

11 JUL 2019

UIPM 2019 PENTATHLON JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS: IBATULLINA (RUS) COMPLETES GOLDEN TRINITY



Adelina Ibatullina of **Russia** has formed a winning habit and she continued her remarkable run of success to become Women's Individual gold medallist at the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon Junior World Championships.

In 2017 Ibatullina (RUS) became youth world champion at Under 19 level, and today's success confirmed her calibre as one of the most promising pentathletes in the world. Only last month she won European junior gold at the same venue.

Besides her individual haul, the 20-year-old took her tally for this competition to three golds, as she added the team and individual titles to the Women's Relay gold she won alongside **Kseniia Fraltsova** on Tuesday. **Alena Avdeeva** (RUS) joined her team-mates on top of the podium after finishing 15th, with Fraltsova (RUS) crossing the line 9th.

With the Russians in imperious form, **Great Britain** spent another day in close pursuit as they collected team bronze on the back of a strong individual silver for **Kerenza Bryson**. She was

joined on the podium by **Olivia Green** (GBR, 11th) and **Georgia Hamman** (GBR, 24th), who won Women's Relay silver alongside Bryson (GBR) two days ago.

Individual bronze went to **Luca Barta** of **Hungary**, who finished 10sec ahead of 4th-placed Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games champion **Salma Abdelmaksoud** of **Egypt**, whose consolation prize was a team silver medal to celebrate with **Amira Kandil** (EGY, 8th) and **Noureen Elgamal** (EGY, 12th).

Blanka Guzi (HUN) finished 5th after an exceptional Laser Run, with **Alice Rinaudo** of **Italy** completing the top six.



MEDALLISTS' REACTION

Ibatullina (RUS) said: "It was very interesting and very long – three days of competition. I'm very happy about my result and the result of my team.

"Fencing was so hard for me, three or four hours, and Swimming was hard too because one week ago I was ill. At first I didn't know if I would come to the Junior World Championships. I'm very happy."

Bryson (GBR) said: "I had a good fence, but didn't finish so great but then when I reflected and realised it was actually pretty good, I was happy. Then I carried that through to the Bonus Round, where I didn't get any points.

"I was quite pleased with my Swimming, pretty close to my PB [personal best] which is what I was hoping for – and then the ride was good, I was really happy with my horse.

"In the Laser Run I set off in 6th, 13sec behind Ibatullina. She's a great athlete and it would have been incredible if I had caught her, but I just went in with an open mind and didn't picture any

medals. I just concentrated on my process and then when I crossed the line I realised I had won a silver medal. I just kept my head and kept calm, didn't look behind me."

Barta (HUN) added: "I wanted to do my best and enjoy the competition, and after the Swimming I was really positive and happy.

"The Riding went really well and I wasn't so nervous. In the Laser Run I knew I had to run really fast and shoot my best, and I did everything I could.

"I really like to compete in Drzonkow – I like the atmosphere and everything that comes with it. I really enjoyed it.

"I will work hard – harder than ever – and I still have one year in juniors. In the future my goal is to compete at the Paris Olympics in 2024."

SWIMMING

Ibatullina (RUS) put herself quickly into contention as she registered the third-fastest time of the day with 2:16.39. The top performer was **Beatrice Mercuri** (ITA) with a time of 2:14.83, with **Michelle Gulyas** (HUN) slotting in behind her on 2:15.31.



FENCING

An excellent performance by Kandil (EGY) enabled her to top the Fencing leaderboard in the Ranking Round with 26V/9D, two victories ahead of Bryson (GBR) and **Elzbieta Adomaityte** of Lithuania.

Ibatullina (RUS), Rinaudo (ITA) and **Park Naeun** of Korea took care to stay in contention with scores of 22V/13D.

The stars of the Bonus Round were **Rebecca Langrehr** of **Germany**, who scored six victories, and Ibatullina (RUS), who added four points to her score to be the last woman standing.



RIDING

The strength of the Russian challenge was rammed home in the Riding arena, where Avdeeva (RUS) and Ibatullina (RUS) collected maximum scores of 300 with the only two clean rounds of the day.

The standard was high across the board, however, with a remarkable 12 athletes scoring 293 with only one transgression. Bryson (GBR), Barta (HUN) and Abdelaksoud (EGY) were all in this group, ensuring they would go into the Laser Run with a real shot at the podium.



LASER RUN

Starting with only a slender lead over Bryson (GBR) and Kandil (EGY), pressure seemed to be a foreign concept to Ibatullina (RUS) as she delivered her shots with supreme accuracy while controlling her running pace well.

Abdelmaksoud (EGY) moved past her compatriot Kandil (EGY) into the bronze medal position at the second shoot, but all the time Barta (HUN) was gaining on her.

The top two maintained their composure right to the end, with Ibatullina (RUS) maintaining her 13sec lead over Bryson (GBR), who in turn crossed the line 18sec ahead of the bronze medallist.

Barta (HUN) and Abdelmaksoud (EGY) actually left the range together after the final shoot, but the Youth Olympics champion had less in reserve than her rival and Barta (HUN) finally finished with a 10sec advantage.

In the final analysis, Barta (HUN) had the third-best Laser Run time of 12:43.94 but this was overshadowed by the superb 12:15.18 achieved by her team-mate Guzi (HUN). Fraltsova (RUS) also excelled with a time of 12:26.54.



PRESIDENT'S REACTION

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "It was an exciting moment to see this young generation, some of them still Under 19, showing what the future looks like for our movement. For our Union it is fantastic to see how many nations are competing here at the Junior World Championship in Drzonkow, where there is a fantastic training centre and great horses.

"Also the friendship between the athletes is something I have observed. After the competition was over they gave each other a big hug and that kind of atmosphere is something that we like to see. This is an opportunity to integrate and create friendships for life.

"We saw a Hungarian athlete coming from 20th place to finish 5th, and this underlines how Laser Run has given a new dimension to our sport. You cannot really calculate what is going to happen, and we saw this in the recent UIPM Pentathlon World Cup Final where the Olympic champion Alexander Lesun was so far ahead but was caught by a group of athletes.

"We never know really who will win, except of course when there is a situation like we saw today with the Russian lady who made sure every shot was accurate – not a single miss. The British girl was also excellent in this regard, and we are looking forward to another wonderful presentation tomorrow with the Men's Individual Final."

WATCH AND FOLLOW

The UIPM 2019 Pentathlon Junior World Championships in Drzonkow (POL) runs from July 7-14 and continues on Friday, July 12 with the Men's Individual Final. The competition concludes on Saturday, July 13 with the Mixed Relay.

Visit the UIPM website or download "UIPM Central" from your app store to keep track of live results throughout the championships.

Rank	Name	Nation	MP Points
1	IBATULLINA Adelina	RUS	1348
2	BRYSON Kerenza	GBR	1335
3	BARTA Luca	HUN	1317
4	ABDELMAKSOUUD Salma	EGY	1307
5	GUZI Blanka	HUN	1303
6	RINAUDO Alice	ITA	1296
7	LANGREHR Rebecca	GER	1291
8	KANDIL Amira	EGY	1278
9	FRALTSOVA Kseniia	RUS	1275
10	COSTE Elise	FRA	1267
11	GREEN Olivia	GBR	1264
12	ELGAMAL Noureen	EGY	1260
13	ADOMAITYTE Elzbieta	LTU	1257
14	PARK Naeun	KOR	1254
15	AVDEEVA Alena	RUS	1252
16	MERCURI Beatrice	ITA	1251
17	KRENKOVA Karolina	CZE	1249
18	TOGNETTI Aurora	ITA	1241
19	KIM Sowon	KOR	1240
20	MORSY Haydy	EGY	1239
21	KUBRAK Iryna	UKR	1237
22	BOICHENIUK Iryna	UKR	1224
23	REBOISSON Clémence	FRA	1222
24	HANNAM Georgia	GBR	1217
25	VULETIC Anna	CRO	1200
26	ROUBICKOVA Anna	CZE	1184
27	DOMINIAK Natalia	POL	1174
28	ORUMBKOVA Fariza	KAZ	1170
29	GASZIKOWSKI Annabell	GER	1124
30	WIERZBA Wiktoria	POL	1116
31	GULYAS Michelle	HUN	989
32	CHYZHOVA Anastasiia	UKR	940
33	EINSIEDLER Anastasia	GER	872
34	LOPEZ Maria Lea	ITA	490
35	ANANYEVA Sulamif	KAZ	454
36	YOO Sumin	KOR	451