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UIPM JUDGES CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME STRENGTHENS OFFICIATING AHEAD OF EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS IN ANKARA (TUR)



A strong cohort of Modern Pentathlon officials has completed the UIPM Judges Certification Programme (JCP) in Ankara (TUR), enhancing technical expertise ahead of the 2026 European Senior Championships.

Offering certification across Levels 1, 2 and 3, the course formed part of preparations for one of Europe's premier Modern Pentathlon events while supporting the long-term development of technical officials in Türkiye.

Thirty-seven students participated in the programme, comprising 21 women and 16 men. The course combined online theory sessions from May 25 to June 19 with on-site theory and practical training in Ankara from June 24-28.

The programme was led by UIPM educator and Technical Committee Member Rui Lucena (POR), who shared his extensive experience with participants through a combination of classroom learning and practical officiating exercises.

As one of UIPM's flagship education initiatives, the JCP helps develop highly qualified technical officials capable of delivering competitions to the highest international standards.

Lucena commended the enthusiasm and professionalism shown by the participants.

"The level of engagement throughout the course was outstanding," he said. "The participants approached every session with professionalism and a genuine commitment to improving their knowledge. Education is fundamental to maintaining the quality and consistency of officiating, and I am delighted to see such strong interest in developing judges for the future."



Serhat Aydin, President of the Turkish Modern Pentathlon Federation, highlighted the importance of the programme as the country prepares to welcome Europe's leading athletes.

"The European Senior Championships represent a major opportunity for Türkiye, and well-trained technical officials are an essential part of delivering a successful event," he said. "We sincerely thank UIPM and Rui Lucena for their expertise and support. This programme leaves a lasting legacy that will continue to benefit Modern Pentathlon in our country."

Having completed both the theoretical and practical elements of the course, the newly certified officials are ready to contribute to upcoming national and international competitions, beginning with the 2026 European Senior Championships.