Kinderis) in 1:58.14. Belarus (Silkina/Palazkov) also scraped under 2min.

FENCING

With a team comprising the reigning women's world champion and a male athlete who won medals in both of April's UIPM Pentathlon World Cups in Sofia (BUL), Belarus (Silkina/Palazkov) lived up to expectations as the top performers in Fencing.

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 Prasiyantsova (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 Ibatullina (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) |

- All athletes listed have secured a quota place for their country and their participation is subject to selection by their National Olympic Committee
- All quota places listed will be protected in the revised Tokyo 2020 qualification process

The duo scored 32V/16D in the Ranking Round and added the only two points available to them in the Bonus Round to move into the overall lead. Alice Rinaudo and Valerio Grasselli of Italy also stood out with 30V/18D, with Lithuania (Serapinaite/Kinderis) next in the ranking on 26V/22D.

RIDING

All of the medal contenders stayed in contention during Riding, but Belarus (Silkina/Palazkov) gave rivals hope after dropping 21 penalty points. The highest scorers with 288 points were Anna Maliszewska and Lukasz Gutkowski of Poland, one more than Mohanad Shaban and Haydy Morsy of Egypt and two more than Eliska Pribylova and Ondrej Polivka of Czech Republic.

LASER RUN

With a 21sec lead over second-placed Italy (Rinaudo/Grasselli), Belarus (Silkina/Palazkov) started confidently but a slower second lap and 24sec shoot by Silkina (BLR) left the door ajar. Not least to Schleu (GER) who attacked and finally overtook Rinaudo (ITA) to move from 5th to 2nd and hand over to a grateful Zillekens (GER).

Not that the men's side of the pursuit was a formality – far from it. Palazkov (BLR) was 5sec faster on the opening shoot and kept a clear distance between himself and Zillekens (GER), at least until the second shoot when Zillekens (GER) hit his five targets in 11sec and set off for the final lap with single-minded intent: to catch and overpower his rival.

If the race for gold was intriguing, the battle for bronze was even more dramatic. With Grasselli (ITA) tiring, Lifanov (RUS) set the early pace on the final lap but Fernandez (GUA) looked even hungrier to win that elusive first medal of the season and he kept pace with his rival before finishing the stronger of the two, securing bronze by 2sec. Behind them, Italy (Rinaudo/Grasselli) took 5th and Poland (Maliszewska/Gutkowski) completed the top six.

UIPM 2021 Global Laser Run City Tour



Dmytro Kirpuliak (UKR) oversees the event in Kiev (UKR) and junior competitors compete in the sunshine in Rostov-on-Don (RUS), below

UIPM 2021 Global Laser Run City Tour: Revival events draw more than 1,500 back to Laser Run

Laser Run has been embraced in Eastern Europe in recent years and the region was at the forefront of the revival of the Global Laser Run City Tour in May 2021, with high numbers attending editions in Russia and Ukraine as well as neighbouring Asian nation Uzbekistan.

Like every other aspect of the UIPM Sports movement, the highly successful GLRCT had to be paused for the majority of 2020 due to measures imposed to tackle the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic.

However, in the early stages of 2021, the Tour resumed with the first instalments taking place in safe and secure



conditions in Egypt and New Zealand. The action continued in Hurgada (EGY) on April 2 before the circuit moved north and north-east to be embraced by more than 1,500 participants across two other continents.

Working the numbers in Rostov-on-Don (RUS)

More than 250 athletes gathered on Workers' Day (May 1) in the main theatre square of Rostov-on-Don for the



Action from the GLRCT in Rostov-on-Don (RUS)

now-traditional Global Laser Run City Tour.

Entrants of all ages came from Rostov-on-Don, Novocherkassk, Taganrog, Krasnodar and Stavropol to take part in a competition attended by athletes, parents of young athletes and pupils of the Don Emperor Alexander III Cossack Cadet Corps. The Head of the Rostov-on-Don City Administration, Aleksey Logvinenko, watched the action in the company of the Head of Department for Physical Culture and Sports, DA Braslavsky.

Introduction for all ages in Tashkent (UZB)

The UIPM Sports movement in Uzbekistan, one of the newest member nations in the region, has progressed steadily despite the unforeseen disruptions caused by COVID-19.

Just a few weeks after the graduation of 11 coaches at Level 1 of the UIPM Coaching Certification Programme



Youth athletes stand proudly on the podium during the first GLRCT in Tashkent (UZB)



Youth athletes compete fiercely for medals in the Central Ecopark of Tashkent (UZB)

(CCP), on May 15, the Central Ecopark of Tashkent named after Zahiriddin Babur hosted more than 350 people for a Global Laser Run City Tour.

Participants ranged in age from five to nine years old to 50 and above. Athletes from the Ministry of Defence, the National Guard and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan also took part and attendees included Deputy Defence Minister Alisher Narbaev and Oybek Kasimov, Secretary General of the National Olympic Committee of Uzbekistan.

Building on progress in Kiev (UKR)

The capital of Ukraine, Kiev, has plenty of experience hosting the GLRCT and it was a sign of the appetite for Laser Run in the country that 486 athletes from all regions took part in Ukraine's first GLRCT in two years on May 22.

Before the start of the competition, Dmytro Kirpuliaskyy, Chair of the Ukrainian Modern Pentathlon Athlete Committee and a Member of the UIPM Athletes Committee, engaged in a



Three female participants pose for a #LaserRun selfie after competing in the latest Global Laser Run City Tour in Kiev (UKR)

warm-up with the youngest athletes before interacting with all attendees and provided information about Modern Pentathlon. A spokesperson for the local organizing committee said: "Racing was held at the Dynamo Kiev horse centre with good weather, well-prepared athletes, happy coaches, a friendly atmosphere and a well-dressed arena, creating an unbelievable holiday of sport."

"The shooting range decorated with classical Laser Run design and the awards area was adapted with Laser Run colours; athletes could take selfies at the special Laser Run photo zone. All judges involved were Modern Pentathlon national level judges."

"All age groups participated in these competitions: young athletes, veterans, people from commercial structures and public organizations. For everyone it was an incredible experience and an opportunity to meet new friends."

During the opening ceremony, Ukrainian Modern Pentathlon Federation President Igor Panin said: "Because of the great support of UIPM, we can see how the Laser Run movement is developing not only in Ukraine, but also around the world."

Because of this format, we attracted many young athletes and amateurs to our sport. Moreover, during the lockdown period this format helped us a lot! Our athletes could train and compete in the online international competitions which were organized by the International Modern Pentathlon Federation. It helps our athletes and coaches to save their motivation and inspiration."

A true sporting crossover in Nizhny Novgorod (RUS)

A month of successful GLRCT events in Eastern Europe and Asia drew to a close with the biggest gathering of all – with more than 500 people taking part in Nizhny Novgorod (RUS).

Like Rostov-on-Don (RUS), the city has a strong track record of hosting UIPM's plug-and-play mass-participation event and the event on May 23 was no exception.

Professional and amateur athletes from Nizhny Novgorod and six other cities attended the competition, with a high rate of crossover from other sports – among the participants were pupils of sports schools in polyathlon, track and

field and cross-country skiing. Others who took part came from sports and recreation complexes of the Nizhny Novgorod region, servicemen of the Russian Guard, cadets of the Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, students of the cadet corps of the Volga Federal District named after VF Margelov, as well as fans of sports and a healthy lifestyle.

A spokesperson for the local organising committee said: "From the beginning of the first races until late at night, there was the atmosphere of a sports festival with performances by creative groups, military band Rosgvardii, and enormous support from spectators raising the spirit of participants. All participants were awarded with commemorative symbols from the tournament, personalized diplomas and certificates, commemorative bracelets and medals."

The GLRCT was held six weeks before one of the highlights of the 2021 season, the European Modern Pentathlon Championships, which will be held at the Nizhny Novgorod Stadium from July 4-12. The schedule will include Laser Run finals involving the five strongest athletes from each age category from the event on May 23.



A cultural display by dancers lights up the latest GLRCT in Nizhny Novgorod (RUS)

News from around the world



Andrey Kuzmanov (BUL) appointed Minister of Youth and Sports

Andrey Kuzmanov, President of the Bulgarian Modern Pentathlon Federation, has been appointed Minister of Youth and Sports within the Government of Bulgaria.

President Kuzmanov makes his move into politics after a professional career that saw him gain managerial experience in the private sector in trade, manufacturing, services, marketing and advertising.

A former athlete who was Bulgarian national champion in swimming and Modern Pentathlon, Mr Kuzmanov is also a qualified PE teacher and coaching with a Master's Degree in PE and extensive Modern Pentathlon coaching and analysis experience.

As well as heading up the BMPF, Mr Kuzmanov is Interim President of the European Modern Pentathlon Confederation, a Member of the



Andrey Kuzmanov takes his seat after being appointed Minister of Youth and Sports by the Government of Bulgaria

UIPM Business Affairs Committee and President of the Balkan Modern Pentathlon Confederation.

The BMPF earned praise from UIPM in 2021 for successfully organising two rounds of the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup in Sofia (BUL), following

all protocols for the prevention of COVID-19 Coronavirus infection.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "As President of the Bulgarian Modern Pentathlon Federation and in his new capacity as Interim President of the European Modern Pentathlon Confederation, Andrey Kuzmanov is already playing a vital role as a pillar in our global movement.

"Now he will have the opportunity to serve the entire population of Bulgaria and enable many people to experience the benefits of sport at all levels. We are sure he will be an exceptional public representative, using all the experience he has gained in sport and the private sector.

"By accepting this responsibility he is following in the footsteps of many members of the UIPM family – including several members of the UIPM Executive Board. Our global movement has for many years been strongly represented in political office."



Theodora Palli, President of the Hellenic Modern Pentathlon Federation, signs her name on the UIPM visitors' wall and meets UIPM Development Manager Maxime Papillon (right)

Theodora Palli (GRE) signs wall on visit to UIPM Headquarters

The new President of the Hellenic Modern Pentathlon Federation, Theodora Palli, became the first National Federation (NF) representative to visit UIPM's new Headquarters in Monaco on May 12.

During the visit, which coincided with the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final, Ms Palli met with UIPM Development Manager Maxime Papillon and signed the visitors' wall in a section dedicated to NF guests.

UIPM's new office in the Principality was officially opened by HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco in December 2020. His Highness signed the main part of the visitors' wall during a tour, along with UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann and Vice-President Joel Bouzou.



Inside UIPM

UIPM Secretary General Shiny Fang's message

Who should represent athletes and coaches in our Union?

Next week is going to be a very important week for many of the people who comprise our global UIPM Sports community.

With Egypt stepping in to host the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships – a competition which has been relocated twice, due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic – we all have an opportunity to show the world once again that we can endure this crisis by working and standing together.

The athletes participating in Cairo will all have different priorities and goals on the field of play, but I would like to think all of them (regardless of level, experience and nationality) will take a collective interest in the UIPM Athletes Committee Elections on the evening of June 10.

All athletes will be accompanied to Cairo by their coaches, and they too have an important democratic opportunity to cast their votes in the UIPM Coaches Committee Elections on the evening of June 9.

So who would be the ideal representatives on these two important forums? Personally, I would hope to see:

- A person with passion for the sport, not only caring about his/her training and results but who also wants to engage and spend time with the community
- A person who wants to give and deliver
- A person with vision for the future of our sport, who wants to grow together with the sport
- A team player, even though he/she takes part in individual competitions
- A leader, one who leads in both thoughts and deeds



- A human being, with emotion and empathy.

Is such a list of credentials too picky? Do we have these type of people in our community?

Yes, it is a tough requirement, because they are representing all of the athletes and coaches around the world. And

of course we have these people, I see good potential in the eligible candidates among both athletes and coaches.

As is well known, UIPM has been a process of innovation for many years, embracing youth and new technology and especially accelerating to catch up in its 360 operations. We are in the process of adopting a new Modern Pentathlon format designed for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, and the process has included athlete representatives from the Athletes Committee and those who took part in test events.

UIPM also held various athlete meetings since 2019 during major competitions, and later we had the open conference call with all athletes who were free to register. Despite all that, we feel the involvement of athletes in our decision-making processes could be stronger, and the same applies to coaches.

Clearly, the vision of the UIPM leadership is not only to take care of current athletes but also create more possibilities and opportunities for future participants. That is why we really hope and believe that future representatives of both committees will be able to see the big picture and aim towards longer-term sports development.

While we are looking forward to complete the final qualification competition for the rescheduled Tokyo 2020 Olympics, important community leaders for UIPM Sports will be born during this year's World Championships.

I wish good luck to all the candidates. Whoever wins the election, we believe they will give their time and contribute to the sport in the best possible way.

To all other athletes and coaches, don't forget to cast your votes in Cairo!

Inside UIPM

Monthly activities of President Dr Klaus Schormann



05.05.2021: New format task force

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann joined fellow members of the task force appointed in December 2020

online for a follow-up meeting about the new Olympic Games Modern Pentathlon format designed for Paris 2024.

They discussed the experience of all

Clockwise from top left: UIPM Secretary General Shiny Fang, President Dr Klaus Schormann, Vice President Joel Bouzou OLY, Tamer Samy, Christian Roudaut, Janusz Peciak OLY, Dominic Mahony OLY, Anna Bajan and UIPM HQ staff

three test events based on feedback from athletes, coaches and organisers and formed proposals for the UIPM Technical Committee and UIPM Executive Board. The task force members summarised that the reflection of athletes and coaches had been very positive.

12.05.-17.05.2021: Szekesfehevar, HUN

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann attended the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final where he met former pentathlete Peter Sarfalvi, who represented the State Government of Hungary as Deputy State Secretary of Sport.



Men's Individual podium at the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final in Szekesfehevar (HUN)



UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann leads the VIPs on to the podium for the Men's Individual medal ceremony at the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final

President Dr Schormann discussed preparations for the rescheduled Olympic Summer Games Tokyo 2020 in the context of COVID-19 with Krisztian Kulscar, President of the Hungarian Olympic Committee. Both underlined the need for all athletes and officials to be vaccinated and discussed the strong support provided by the International Olympic Committee, the World Health Organisation and the Tokyo 2020 Organizing Committee.

On May 13, Dr Schormann had a marketing meeting with Martin Dawe (Executive Board Member for Marketing), Alexandre Mauran (Marketing & Branding Manager), Roxane Hager (Digital Manager) and Lena Nussbaumer (Executive Assistant).

They discussed various issues of marketing, media and promotion and some of the important steps UIPM needs to take to improve and increase the visibility of Modern Pentathlon. Specific items on



UIPM President Dr Schormann is joined by, left, Martin Dawe (Executive Board Member for Marketing) and, centre, John Helmick (Treasurer) for a meeting about UIPM business partnerships

the agenda were the implementation and control of UIPM branding across all uses, venue dressing, merchandising, sponsorship, sustainability and the presentation of the new Olympic Games Modern Pentathlon format.

On May 14, the UIPM President met with Treasurer John Helmick and Martin Dawe to discuss current business partnerships of the Union. Mr Helmick spoke about the financial consequences of COVID-19 both for UIPM and the whole



HMPA President and UIPM Honorary Member Dr Gyula Bretz received a special award from UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann before a social dinner in Szekesfehevar (HUN)



global economy. They also discussed new possibilities of partnerships based on the new Olympic Modern Pentathlon format and focused also on other UIPM Sports where many possibilities exist for partnerships between the Union and business partners.

On the evening of May 15, the city government of Szekesfehevar invited representatives of UIPM and the Hungarian Modern Pentathlon Association (HMPA) to a social gathering.

UIPM President Dr Schormann and HMPA President Gyula Bretz thanked the city government for their great support of Modern Pentathlon over many years and both hope for further successful cooperation in the future.

The UIPM President presented a special plaque to HMPA President Gyula Bretz in gratitude for long and historic strong cooperation between the two organisations.

20.05.2021: Olympic Games 2032

The UIPM President was joined by Secretary General Shiny Fang in a meeting with John Baker and Pranav Khot of Event Knowledge Services (EKS), representatives of the Brisbane 2032 bid which was announced by the IOC as preferred candidate city for the 2032 Olympic Games in February.

They discussed preliminary points such as competition venue, field of play and preliminary time schedule. Dr Schormann thanked Mr Baker and Mr Khot for the detailed briefing.

The UIPM President, Secretary General and UIPM Operations Director Alexandre Franca then provided a report about the new format of Modern Pentathlon designed for the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

UIPM Executive Board Member Kitty Chiller (President of the Oceania Modern Pentathlon Confederation) underlined the close cooperation between the



Clockwise from top left: UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann, Oceania Confederation President Kitty Chiller OLY, UIPM Operations Director Alexandre Franca and Brisbane 2032 representatives John Baker and Pranav Khot

organising Team of Brisbane 2032, the Australian Olympic Committee and Modern Pentathlon Australia.

25.05.21: GAISF IF Forum

President Dr Schormann and Secretary General Shiny Fang attended the GAISF International Federations (IF) Forum where IOC President Dr Thomas Bach gave an important statement about the current situation facing all athletes and IFs in preparation of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 hosted in 2021.

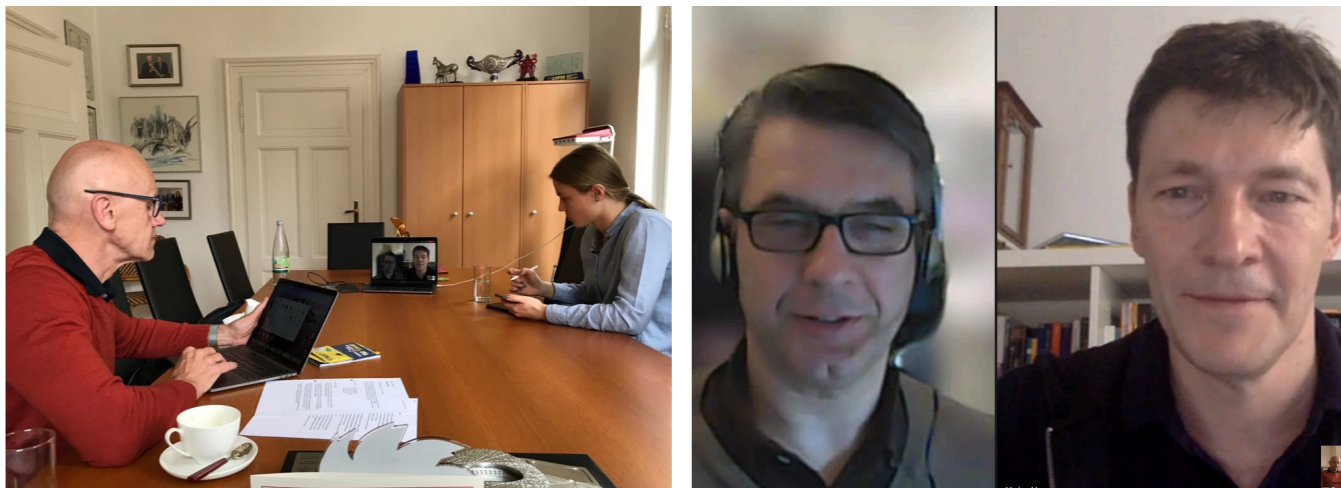
Dr Bach’s main message was about unity, solidarity and the strong willingness of all stakeholders to help Tokyo stage a successful Olympic Games.

26.05.2021: ‘Be active through sport’ Project

President Dr Schormann held a final meeting with the ‘Trimm Dich’ (Be Active Through Sport) task force, which works on general sport development and how sport and health can have an impact on society.



UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann during the GAISF IF Forum



Members of the ‘Be Active Through Sport’ task force meet virtually to discuss the sport and public health project

The task force finalised how they want to go viral with the message: from younger to older people. All generations need offers for physical activities and mental support to overcome the stress and difficulty of life through this pandemic and keep healthy through sport.

well as sport clubs and UIPM. The task force plans to create a snowball system effect with federations, organisations and clubs delivering the message to all age groups.

of the UIPM 2021 Global Laser Run City Tour to be held in Darmstadt (GER) in early September 2021.

The discussion centred on general organisation and the strategic structure needed for the next months of preparation.

28.05.2021: GLRCT Laser Run Darmstadt 2021

Prof Dr Markus Mau will work out a road map which will later be handed over to the German Olympic Committee (DOSB) and German Olympic Academy (DOA) as

Dr Schormann held a kick-off meeting with the organising team

A kick-off meeting with the organising team of the UIPM 2021 Global Laser Run City Tour to be held in Darmstadt (GER) in September



Pentathlon World Rankings
- Updated after UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final

The PWR is updated live at www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at 29 May 2021:

| MEN | | | |
|------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| RANK | NATION | NAME | POINTS |
| 1 | FRA | Valentin PRADES | 189 |
| 2 | FRA | Valentin BELAUD | 185 |
| 3 | KOR | Woongtae JUN | 185 |
| 4 | GBR | Joseph CHOONG | 183 |
| 5 | KOR | Jihun LEE | 181 |
| 6 | CHN | Shuai LUO | 173 |
| 7 | HUN | Robert KASZA | 169 |
| 8 | HUN | Adam MAROSI | 166 |
| 9 | BLR | Ilya PALAZKOV | 164 |
| 10 | GBR | Thomas TOOLIS | 152 |
| 11 | KOR | Jinhwa JUNG | 152 |
| 12 | GER | Fabian LIEBIG | 150 |
| 13 | UKR | Pavlo TYMOSHCHENKO | 150 |
| 14 | GBR | James COOKE | 149 |
| 15 | RUS | Alexander LIFANOV | 148 |
| 16 | GER | Marvin DOGUE | 148 |
| 17 | GUA | Charles FERNANDEZ | 146 |
| 18 | LTU | Justinas KINDERIS | 144 |
| 19 | GER | Patrick DOGUE | 137 |
| 20 | EGY | Eslam HAMAD | 135 |

| WOMEN | | | |
|-------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
| RANK | NATION | NAME | POINTS |
| 1 | GBR | Kate FRENCH | 210 |
| 2 | GER | Annika SCHLEU | 184 |
| 3 | GBR | Joanna MUIR | 175 |
| 4 | BLR | Anastasiya PROKOPENKO | 171 |
| 5 | HUN | Michelle GULYAS | 170 |
| 6 | FRA | Elodie CLOUVEL | 168 |
| 7 | BLR | Volha SILKINA | 164 |
| 8 | LTU | Laura ASADAUSKAITE | 156 |
| 9 | GBR | Francesca SUMMERS | 155 |
| 10 | FRA | Marie OTEIZA | 154 |
| 11 | MEX | Mariana ARCEO | 152 |
| 12 | MEX | Mayan OLIVER | 152 |
| 13 | LTU | Gintare VENCKAUSKAITE | 149 |
| 14 | RUS | Gulnaz GUBAYDULLINA | 148 |
| 15 | ITA | Elena MICHELI | 147 |
| 16 | ITA | Alice SOTERO | 146 |
| 17 | RUS | Uliana BATASHOVA | 145 |
| 18 | IRL | Natalya COYLE | 145 |
| 19 | KOR | Sunwoo KIM | 141 |
| 20 | TUR | Ilke OZYUKSEL | 140 |

! The latest UIPM World Rankings, World Cup Rankings and Olympic Games Rankings are all available at www.pentathlon.org

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8-14 June
Pentathlon World Championships
Cairo (EGY)

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WATCH REPLAYS
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Mar 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Budapest
Apr 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Sofia I (BUL)
Apr 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Sofia II (BUL)
May 2021 Pentathlon World Cup Final Szekesfehervar (HUN)



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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