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## **UIPM 2023 PENTATHLON WORLD CUP CAIRO**



Gintare Venckauskaite (LTU) hands over to Titas Puronas (LTU) on their way to victory in the Mixed Relay on the final day of the season-opening UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo









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## **UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo**



Michelle Gulyas (HUN) and home favourite Ahmed Elgendy (EGY) savour their moment of glory in Cairo.

### With Paris in sight, the stars of pentathlon lay down Olympic markers in Cairo

he first steps on the road to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games proved to be action-packed as the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup season kicked off in exhilarating fashion in Cairo (EGY).

With the World Cup Final in Ankara this summer offering the first automatic places for next summer's Olympics in the French capital, the cream of the pentathlon crop were drawn to Cairo and delivered fireworks.

"For athletes this World Cup already counts in terms of qualification points for the World Cup Final in Ankara, where we will have the first direct qualification spots for the Olympic Games," UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said. "I

volunteers, sponsors, supporters and technicians who made it happen – and of course to the athletes for their high performance in a spirit of fairness that shows our sport is in a good position on the way to Paris."

Michelle Gulyas of Hungary and Ahmed Elgendy of Egypt came from behind to start the season with superb individual victories at UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo.

World No.1 Gulyas (HUN) took control of another Super Saturday as she overturned the lead of Elodie Clouvel of France to win the Women's Final. Clouvel (FRA) fought hard to hold on to silver ahead of Salma Abdelmaksoud (EGY), who claimed her second consecutive bronze in the seasonopener.

Later, Tokyo 2020 Olympic silver

Laser Run almost half a minute off the lead but managed his race perfectly to win the Men's Final ahead of silver medallist Csaba Bohm (HUN) and Martin Vlach of Czech Republic, who made up five places to claim bronze.

MEDALLISTS' REACTION — WOMEN Women's champion Gulyas (HUN) said: "My technical disciplines were very good – Fencing and Shooting were really amazing, I couldn't have wished for better. My physical disciplines not so good, but it was OK because I could compensate with my technical

"I have a very good mental coach, and my coaching team is also very good at helping in my preparation for competitions. The main competition is still further away this year, but hopefully I can keep this up."

am quite happy and thankful to all the medallist Elgendy (EGY) started the Silver medallist Clouvel (FRA) added: "In



the last two weeks I had COVID, and my feeling was not too good. In my head, I wanted to be stronger, but I am so happy and I congratulate the girls because it was a good game today, a good competition.

"I'm very happy I could start my season this way and I thank my team, my coach, my partner, my family and Valentin - and see you in Ankara!

"I am preparing for Paris, and I'm focused step by step, competition by competition. My team is good, my coach is good and they have confidence and trust in me."

Bronze medallist Abdelmaksoud (EGY) said: "Thank you to my coaches and my family and everybody who helped

me. The competition was very hard, but I started Laser Run 3rd and I'm very happy to finish 3rd."

MEDALLISTS' REACTION — MEN

Olympics, because of injury.

Men's champion Elgendy (EGY) said: "First I'm very happy to get this medal in my home country and in front of this crowd and my family, friends and all my coaches. Also I'm happy to be back on the podium a year and a half after the the result.

"Today I'm so happy and so grateful to be back. Four years ago I won the gold medal here in Egypt, in my first senior World Cup in 2019, and I'm so happy to get my second gold medal here today."

Silver medallist Bohm (HUN) added: "Both Elgendys are really strong Bronze medallist Vlach (CZE) said: "I

athletes and it was an honour to have another battle with one of them. I had some struggles with my shooting and Elgendy was really great in the shooting, and that's why he always had the lead and I had to catch him up.

"I gave everything, absolutely everything, and it was hard both mentally and physically. I'm happy with

"You could see my sad face after the shooting, because there was a Peridot indoor competition recently in Hungary and I messed up my shooting. All of my team around me are working on my shooting and I shot pretty well in the Qualification and Semi-final."







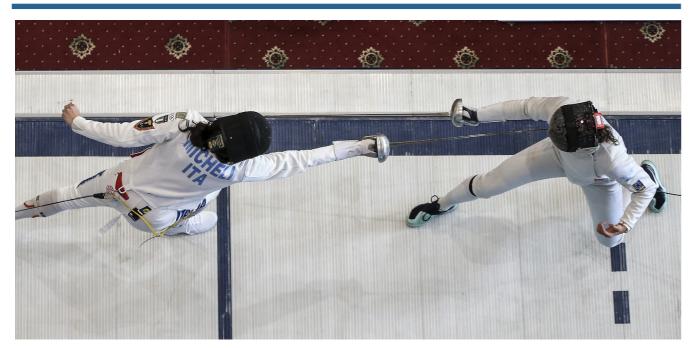












Elena Micheli (ITA) notched three important wins in the Fencing Bonus Round as Elodie Clouvel (FRA) tried to keep her place at the front of the field.

really hoped I could make it to the top three. The guys in front of me were just too fast for me today."

Asked about the secret to his consistent Laser Run speed, he said: "I can't mention just one thing, it's a continuous process that takes years and years. My coaches know what to do so I just follow their instructions."

### Women's Final: Gulyas (HUN) and Whitaker (GBR) put on pressure but brilliant Micheli (ITA) holds nerve

### **RIDING**

Six athletes – including world No.1 Gulyas (HUN) and world champion Elena Micheli of Italy – led the charge with a maximum score of 300 points, while local hopefuls Malak Ismail (EGY) and Abdelmaksoud (EGY) only incurred minor time penalties.

Clouvel (FRA) lost seven points to her chief rivals with one obstacle dislodged, but 293 enabled her to remain in the overall lead. There were no eliminations but Olha Klunnikova of Ukraine was sadly unable to start the Final after winning her Semi-final on Thursday.

### **FENCING**

Her performance in the Ranking Round



Action from the Swimming discipline in the Women's Final at UIPM 2023 World Cup Cairo.

had given Clouvel (FRA) a 15-point SWIMMING Fencing cushion over nearest rivals Gulyas (HUN) and Marie Oteiza (FRA), and she did everything she could to maintain her supremacy in the Bonus Round. Namely, by defeating Gulyas (HUN) in the final bout for an extra four

points of her own with two victories, and Micheli (ITA) also notched three important wins. Ismail (EGY) was the

The best performance at the Paul B Hannon Swimming Pool came not in the third but in the second of three heats - where Alice Sotero (ITA) set an irresistible pace.

more than Clouvel (FRA) who won star of the Bonus Round with four wins. the final heat in 2:15.52, just ahead of



After finishing 4th at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics in 2021, Sotero (ITA) took By then, Gulyas (HUN) had added four time out to have a baby but is now very much back and her time of 2min 13.01sec brought her 284 points - five







pressure on her adversary at every

Clouvel (FRA) started with a 16sec lead

but Gulyas (HUN) cut it to 4sec at the

first visit to the range and then overtook

the Rio 2016 Olympic silver medallist at

the second. The nerveless Hungarian

showed exceptional consistency with

all four shoots taking less than 9sec,

opportunity - and it worked.





Champion Michelle Gulyas (HUN) was nerveless as she chaised down Elodie Clouvel (FRA) with a stunning performance in the Laser Run.



Women's Final podium

Abelmaksoud (EGY) in 2:15.62.

Micheli (ITA) continued her upward momentum with 277 points while Gulyas (HUN) dropped back a little with 271.

### LASER RUN

The Laser Run featured a classic sting by Gulyas (HUN), who put merciless while Clouvel (FRA) was above 15sec

That wasn't the end of the story, because with powerful running Clouvel (FRA) refused to give Gulyas (HUN) any sense of a victory lap, and she also fought back against Abdelmaksoud (EGY) every time she found herself back in 3rd after a shoot.

Outside of the medals story, Micheli (ITA) moved up from 7th to 4th with a solid performance, and while Sotero (ITA) pipped Ismail (EGY) on the line for 5th, the biggest surge came from 7th-placed Laura Heredia of Spain, whose 11:27.20 was comfortably the best Laser Run of the day. Marie Oteiza (FRA) completed the top eight.

Blanka Bauer (HUN) timed 11:41.80 while Gintare Venckauskaite of Lithuania recorded 11:45.10, but both were too far back among the 17 racers to advance.









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Only five male athletes escaped the Riding round without an obstacle penalty in Cairo.

### Men's Final: Elgendy (EGY) holds off challenge of Bohm (HUN) in a gripping finale

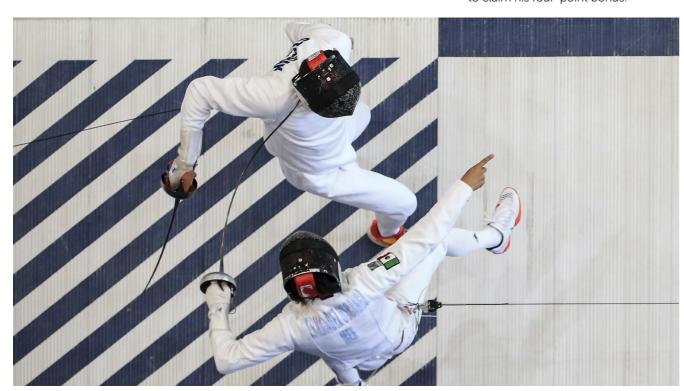
### **RIDING**

Only five athletes in the Men's Final escaped without an obstacle penalty, but three of the maximum scorers looked like serious podium contenders - Vlach (CZE), Bohm (HUN) and Valentin Prades (FRA).

Four of the five Egyptians in the 18-strong field – as well as Pavlo Tymoshchenko of Ukraine and Valentin Belaud (FRA) - stayed very much in contention with 293 points, but there were some damaging concessions as Seo Changwan of Korea incurred 18 penalties, Pierre Dejardin (FRA) 28 and Ahmed Hamed (EGY) 30.

### **FENCING**

Hamed (EGY) recovered some ground in the Fencing Bonus Round, with four victories adding eight points to his tally - a tally matched by Patrick Dogue of Germany. There were three wins for Emiliano Hernandez of Mexico, and Fencing winner Shaban (EGY) beat Tymoshchenko (UKR) in the final bout to claim his four-point bonus.



The action was typically fast-paced on the piste in the Fencing Bonus Round in the Egyptian capital.











Action from the pool in the Men's Final.

Round having scored an impressive 26V/9D in the Ranking Round, two more victories than Tymoshchenko (UKR) and five more than any other competitor, giving him a 25-point over the chasing pack before today's and Bohm (HUN), the former moving in showcase. His overall lead after Fencing was 14 points but it was back up to 25 after the penultimate discipline.

### SWIMMING

As in the Women's Final, the fastest performance came in Heat 2 and it was Elgendy (EGY) who posted the best time (2:02.65) to move into an ominous overall position of 3rd. Bohm (HUN, 2:04.84) won the final heat from Shaban (EGY, 2:05.71), while Moutaz Mohamed (EGY) was 3rd-fastest in 2:05.27.

### LASER RUN

Starting with a 25sec lead, Shaban (EGY) knew that there was some serious Laser Run quality in pursuit, not least Bohm (HUN) and Elgendy (EGY) in 2nd and 3rd but also others including Vlach (CZE), lying in 8th with a 39sec deficit to correct.

As many expected, the pressure was just a little too much for the inexperienced Shaban (EGY) and he was worn down, Shaban (EGY) came into the Bonus overtaken by Elgendy (EGY) and Bohm (HUN) on the third shoot and by Vlach (CZE) at the start of the fifth run.

> The second half of the race was a gripping race between Elgendy (EGY) front with a series of sub-10sec shoots but then finding his rival coming back strongly on the 600m circuit. On the

final lap, the pattern remained but this time Elgendy (EGY) had just enough stamina to pull away from Bohm (HUN) and become the home-town hero.

Behind them, Vlach (CZE) took his customary place at the top of the Laser Run standings with a 10:01.60 to make up 6sec on Elgendy (EGY, 10:07.90) and 11sec on Bohm (HUN, 10:12.90). There was some serious experience outside the top four places as positions 5-8 were claimed by Prades (FRA), Tymoshchenko (UKR), Taishu Sato of Japan and Belaud (FRA) respectively.

### PRESIDENT"S REACTION

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "Through the Qualification and Semi-finals and now the Finals, we've already had a great competition here at the the American University in Cairo.

"We saw that the athletes are really well prepared from the winter season and they have adapted to the new format that we will have in Paris 2024. This is very hard, but when you see the results it is so exciting. The spectators and viewers who saw these two Finals see that we are on the right track in preparation for the Games in Paris."



Martin Vlach (CZE) hunts down Mohanad Shaban (EGY) who saw his 25-second lead fade away in an energy-sapping Laser Run finale to the Men's Final











Lithuania top the podium after a come-from-behind victory as the Mixed Relay Final brought down the curtain on UIPM 2023 World Cup Cairo.

### Faultless shooting from **Venckauskaite and Puronas (LTU)** leads Lithuania to Mixed Relay gold

**G**intare Venckauskaite and Titas Puronas dug deep and served up an exhibition of sharp shooting to take Mixed Relay gold for Lithuania to bring the curtain down on UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo.

In a breathtaking culmination to a great week of competition in the Egyptian capital, Lithuania (Venckauskaite/ Puronas) clawed back a 25-second deficit in the Laser Run to take top honours.

Mexico had been long-time leaders but for a time it looked as though Mariana Arceo and Manuel Padilla would miss out on a medal until an incredible sprint finish from Padilla earned silver.

Korea's team of Haeun Jang and Soengjin Kim took a deserved bronze narrowly ahead of home favourites Egypt (Haydy Morsy & Mohanad Shaban) in fourth. Great Britain (Emma Whitaker & Myles Pillage) battled to fifth with Poland (Ewa Pydyszewska & Lukasz Gutkowski) sixth.

It was a fittingly competitive and international end to the first World Cup of the 2023 season with a total of 12 teams from five continents vying for



Only five athletes escaped the Riding round without an obstacle penalty in Cairo.

the first Mixed Relay honours of the could compete." campaign.

MEDALISTS' REACTION

Gold medalist Puronas (LTU) said: "Our Fencing wasn't so strong so we had to run fast. It's our favourite discipline so we did our best!" His teammate Venckauskaite (LTU) added: "I came into this competition after a one and a halfyear [absence] and I'm really happy that I

Silver medalist Arceo (MEX) said: "My team is really fast in our running and I am really so happy with this medal." Her teammate Padilla (MEX) added: "The running is my strength. We had worked a lot for this competition. We were really focused for the relays and we are really





Celebrating a victory on the piste, Emma Whitaker and Myles Pillage battled their way to fifth place for Great Britain at UIPM 2023 World Cup Cairo.

Bronze medalist Jang (KOR) said: "In the Laser Run we had great shooting and the running was good. We are very happy with a bronze medal." Her teammate Kim (KOR) said: "Korea's name is Team Korea, you know that, and coaches and athletes we are all a team, not personal. It's important that we think this way. We are a strong team and a nice team."

### **RIDING**

in the Riding round, it was the leaders who held their nerve to both separate themselves from the chasing pack and ensure things would remain tight at the top.

Three teams recorded perfect scores chances of a medal dim. Earlier, the with Poland (Pydyszewska/Gutkowski) the first to do so as they jumped up the leaderboard. Korea (Jang/Kim) were also faultless with Germany (Cicelle Leh & Marc Spletzer) next to rack up a maximum score. Egypt (Morsy/ Shaban) recorded an obstacle fault leaving Mexico (Arceo/Padilla) with a chance to extend their lead. However a refusal during Arceo's ride saw them While there were some mixed fortunes drop down into second place. Lithuania (Venckauskaite/Puronas) claimed 293 points to stay where they needed to be within striking distance.

> A couple of unfortunate struggles from Great Britain (Whitaker/Pillage) saw their

team of Panalee Palasri and Natthaphon Kesornphrom representing Thailand and Devan Wiebe and Robert Bonomo from Canada cut their teeth over fences with both countries welcome additions and adding even more of a global outlook to the event.

### **FENCING**

Mexico (Arceo/Padilla) got their challenge off to formidable start as they dominated proceedings on the piste, coming out on top in the Fencing Ranking Round with 32 Victories followed by Egypt (Morsy/ Shaban) who combined perfectly with 15 Victories each. Germany (Leh/Spletzer) were third with 26 Victories.



















Things tightened up at the top of the Mixed Relay leaderboard as the competing teams put up some impressive times in the Swimming discipline.

In the Bonus Round, Lithuania Korea (Jang/Kim) close the gap in a time (Venckauskaite/Puronas) were red-hot, picking up an additional 10 points to move into striking distance of the top four. Their run was only ended by Mexico (Arceo/Padilla) who picked up four bonus points to move back into first place.

### **SWIMMING**

The pool pedigree of Great Britain (Whitaker/Pillage) was more than evident as they tried to claw their way up the leaderboard, clocking the fastest time in the Swimming round as they were the only team to go sub-two minutes in a blistering 1:58.49.

Things tightened up further again at the top as Kim's super anchor leg helped (KOR) served up an exhibition of sharp and Puranas (LTU) picked his moment as

of 2:01.14 with Germany (Leh/Spletzer) third fastest in 2:02.83.

### LASER RUN

In a Laser Run that shaped to be truly climatic just 10 seconds separated first and fourth. Mexico (Arceo/Padilla) had the narrowest of leads, just a second head start on Egypt (Morsy/Shaban) with Germany (Leh/Spletzer) and Korea (Jang/Kim) hot on their heels. Lithuania (Venckauskaite/Puronas) were also firmly in the mix, 25 seconds back.

As is so often the case in such a tight fight the ultimate destination of the medals would be decided at the range and Jang

shooting to catapult Korea into the lead after the first shoot. Morsy had Egypt in hot pursuit as Arceo (MEX) slipped back.

When Jang (KOR) repeated the trick at the second shoot, Korea found themselves with a little breathing room courtesy of a 12-second lead at the changeover. However Venckauskaite's (LTU) dodged running had moved Lithuania all the way up to second ahead of Egypt and it was shaping up to be a barnstorming finish.

With Padilla (MEX) trying to get back into things, there was more exemplary shooting from the front two as Kim (KOR) and Puronas (LTU) both hit five from five. It would all come down to the final shoot



Mariana Arceo (MEX) looks to find her focus on the range as the Mixed Relay medals were decided in the Laser Run.

he took the lead just as they approached the range. Despite struggling on his fifth target Puranas (LTU) got away first with Kim (KOR) faltering a little on the final shoot. That opened the door for silver and Padilla (MEX) dug deep and sprinted through.

Shaban (EGY) almost claimed another medal for the host nation as he hunted down Kim (KOR) but had to settle for fourth. Great Britain (Whitaker/Pillage) finished an admirable fifth with Poland (Pydyszewska/Gutkowski) sixth.

### PRESIDENT'S REACTION

UIPM President Dr. Klaus Schormann said: "The Mixed Relay is always a very special highlight way to end a World Cup. More younger athletes were involved against some more experienced, worldclass teams and I think it's so good to see more athletes having that possibility: to come together and learn and perform with the highest level of athletes. It really was a Mixed Relay in that sense.

"It was such an exciting moment at the end in the Laser Run. I said to my Korean colleagues that if the Korean athletes had been stronger runners they would easily win but in our sport you have to be strong at every aspect. We had a very good finish and the Mixed Relay remains a highlight in our movement."



Gintare Venckauskaite and Titas Puronas (LTU) celebrate Mixed Relay gold in Cairo.

















## **New Pentathlon Discipline**



### **UIPM releases 'Get Started with the** new Modern Pentathlon' brochure

Obstacle racers ready to embark on a journey to the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games are the target audience of a new UIPM brochure entitled 'Get Started with the new Modern Pentathlon'.

The 12-page publication is an introductory manual for Ninja, Obstacle Course Racing (OCR) or Adventure Racing participants who are contemplating a switch to a sport that is about to undergo one of the most dramatic transformations in the history of the Olympic movement. The brochure provides tips on the initial steps

of converting to Modern Pentathlon and of athletes eyeing the dream of LA28 but Obstacle participants at all levels. The new UIPM Sports Pyramid sets out the wide range of opportunities

The introduction to 'Get Started with Modern Pentathlon' poses the question: demanding sport?

Pentathlon for the first time in 2023, and

"So whether you're an OCR athlete or aims to support not only the generation a Ninja Warrior fan, or you just love hurtling across an obstacle course, this is YOUR MOMENT to get started. It's the adventure of a lifetime, one that leads all the way to the top of world sport."

Obstacle Discipline became an official discipline of Modern Pentathlon when "Are you ready to tackle a whole new it was added to the UIPM Statutes and version of the Olympic Games' most UIPM Competition Rules & Regulations by the 72nd UIPM Congress, which took place online in November 2022. It forms "Obstacle will be integrated into Modern part of an application sent by UIPM to the International Olympic Committee in the journey to Los Angeles 2028 starts respect of the LA28 sporting programme. The UIPM 2023 Pentathlon U17 World until the first Competition Rules are presented to UIPM 2024 Congress, and the Obstacle Discipline Training Tips for athletes and coaches. UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "What a challenge for the future - the new Modern Pentathlon with Obstacle creates an incredible opportunity for athletes.

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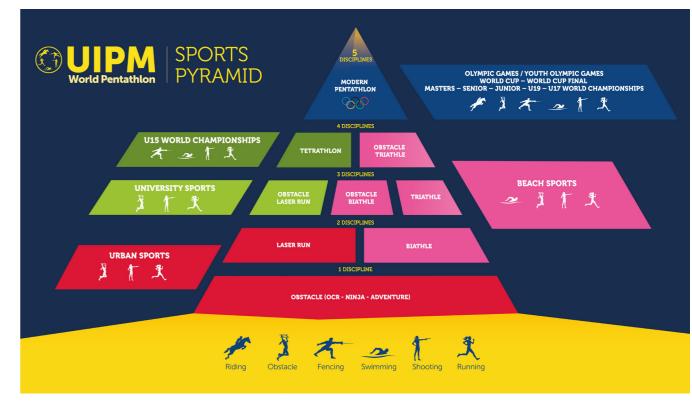
"We are merging a new, urban, TVfriendly sport with the prestige and heritage of the Olympic Games. It's going to be fair and accessible to all athletes around the world - now is the time to get involved!"



International Olympic Committee we are committed to an ongoing process Coubertin."

13

"In close collaboration with the of innovation in Modern Pentathlon in the spirit of our founder, Baron Pierre de



















# **DEVELOPMENT** SPOTLIGHT

## **Tours resume in 75** cities worldwide



### Lights are green for 75 Laser Run and **Biathle-Triathle Tours**

**S**eventy-five cities across 30 countries. A long thread connecting the world as one big multi-sports movement.

UIPM's 2023 development tour circuit began in Kuwait City (KUW) and is set to envelop the planet between March and December. The Global Laser Run City Tour and Biathle-Triathle National Tour are back!

Among the changes this year is a hosting fee, designed to make the GLRCT and BTNT models more sustainable and create a higher level of consistency within the product, with organisers able to introduce participation fees.

feature, with organisers now able to select from four options:

- Obstacle equipment kit (maximum 1 per NF) – one box of trusses as well as six different obstacle elements
- Pentasuits 10 per approved event
- Shooting sets (laser pistols and targets) - five sets per approved event with a limit of 25 sets in total
- Fencing a maximum of two development sets per National Federation

### **Laser Run**

With 58 venues confirmed, the first of two GLRCTs in Kuwait brought the popular urban racing concept to another new territory and other Asian newcomers (United Arab Emirates and Hong Kong, China) will follow in its wake this year. China, meanwhile, stands Equipment support is another enhanced ready to host five Category A races, each

with an estimated 600 participants. And the circuit sees the return of some of the traditional 'regulars' such as Egypt, Georgia and South Africa. The action began on March 9 in Kuwait City (KUW) with Alexandria (EGY), Bloemfontein (RSA) and Tashkent in Uzbekistan following in the same month.

### **Biathle-Triathle**

Seventeen organisers have stepped up to the plate to give athletes who favour UIPM beach multi-sports opportunities to participate and compete. Spain comes forward as a new host of three BTNTs, one staged by the National Federation and two others by the Asturia club. Lithuania made its GLRCT debut in 2022 and this year offers three national BTNT events to enable athletes to continue their development up the UIPM Sports Pyramid and earn selection

to the national team. Moldova is another new host in 2023, while Egypt, Georgia, Philippines and Sri Lanka continue the good vibes from previous years. The action is scheduled to begin in the middle of April.

### Other multi-sport events

Beyond the GLRCT and BTNT there is a wide range of multi-sport competitions taking place across the continents in 2023.

- UIPM 2023 Laser Run World Championships combined with Pentathlon World Championships - Bath (GBR) August 19-21
- UIPM 2023 Biathle-Triathle World Championships - Bali (INA) November 1-5
- 2023 Southeast Asia Championships (Triathle) - Chon Buri (THA) May 19-21
- European Biathle/Triathle and Laser Run Championships - Erding (GER), June 28 - July 2
- Mediterranean Beach Games (Triathle) - Irakleion (GRE) September 9-16
- Asian Biathle-Triathle Championships – venue TBC

UIPM Executive Board for Development, Dr Viacheslav Malishev, said: "This year 2023 is the seventh year of the UIPM Global Laser Run City Tour and sixth year of the Biathle-Triathle National Tour.

"It is clear to see that the range of multi-discipline sports under UIPM's development structure and pathway have become more and more accessible for countries and regions around the world regardless of culture and conditions.

"The various combinations of multidiscipline sports have also helped to establish strong awareness on all continents, among more and more populations, and also among all stakeholders from National Federations and local government and authorities to clubs and other international sports organisations and commercial sponsors."























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# **PARA PENTATHLON** SPOTLIGHT

## Accessibility and universality



Action from the Irish capital Dublin during the 2018 Laser Run World Championships.

### Bath is calling — Have you entered the Para Laser Run World **Championships yet?**

Ollowing the success of the Para Laser Run event at the UIPM 2022 Laser Run World Championships in make sure the event builds on previous Lisbon (POR), the stage is set for an years and is truly accessible to all even bigger showcase of UIPM Para athletes. With a large number of para- out to para athletes with an athletics

Sports in 2023.

The local organising committee of the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Bath (GBR) are working hard behind the scenes to athletes competing, it is set to be a truly world class event.

If you have para athletes in your National Federation or local club, this is a great opportunity for them to enter and participate in a global competition. NF members are also encouraged to reach









Crossing the finish line during last year's hugely successful UIPM 2022 Laser Run World Championships in Lisbon.

background in their country or club.

Andrew Collings, Chair of the UIPM Para Pentathlon Commission, said: "The key to the success of the UIPM Para Sports movement is having a large grassroots base of athletes.

"As the starting discipline on the UIPM

Para event pyramid, Para Laser Run it is a great place for para athletes to start on their Modern Pentathlon journey.

"What's more, growing the sport at the grassroots and ensuring that the Laser Run is accessible to all will help grown the number of para athletes competing in other disciplines.

"Being prepared and organized is the key - so reach out now. With just under six months to go, guides for para athletes and fundraising can be undertaken."

Please email UIPM Para Sports (para@ pentathlon.org) for more information and to receive the official poster.



Medals are handed out during last year's hugely successful UIPM 2022 Laser Run World Championships in Lisbon.









## News from around the world

### **AMPC update: Secretary General** Yeo has key meetings with Olympic stakeholders in Mungyeong (KOR)

Abusy month of activities for the Asian Modern Pentathlon Confederation (AMPC) included a number of key stakeholder meetings at the Asian Hockey Federation Congress on March 23-24.

The AMPC was represented at the Congress in Mungyeong (KOR) by Secretary General Sangkeong Yeo, who had meetings with the Secretaries General of two National Olympic Committees - Turkmenistan and Tajikistan - with the aim of furthering development in Central Asia.

Mr Yeo also met with Naranbaatar Otgonbaatar, Secretary General of the Modern Pentathlon Association of Mongolia, who reflected on the country's first-ever Laser Run competition in Ulaanbaatar (MGL) in December. Mr Yeo offered support to enable more UIPM Sports activity to take place in Mongolia.

An in-person meeting with Ata Akmammedov, SG of the Turkemenistan NOC, was another highlight as Mr Akmammedov expressed energetic interest in the development of Modern Pentathlon based on the future composition of the sport with Obstacle joining Fencing, Swimming and Laser Run.

Mr Yeo said it was a very useful trip with

Top: Asian Modern Pentathlon Confederation Secretary General Sangkeong Yeo meets Naranbaatar Otgonbaatar, Secretary General of the Modern Pentathlon Association of Mongolia in Mungyeong (KOR)

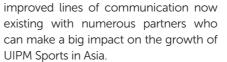
Right: Mr Yeo and Mr Otgonbaatar have a meeting with Turkmenistan NOC Secretary General Ata Akmammedov during the Asian Hockey Federation Congress











### Woongtae Jun (KOR) greets Korea **President Yoon during Sports Vision** Report ceremony

lympic bronze medalist Woongtae Jun (KOR) took centre stage when Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol oversaw the 2023 Korea Sports Vision Report by the Korean Sport & Olympic Committee (KSOC).

Jun (KOR) joined the leader of the Republic of Korea on stage during a glittering ceremony to mark the Report ahead of the Hangzhou Asian Games later this year and the 2024 Paris Olympics The event on February 14 at Korea's National Training Centre in Jincheon saw President Yoon make a congratulatory speech encouraging national team athletes and coaches ahead of the major events in the upcoming years.

pledged strong support for elite sports will foster the sports industry, as a future best. The government will fully support



It was President Yoon's first visit to the to revitalize the sports movement in growth engine, and for this, elite Korean NTC since taking office last year, and he Korea. He also stressed that his cabinet athletes should be among the world's



















national team athletes to concentrate on training and become world-class athletes.

Jun (KOR), currently ranked No.4 in the world rankings, took an oath in front of President Yoon on behalf of 1,600 Korean athletes and coaches. He was joined on stage with President Yoon and KSOC President Lee Kee Heung, who is an IOC Member.

After lunch, everyone, including the Korean national Modern Pentathlon team took commemorative photos with President Yoon.

Korea's pentathletes at the NTC were in the midst of preparing for the Hangzhou Asian Games, originally scheduled for 2022 but postponed to September 2023.

When they identified themselves as the Modern Pentathlon national team, President Yoon acknowledged their chosen sport and described pentathlon as one of the hardest and oldest sport in the Olympics. He said he looked forward for a big success at the next Asian Games and also Olympic Games.

### Coaches and judges join Janusz Peciak OLY for successful seminar in Mungyeong (KOR)

Aith four Korean pentathletes currently among the top 20 in the men's and women's world rankings, the country's status as a pentathlon powerhouse is clear.

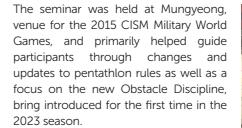
The diligence and dedication to the cause extends to those helping to train, support and organize in the sport - and Korea hosted a highly productive gathering for coaches and judges recently.

The 2023 Modern Pentathlon Coaches' and Judges' Seminar, held over two days from February 16-17, saw UIPM Executive Board Member and 1976 Olympic champpion Janusz Peciak OLY, Chairman of the UIPM Technical Committee, lead a group of almost 50 existing and new coaches and judges.









Mr Peciak was joined by Dongkook Chung (KOR), a members of the UIPM Technical Committee, and visited Korea's National Training Center (NTC) on the second day of the seminar.

In his capacity as Deputy Chair of the NTC Mr Chung guided Mr Peciak through the training facilities for summer and winter sports as well as the medical center and dining and facilities.

With 37 current and 12 new coaches and judges taking part, Mr Peciak was hugely impressed with the energy and keen interest of the Korean participants.

"This has been an excellent, well organized and very professional seminar," he said. "It's so pleasing to see almost 50 coaches and judges here. They asked so many interesting questions and had discussions about horse riding, the new Obstacle discipline as well as additional rules updates.



I am sure that it significantly helped

"Although it was just two-day course, everyone to prepare the the 2023 season and beyond."

MARCH 2023











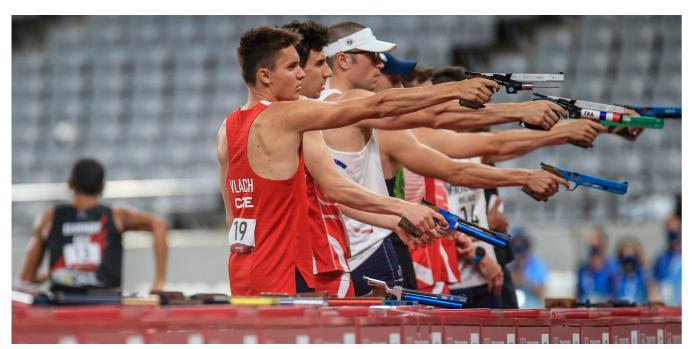








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The 'International Level Athletes Education Program' is hosted on the World Anti-Doping Agency's education platform, ADEL.

### **Anti-doping update: mandatory** e-learning for all athletes competing in Paris 2024 Olympic qualification

thletes competing in all Paris 2024 Olympic Qualification competitions must conclude the WADA e-learning "International Level Athletes Education Program" hosted on the World Anti-Doping Agency's education platform,

This e-learning covers essential anti-doping education and helps to support the fight for clean sport. The ADEL platform is available in multiple languages and UIPM will recognise submissions in all languages.

Completion certificates must be uploaded to the UIPM portal and confirmed by UIPM prior to the athlete's participation in any Paris 2024 Olympic Qualification event. Click here to view the list of competitions in English or French.

UIPM requires athletes to engage in this process under Article 17 of the UIPM 2021 Anti-Doping Rules (see extract below):

UIPM shall plan, implement, evaluate and promote Education in line with the requirements of Article 18.2 of the

Code and the International Standard for Education. UIPM may decide to request that Athletes complete Educational activities before and/or during their participation in select Events (e.g. Youth World Championships) as a condition of such participation. The list of Events for which Athletes will be required to complete Educational activities as a condition of participation will be published on UIPM's website. Failure by the Athlete to complete educational activities as requested by UIPM may result in the imposition of sanction under UIPM's disciplinary rules, unless the Athlete provides to UIPM a justification for such failure, which shall be assessed by UIPM on a case by case basis.

## Three-time Olympian Aya Medany (EGY) elected to ANOCA Athletes

Three-time Olympic pentathlete Aya Medany OLY has been elected to the Athletes' Commission of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA).

Medany (EGY) already sits on the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Athletes' Commission having served as Chair of the UIPM Athletes Committee towards the end of her Modern Pentathlon career.



Ava Medany OLY (EGY) has been elected to the Athletes' Commission of ANOCA

Now a Member of the Egyptian Parliament, Aya Medany OLY was elected to the ANOCA Commission as representative for the 11 Nile Basin countries of Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, Tanzania, Kenya, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Egypt and Somalia.

She said: "Thanks for the confidence of the Egyptian Olympic Committee and the members of the Players' Committee in the Egyptian Olympic Committee who stood with me in the elections."

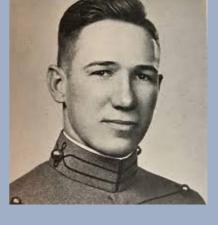


Two days after completing a century of life, one of Modern Pentathlon's cherished heroes finally came to the

marked his 100th birthday on March 15 as the oldest living Olympic pentathlete - two days before he

From North Carolina, Col Troy began Training Centre and led the USA Pan American and Olympic Modern Pentathlon team as athlete and coach

inaugural Pan American Games in Buenos Aires (ARG) in 1951 and duly competed in the Helsinki 1952 Olympic Games, finishing 14th in the



After retiring from the military Col Troy became a farmer and Pentathlon serving as Secretary and Pentathlon Confederation. Pentathlon Association. As President 1988 and 1993 and served a member Honorary Member of the International moments that provide our sport with Modern Pentathlon and Biathlon a heritage to be proud of."

Union (UIPMB).

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann of the global Modern Pentathlon movement, after hearing that Col Guy Troy passed two days after reaching his 100th birthday milestone. But what a life and legacy he leaves behind!

"We all owe a debt of gratitude to the contribution and service of this great man through the years, in his various roles within the US Modern Pentathlon Association, UIPMB / UIPM, the US Olympic Committee

"The Helsinki 1952 Olympic Games time the USA fielded an all-military of the board of directors of the US team in our Olympic competition. Col Olympic Committee. He was an Troy played his part in these historic

## Sameh Guemeih (1947-2023)

Fond tributes have been paid to one of Modern Pentathlon's greatest leaders Egypt, who died on January 27, 2023.

Sameh played a vital role in the development of the global UIPM

Sameh served for many years as President of the African Confederation of Modern Pentathlon (CAPM) and sat on the UIPM Executive Board.

At the UIPM 2016 Congress Frankfurt (GER) he was awarded

Honorary Membership of UIPM in recognition of his distinguished service to the sport.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann person within our movement, and I will personally miss him after working with him for many years, especiall where he joined us on the UIPM Executive Board.

perspective, and this is something I wil miss very much. His love for Modern Pentathlon was only exceeded by his commitment to our athletes and thei well-being, and of course his love fo his family.

"Our global community is thinking of Sameh's family and sending love and





















## All aboard for Santa Fe (ARG) in 2026

Jorge Salas OLY, President of the South American Modern Pentathlon Confederation, signs an agreement

with the ODESUR President, Camilo Lopez Moreira (Member of

(above) for the participation of

Modern Pentathlon in the 2026

South American/ODESUR Games

the IOC Programme Commission). The 2026 edition of the ODESUR Games will take place in Santa Fe (ARG) with events held in the cities of Rosario, Santa Fe and Rafaela.

# Coaching development in Africa continues apace with successful CCP course in Cairo (EGY)

The Egyptian capital of Cairo may have been the scene of a pulsating opening instalment of the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup season. But the action didn't end when the medals were handed out.

The Monday morning after the competition ended saw a large group of coaches from four different nations continue their journeys up the UIPM Coaches Certification Programme (CCP) ladder in Cairo.

The week-long Level 2 course from March 13-17 took place at Cairo Stadium and featured 19 coaches with 15 from the host nation, two from Uganda and one each from India and Kuwait.

Under the expert tutelage of CCP Level 4 coach Raouf Mahrous (EGY), all of the coaches present successfully passed and



received their CCP Level 2 certification.

Africa has emerged as an area of exciting growth for UIPM sports in recent years and there is a continuing focus on coaching development ahead of the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games. This course in Cairo (EGY) was the second of five in 2023 with three more to come.

"Cairo continues to be the site of very important moments in our sport and this recent course falls into that bracket this year in Africa."

too," said UIPM Coaches Committee Chairman Christian Roudaut.

"We have been clear about the benefits of putting time and effort into developing coaching in Africa as our sports continue to grow there. It's so pleasing to see two African nations represented on this course and two other countries where our sports are developing. I want to thank Raouf and the organisers and I look forward to three more courses to come later this year in Africa."

2023 season

**Inside UIPM** 

Reflections on a great start to the

Secretary General Shiny Fang's message

After a long off-season, Modern Pentathlon has bounced back with a bang in 2023!

Our global season-opener in Egypt has become a popular staple and UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo lived up to its reputation, with athletes providing a thrilling start to the Paris 2024 Olympic qualification pathway.

Not only did Cairo shine in the reflected glory of high performance levels from athletes, there was also a professional sheen across event organisation, with high promotional impact inside the hosting country, not to mention international interactions.

When you look at UIPM's online outreach, we may not have outstanding numbers compared with some other Olympic sports. But Modern Pentathlon is starting to climb the mountain, with encouraging signs that we are on the way to being a more accessible sport, providing more possibilities for new athletes to join the movement with our Obstacle innovation, as well as catching the attention of more and more audiences.

Looking at social media during the first week of the UIPM competition season, the new feature of short, dramatic clips taken from the UIPMTV stream and quickly posted on social already proved popular, which is great to see! With more athlete-focused social content like this, shining a spotlight on the prowess of our athletes and capturing those incredible moments that determine who wins gold, silver and bronze, we hope you will agree there is a significant improvement in service.



The Riding discipline in Egypt has always been a challenge, but for this 2023 Pentathlon World Cup, the local organising committee presented many great horses, and there was a good level of riding visible in the individual competition. Our athletes also rode well in the Mixed Relay, where performance levels can sometimes be lower with some younger and newer athletes taking part.

Looking at TV, actually we enjoyed a small growth in broadcasters taking our feed in 2022, and already in 2023 we have seen a very significant increase in interest. Normally we have a surge of 'takers' for the UIPM Pentathlon World Cup Final and Pentathlon World Championships, but this time we started to have new requests for live coverage of the season's first event.

It appears clear that networks prefer our shorter Finals format, with an elimination system reducing the number of athletes from 36 to 18 and all five disciplines taking place in less than two hours. It is very encouraging to see the results of a more TV-friendly and presentable format.

Looking to the next stage of evolution that will determine our future, the International Olympic Committee finally announced the precise timeline of its decision-making around the Los Angeles 2028 sports programme.

The decision will be made by the IOC session in October 2023 in Mumbai (IND). This means we have six more months to solidly and continuously demonstrate our improvement at multiple dimensions. Remember the words of IOC President Dr Thomas Bach, when announcing the IOC's expectations in December 2021.

"The UIPM must finalise its proposal for the replacement of horse riding and the overall competition format, and demonstrate a significant reduction in cost and complexity and an improvement across the areas of safety, accessibility, universality and appeal for young people and the general public."

Our community still has six months to combine efforts and light a torch of unity and hope, so that we can realise the dream of a bright future for our youth generations.

Internally, the evolution of support and service programmes for our National Federations is realised step by step, and we have opened the tenders for Obstacle competition kit and training kit too, in order to provide additional assistance for our major event organizers who will be the first to integrate Obstacle into Modern Pentathlon.

More improvements and service to facilitate participants will come, and the pathway is never easy. Endurance, cooperation, understanding, open mindset and constant communications are crucial to getting this sport where it belongs.

















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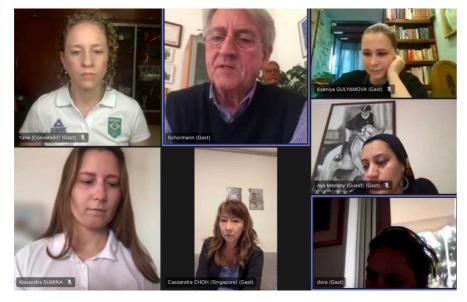
## **Inside UIPM**

**President Dr Klaus Schormann's activities** 

## 01.03.2023: UIPM Women's Commission

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann, joined an online meeting of the UIPM Women's Commission to brief Members about the ongoing situation of UIPM as well as about the delicate situation of Russian & Belarusian athletes in sport. He then followed the meeting, led by Women's Commission Chair Cassandra Choh.

The Commission agreed to support the increase of women coaches and judges – education is the key to empower women to take bigger roles. Ms Choh, President of the Singapore Modern Pentathlon Association, also said the Commission and NFs needed to continue to advocate



Clockwise from top left: Yane Marques OLY, UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann, Kseniya Gulyamova; Aya Medany OLY, Dora Pallis, Cassandra Choh (UIPM Women's Commission Chair) and Alexandra Sumina (UIPM Women's Commission Coordinator)



UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann congratulates Ahmed Elgendy (EGY) on his gold medal in Cairo (EGY)









for respect and fairness, which were universal

Commission Members shared a consensus view that it is necessary to have more women in leadership to close the gap between male and female leadership in the past years.

### 06.03.-12.03.2023: Cairo, EGY

President Dr Schormann attended the season-opening UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo, where he had several meetings with the Egyptian Minister of Sport & Youth, Dr Ashraf Sobhy.

He also discussed steps for future development and integration with various National Federation leaders including Uganda Modern Pentathlon Federation President Simon Peter Komakech and Secretary General Joseph Ssemmanda, Lebanese Modern Pentathlon Federation President Ibrahim Khalil Zein and UAE Modern Pentathlon Federation Chairman Dr Huda Abdul Rahman Al Matrooshi.

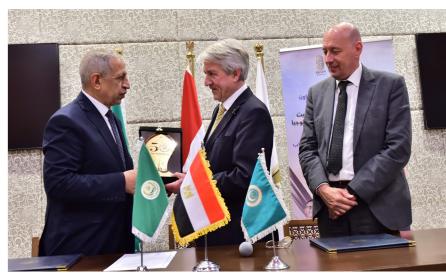
The meetings with Lebanon and UAE were also joined by Asian Modern Pentathlon Confederation President Hyunjun Kim and Secretary General Sangkeong Yeo, who are important allies for developing Asian federations in supporting them to become established Modern Pentathlon nations.

President Dr Schormann mentioned the importance of communication and the advantages the new Obstacle discipline will bring to Modern Pentathlon worldwide. Lebanon and UAE are especially looking forward to the new discipline and the chance to use it as a vehicle for accelerated development.

With Uganda President Komakech, UIPM President Dr Schormann discussed together with UIPM Secretary General Shiny Fang and EB Member for Development Dr Viacheslav Malishev the challenges facing African nations in the various regional zones. Mr Komakech



Above: UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann is greeted by Dr Ashraf Sobhy, Egypt's Minister of Sport & Youth. Below: UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann and Vice President Sharif Elerian make a presentation to Arab Academy President Dr Ismail Abdel Ghafar













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Left to right: Awad Samy (EMPF Board Member); Karin Schormann, Seham Sadek, Dr Klaus Schormann (UIPM President), Asser Guemeih and Ayman Guemeih (sons of Sameh Guemeih)

Opposite page, left: UIPM President talks to Lebanon NF President Ibrahim Zein during a meeting with EB Member Dr Viacheslav Malishev and AMPC President Hyunjun Kim also present, and then makes a presentation to President Zein.

Opposite page, right: President Dr Schormann meets Uganda NF President Simon Peter Komakech and Secretary General Joseph Ssemmanda makes a presentation to President Komakech stated that Uganda is now starting more and more to develop Modern Pentathlon and that the Federation has cooperative agreements for training to provide athletes with a base to become pentathletes.

On March 9, the UIPM President visited

Sameh Guemeih's family, with whom he has retained close contact and friendship.

The late Sameh Guemeih, a UIPM Honorary Member who served as President of the African Modern Pentathlon Confederation for more than 20 years, counts as one of Modern Pentathlon's greatest leaders and proponents. He played a vital role in the development of the UIPM Sports movement across Africa and especially in his home country in Egypt, which has become a strong pillar of UIPM thanks to people with true vision and a commitment to sporting excellence.

### 14.03.-15.03.2023: Bath, GBR

IPM President Dr Klaus Schormann was joined by EB Member for Marketing Martin Dawe for a site visit of the venue for the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships.



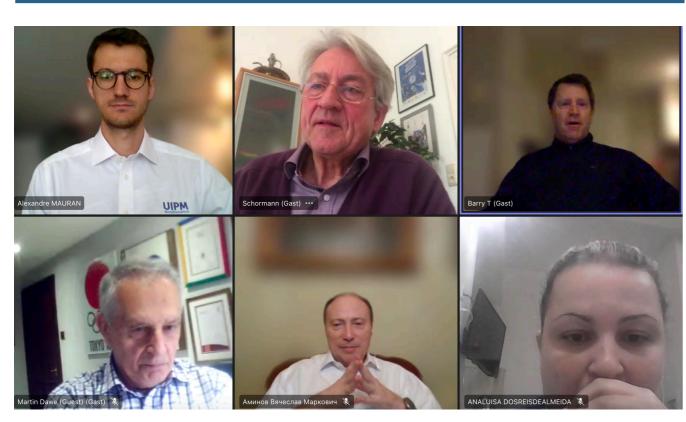
L to r: Tamsin May (Marketing & Communications Manager); Lena Nussbaumer (UIPM Executive Assistant); Rebecca Leach (Championships Director); Dr Klaus Schormann (UIPM President); Martin Dawe (UIPM EB Member); Hannah Williams (Event Operations Manager); Juliet Dormer (Venue Operations Manager)











Above, clockwise from top left: Alexandre Mauran (BAC Coordinator), Dr Klaus Schormann (UIPM President), Barry Tompkins, Ana Luisa Almeida, Viacheslav Aminov (BAC Chairman) and Martin Dawe (UIPM EB Member for Marketing)

Below: President Dr Schormann addresses the UIPM Executive Board during their latest meeting in March 2023

The visit to Bath provided important opportunities to discuss political aspects of UIPM's flagship competition with the newly elected Chairwomen of Pentathlon GB, Diana Hunter, and CEO Trafford Wilson. The visit also included meetings with the local organising team.

Schormann had an online meeting with Clark Chittenden, Head of External Affairs and International Relations at UK Sport. On this call was also Jennifer Browning (International Relations Advisor at UK Sport) and Pentathlon GB CEO Trafford Wilson.

Dr Schormann had the chance to While in the UK, UIPM President Dr explain the ongoing situation of change











within the UIPM and to highlight what covered. President Dr Schormann also the new Modern Pentathlon will bring was done in recent months to ensure that Modern Pentathlon will stay in the in connection with the new discipline, Olympic movement after Paris 2024.

### 21.03.2023: UIPM Business Affairs best possible way. Committee

President Dr Schormann joined the online meeting of the UIPM Business

24.03.2023: UIPM Executive Board Affairs Committee (BAC), which discussed various matters including Uniform Guidelines & Rules.

He briefed all members about the financial and sport-political situation worldwide and underlined new possibilities on the commercial side. relating to the inclusion of Obstacle Championships in 2023.

Martin Dawe gave a review of branding around the new Obstacle discipline and how this can be adapted in the near future. Furthermore, topics like TV, media and event presentation were are fully aware of the added value that

raised the importance of new sponsors which UIPM needs from 2025 onwards, to assure that the sponsors are representing the five disciplines in the

he UIPM President chaired an online meeting of the UIPM Executive Board in which the main topic was the possibility of Russian & Belarussian athletes being permitted to resume participating in some Modern Pentathlon competitions.

Another key agenda item was Modern during UIPM's Junior and Youth World Pentathlon's ongoing mission to remain in the Olympic Games sporting programme and what needs to be done in the run-up to the IOC Session in Mumbai (IND) in October 2023. This requires a collective effort by EB Members, ensuring that all stakeholders

to Los Angeles 2028 and all future Olympic Games.

Additionally, UIPM Athletes Committee Chair Yasser Hefny OLY presented a proposal for building a development performance programme developing countries, while the Executive Board discussed the bidding process of the elective UIPM 2024 Congress and the upcoming season in

### 27.03.2023: IOC President IF Consultation

■IPM President Dr Schormann joined IOC President Dr Thomas Bach's latest consultation call with International Federations (IFs), whose leaders were invited to speak about Russia's ongoing occupation of Ukraine and what possibilities the IFs see to bring Russian & Belarusian athletes back to the competitions and potentially back to the Olympic Games Paris 2024.



UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann (centre, second row) speaks during the IF Consultation Call with IOC President Dr Thomas Bach (to his left)









## **Pentathlon World Rankings**

The PWR is updated live at www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at 30 March 2023:

### MEN

RANK	NATION	NAME	POINTS
1	GBR	Joseph CHOONG	206
2	HUN	Balazs SZEP	181
3	HUN	Csaba BOHM	180
4	KOR	Woongtae JUN	179
5	CZE	Martin VLACH	174
6	KOR	Changwan SEO	167
7	FRA	Valentin PRADES	166
8	FRA	Christopher PATTE	158
9	HUN	Richard BERECZKI	150
10	HUN	Bence DEMETER	148
11	EGY	Mohamed ELGENDY	144
12	ITA	Guiseppe MATTIA	138
13	KOR	Jinhwa JUNG	138
14	FRA	Valentin BELAUD	134
15	GER	Marvin DOGUE	129
16	CZE	Marek GRYCZ	126
17	EGY	Ahmed ELGENDY	123
18	EGY	Mohanad SHABAN	121
19	MEX	Emiliano HERNANDEZ	120
20	MEX	Manuel PADILLA	120

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

### WOMEN

RANK	NATION	NAME	POINTS
	NATION	NAME	POINTS
1	HUN	Michelle GULYAS	205
2	FRA	Elodie CLOUVEL	201
3	ITA	Elena MICHELI	193
4	GBR	Jessica VARLEY	193
5	TUR	Ilke OZYUKSEL	171
6	LTU	Ieva SERAPINAITE	168
7	EGY	Salma ABDELMAKSOUD	162
8	GBR	Olivia GREEN	161
9	GBR	Charlie FOLLETT	160
10	MEX	Mayan OLIVER	149
11	KAZ	Elena POTAPENKO	147
12	JPN	Misaki UCHIDA	137
13	EGY	Malak ISMAII	132
14	GER	Rebecca LANGREHR	131
15	KOR	Sunwoo KIM	131
16	CZE	Karolina KRENKOVA	130
17	CZE	Veronika NOVOTNA	127
18	HUN	Blanka GUZI	127
19	MEX	Tamara VEGA	127
20	ITA	Beatrice MERCURI	121



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**

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