Laura Asadauskaite (LTU) and Joseph Choong (GBR) celebrate their individual victories at UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final Tokyo, which earned each of them a qualification place at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. See Pages 2-14
Tokyo and pentathlon demonstrated perfect synergy during a spectacular UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final, which doubled as the first official test event for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

Laura Asadauskaite of Lithuania and Joseph Choong of Great Britain joined the African champions on the qualification list after winning the individual events.

Dr Klaus Schormann, UIPM President, said: “It is important to underline that Modern Pentathlon is the first Olympic sport to have a test event here in Tokyo. We are seeing high performances from many of our best athletes in preparation for Tokyo.

“Special thanks go to the organising committee, where Tokyo 2020 has prepared with the Modern Pentathlon Association of Japan in a fantastic way. We have never seen such close attention to the infrastructure and what is needed for the Games. We were happy to see the high level of the horses and the excellent parkour.

“Congratulations to all the athletes for the places they have achieved, especially to Laura who has qualified for the Olympic Games, and we are looking forward to the men’s event and the Mixed Relay. We can already say that next year we are going to have the perfect Olympic Games.”

Women’s Individual: Asadauskaite (LTU) secures Olympic place with glorious gold

As the only Olympic champion in the field, Laura Asadauskaite of Lithuania proved that class is permanent as she won her third Pentathlon World Cup Final gold medal and qualified for her fourth Olympic Games.

With a winning margin of 11 seconds over silver medallist Elodie Clouvel of France and 28 seconds over bronze medallist Annika Schleu of Germany, Asadauskaite (LTU) sent a reminder that she remains the athlete to beat, even at the age of 35.

Now she will be able to map out her preparations for the return trip to Tokyo in July 2020, having joined the African champion, Haydy Morsy of Egypt, on the qualification list. It was another signature performance from one of pentathlon’s enduring greats, and a fitting outcome for the historic first official test event of the 2020 Olympic Games.

With only one Olympic place up for grabs, it was a fierce contest in humid conditions, with Asadauskaite (LTU) and Clouvel (FRA) swapping the lead throughout the various disciplines. Ultimately a slightly better performance in Fencing and Riding and the superior Laser Run speed of the London 2012 Olympic champion won out over the Swimming prowess and all-round consistency of the Rio 2016 silver medallist.

World silver medallist Schleu (GER) proved her calibre once again with an impressive bronze, and she fought off a remarkable finish from 4th-placed Gintare Venckauskaite (LTU) on the final straight. The European dominance was continued by Gulnaz Gubaydullina of Russia and Iryna Prasiantsova of Belarus in 5th and 6th respectively, with Elena Michel of Italy and Kate French of Great Britain finishing the top eight.

The home crowd, who had come out in numbers to watch this official Tokyo 2020 test event and cheer on the athletes from Japan, were left nursing a feeling of anti-climax as Natsumi Tomonaga faded from 5th to 10th in the Laser Run.

Medallists’ reaction

Asadauskaite (LTU) said: “Today is a very happy day. I had a very good fence, a good ride and swim and also a good Laser Run. I’m very happy because I have the qualification for the Olympic Games. See you next year when I will come back here – I like this city very much.

“I think I am ready for the Olympic Games. Now I am ready.”

Clouvel (FRA) added: “It was very difficult in the Riding because my horse had a problem and was not the best. But I used my experience and tried to focus. After that it was difficult to concentrate in the Laser Run but I said ‘OK, Elodie, go for that ticket to the Olympic Games’, and I tried to focus on that, but Laura was the winner today. She is very fast and good with shooting, and she was the best today.

Dr Klaus Schormann, UIPM President, said: “It is important to underline that Modern Pentathlon is the first Olympic sport to have a test event here in Tokyo. We are seeing high performances from many of our best athletes in preparation for Tokyo.”
I would like to say that the organisation has been very good and the complex is amazing, and I am confident about coming back to Tokyo for the Olympic Games.”

Schleu (GER) said: “In the beginning of the Laser Run it was pretty good, I moved up to 3rd place and I said ‘OK, it’s easy to hold it’ but my shooting was not on point. That made it pretty hard on the last lap and there were some very tough girls chasing me. The conditions were difficult – it’s not the heat, it’s the humidity – and we were sweating all the way through the Riding and the Laser Run. We all have to qualify for the Olympic Games – it’s only Laura who has qualified today – but I think we will have many chances to get to Tokyo.”

Swimming
Gubaydullina (RUS) and Clouvel (FRA) engaged in their now-familiar shoot-out in the pool, timing 2.09.92 and 2.10.12 respectively. Another perennial contender, 2016 world champion Sarolta Kovacs of Hungary, was next-fastest with 2.10.93.

Local supporters in the Musashino Forest Sports Plaza complex were delighted to see two Japanese athletes, Rena Shimazu and Tomonaga, record the 7th and 8th fastest times respectively.

Fencing
To mirror the Olympic Games format, the Fencing Ranking Round was held on the first day of competition, in this case Thursday 27 June. It was a riveting affair and Asadauskaite (LTU) came out on top, scoring 27V/8D, one more hit than Clouvel (FRA) and Anna Buriak (RUS) could manage.

World No.1 Marie Oteiza (FRA) also stayed in contention with 24V/11D, with Voila Silikina (BLR) leading a strong effort from her country with 23V/12D.

The Bonus Round saw an amazing surge from Schleu (GER), who erased the pain of her disappointing 18V/17D with seven victories on the showpiece piste. Tamara Alekszej (HUN) added three points of her own and Clouvel (FRA) was the last woman standing with three wins for a useful four additional points.

Riding
With the humidity rising, six athletes kept their composure and kept their horses under control to achieve a perfect round: Gubaydullina (RUS), Tomonaga (JPN), Schleu and Janine Kohmann (GER), Venckauskaite (LTU) and Oteiza (FRA).

Asadauskaite (LTU) kept her victory charge on track with only one knockdown for a score of 293, but Clouvel (FRA) struggled and was relieved in the end to only concede 18 penalty points.
The result of that ordeal for Clouvel (FRA) was reduction in her lead to just 3sec over Oteiza (FRA) and 9sec over Asadauskaite (LTU).

**Laser Run**

Everyone in pentathlon knows that if Asadauskaite (LTU) is anywhere near the business end of a Laser Run, there is a good chance she will be the one to break the tape.

So it proved as the 2012 and 2015 World Cup Final winner immediately ran past Oteiza (FRA) on the first lap and caught up with Clouvel (FRA) by the time they arrived back at the range. She hit her five targets and moved into the lead, and apart from a wobble during her fourth shoot, looked as composed as ever in the pursuit of victory.

To her credit, Clouvel (FRA) refused to let anyone else have a sight of second place, and when Oteiza (FRA) faded there was a gripping battle for bronze, ultimately controlled by the composed Schleu (GER). The best time of the day went to Venckauskaite (LTU), who surged round the course in 11:32.20 to come within 1sec of a bronze medal. Gubaydullina (RUS), the 2017 world champion, timed 11:43.10 while like Ozyuksel of Turkey made progress from the back of the pack in also breaking the 12min mark.

**Men’s Final: Choong (GBR) finishes fast again to book Olympic ticket**

Joseph Choong of Great Britain shook off the bridesmaid’s tag to earn a dramatic gold medal at the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final and earn a return trip to Tokyo next year.

After two silver medals during the regular season in Sofia (BUL) and Prague (CZE), Choong (GBR) was always going to be a strong contender for the sole qualification place at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, but he twice had to come from behind to claim the prize.

A day after the women’s gold medal went to 35-year-old Laura Asadauskaite, it looked like experience would again be decisive as Alexander Lesun of Russia led the way through the disciplines. But Lesun (RUS), who turns 31 on Monday, came unstuck at the third shooting during the Laser Run.

Even then, Choong (GBR) had more work to do as Marvin Dogue of Germany snatched the lead at the start of the final lap. A classic duel ensued, and Choong (GBR) had just too much energy for Dogue (GER) in a reprisal of the dramatic battle for silver between the two athletes in Prague (CZE). The result was a young-looking podium, led by 24-year-old Choong and 23-year-old Dogue and completed by 22-year-old Li Shuhuan of China. The bronze medallist rose 15 places with an astonishing Laser Run performance to claim his first medal at a senior UIPM competition.
I was catching up and tried to push myself and focus on myself and I realised I had nothing to lose.

“I knew Joe was fast from the last World Cup when he beat me in the same situation. This time I started to push myself but he had more than me again. I tried my best to push myself as hard as I can but I will have to keep working on my sprints, because this shouldn’t happen again.”

The big surprise of the day was the surge of Li (CHN), ending a long wait for his country to claim a major individual medal.

Li (CHN) said: “I am a very young athlete and this is my first time at the World Cup Final, and I am very happy [to have won a medal]. Thanks to all the coaches and the other members of the Chinese team. Today the competition was very good, very nice. I will keep racing and training and I hope to be here for the 2020 Olympic Games, which will be very good.”

Swimming

Typically, the British duo of Choong (GBR) and world champion Jamie Cooke set the pace in the pool, with Cooke (GBR) edging out Choong (GBR) 1:57.59 to 1:58.14. Gustav Gustenau of Austria also broke the 2min mark by 0.07sec.

Fencing

After a victory at Pentathlon World Cup Prague that was built on a strong Fencing foundation, Rio 2016 Olympic champion Lesun (RUS) maintained his exceptional form on the piste with a dominant performance.

Lesun (RUS) scored 26V/9D in the Ranking Round and added two points in the Bonus Round. Behind him, Rio 2016 silver medallist Tymoshchenko (UKR) managed 23V/12D along with Patrick Dogue (GER) and Ivan Khamtso of Belarus.

Riding

With rain falling and one or two horses proving tricky to manage, the Riding event was fraught with tension but five athletes managed a clean round, including Shimano (JPN), and another four came within two points of the maximum score of 300.

More action from the Fencing Bonus Round at the Pentathlon Arena in Musashino Forest Plaza in Tokyo (JPN)
contention. Choong (GBR) duly hunted down Dogue (GER) and passed him around the halfway stage. Dogue (GER) kicked back in the final straight but the big prize of Olympic qualification proved elusive.

In the final analysis, Li (CHN) timed an impressive 10:44.10 but it wasn’t even the fastest Laser Run of the day. That honour went to Martin Vlach of the Czech Republic, whose exceptional 10:37.10 earned him 12th place.

**Mixed Relay: Prades savours his redemption as France win gold**

Eloïde Clouvel added Mixed Relay gold to individual silver and Valentin Prades shook off the disappointment of 4th place as France ended the competition on a high.

The alliance of the Rio 2016 women’s silver medallist and the men’s world No.1 proved irresistible to the rest of the field, although Ireland ended up within 2sec of gold after a strong performance by two-time champions Natalya Coyle and Arthur Lanigan-O’Keeffe.

Lithuania (Gintare Venckauskaite & Justinas Kinderis) joined them on the podium after bravely holding off the challenge of 4th-placed Poland (Oktawia Nowacka & Daniel Lawrynowicz).

**Medallists’ reaction**

Two days after narrowly missing out on Olympic qualification as she was beaten by Laura Asadauskaite of Lithuania, Clouvel (FRA) said: “It was a very good day. I had to focus really hard on the race for first place with the Lithuanian girl, but we managed to win in the end. An amazing day and congratulations to Tokyo on the great organisation.”

Prades (FRA) had also been in contention for the Olympic qualification spot before struggling with his shooting in the men’s event. He wore an expression of relief as he said: “I feel like I redeemed myself after yesterday’s performance when my shooting was bad. “My last lap was easy because Eloïde did such a good job to stay close on her second lap to the Lithuanian, a very fast woman. It was a good fight with Justinas on the first lap but I managed to shoot better. It was very close. I’m looking forward to coming back to Tokyo for the Olympic Games.”

Both members of the Ireland duo expressed satisfaction at their performances after disappointing results in the individual events, where the Riding discipline was their downfall.

Coyle (IRL) said: “The competition was very tough. It’s quite humid out here as well, so it was a really tough finish. We didn’t have the individual competitions we would have liked after the Riding, so it’s really nice to cap it off with a silver medal.

“Our big competition this year is the
European Championships, which is our main Olympic qualifier, so it’s brilliant to be coming home on that long-haul flight with a medal.”

Lanigan-O’Keeffe (IRL) added: “My individual event was going really well until the Riding, which didn’t go my way, so there was a bit of determination and a bit of anger today. It went well and we won silver so I’m really happy. I took a lot of motivation from Joe Choong, who hunted down Marvin Dogue to win the gold medal yesterday, and I tried to do the same today with Prades. So thanks Joe!”

Kinderis (LTU) added: “It was difficult conditions for everyone, although in Lithuania we are used to the rain. Valentin Prades had a hard competition yesterday and so did I, and I think ‘Arthur was a bit fresher because his individual competition ended in the Riding. It was tough. I think this was great preparation for the European and World Championships and a good result and good practice for us ahead of the Olympic Games.”

Fencing
With the competition following a clear pattern, favourites France (Clouvel/Prades) continued to lead from the front on the piste with a result of 24V/10D in the Ranking Round and the maximum two points in the Bonus Round. Ireland (Coyle/Lanigan-O’Keeffe) scored 23V/11D while Poland (Nowacka/Lawrynowicz) stayed in contention with 22V/12D.

Riding
A perfect score of 300 in the Mixed Relay is more unusual than in the individual events but Lithuania (Venckauskaite/Kinderis) showed high-class horse management to achieve two clear rounds. Russia (Gubaydullina/Belyakov) also performed superbly with only one time penalty conceded. But there was no material change at the top of the standings as France (Clouvel/Prades) scored 295 and Ireland (Coyle/Lanigan-O’Keeffe) 290.

Swimming
Immediately France (Clouvel/Prades) set the tone for the day as they won the final swimming heat in a time of 1:55.85. Ireland (Coyle/Lanigan-O’Keeffe) were not far behind in 1:56.58 while Russia (Guilnaz Gubaydullina & Kirill Belyakov) were next-fastest in 1:57.85.

Laser Run
Starting with a 15sec cushion over Coyle (IRL) and 20sec ahead of Venckauskaite (LTU), Clouvel (FRA) struggled with her first shoot and got stuck on the range for 26sec. It was Venckauskaite (LTU) who reacted fastest to the opportunity, overtaking Coyle (IRL) and gradually hunting down the leader until they reached the second shoot together.

To her credit, Clouvel (FRA) refused to let the Laser Run specialist leave her behind, but Venckauskaite (LTU) handed over a 1sec lead to Kinderis (LTU), while Coyle (IRL) protected her position in 3rd. Immediately Prades (FRA) made a statement of intent with a rapid shoot, while Lawrynowicz (POL) began to put pressure on Lanigan-O’Keeffe (IRL).

At the final shoot, Prades (FRA) took 14sec to get his five shots but it was enough to give him a clear run to gold, as Kinderis (LTU) had fallen back into the battle for silver and bronze. This was where Lanigan-O’Keeffe (IRL) seized the moment with a 7sec shoot and a lung-bursting final lap that even
had world No.1 Prades (FRA) looking over his shoulder on the final straight.

The fastest Laser Run of the day came from Germany, with individual bronze medallist Annika Schleu and silver medallist Marvin Dogue recording an impressive 10min 44sec to finish 5th overall.

Russia (Gubaydullina/Belyakov) completed the top six and host nation Japan finished 7th (Natsumi Tomonaga & Tomoyuki Ono) and 13th (Shino Yamana & Hikaru Shimano) with their two teams.

UIPM reaction
Christian Roudaut, Chair of the UIPM Coaches Committee, said: “In the name of all the coaches of the world and those present here in Tokyo, we are all pleased with the high-quality organisation of this official Tokyo 2020 Olympic test event.

“We could see that the athletes were very happy to compete and to engage with the public in very good conditions.

“I was very happy about the Riding at this Tokyo 2020 Olympic test event, because it was the first time since the Rio 2016 Olympic Games that we had 4ft jumps.”

On behalf of the coaches I congratulate the organisers.”

Janusz Peciak, 1976 Olympic champion and UIPM Executive Board Member for Sport, added: “I was very happy about the Riding at this Tokyo 2020 Olympic test event, because it was the first time since the Rio 2016 Olympic Games that we had 4ft jumps.

“My goal is that all future World Cups will include jumps at the same level as we had here.”

A spokesperson for the local organizing committee said: “It was wonderful to see people from urban communities in all countries an entry point to UIPM Sports. Now it has been embraced by the world’s most populous nation, and in spectacular style.

In June 2019, the Global Laser Run City Tour took place in China for the first time, with one instalment in Beijing on June 1 and another in Changsha on June 8, both arranged by the Chinese Modern Pentathlon Association (CMPA).

In Beijing, the iconic Olympic Centre at Forest Park venue hosted more than 500 racers. On International Children’s Day it was fitting that the majority of participants were children, and the organisers had the novel idea of running a combined event for children and their parents.

The youngest Laser Runners were accompanied by their mother or father throughout, while older children formed a team with a parent with each completing one lap.

Chinese running legend Sun Yingjie, who was world 10,000m bronze medallist in 2003 and world half-marathon champion in 2004, led a mass warm-up while celebrated rowing twins Li Tong and Li Meng were also involved.

Chinese Olympic Committee President Tsunekazu Takeda (centre) joins UIPM office-bearers, national federation leaders and sponsors on June 30

UIPM 2019 Global Laser Run City Tour

Lasers Run was introduced to the world with the aim of giving people from urban communities in all countries an entry point to UIPM Sports. Now it has been embraced by the world’s most populous nation, and in spectacular style.

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The event attracted a lot of media attention and was streamed live with professional presentation. It was attended by politicians from the sport department of central government, representatives of the Chinese Olympic Committee and by Viacheslav Malishev, UIPM Executive Board Member for Development.

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A spokesperson for the local organizing committee said: “It was wonderful to
see the teamwork and determination of so many families who took part in the combined event. We are very grateful to the many volunteers and staff who helped us to make a success of the first Global Laser Run City Tour in China.”

In Changsha on June 8, Helong Sports Centre also managed to enable more than 500 people to enjoy their first taste of Laser Run, and again the parent-child combined race was a great success. Cao Zhongrong, head coach of China’s national pentathlon team and Olympic pentathlon silver medallist at London 2012, told everyone his motto: “If you do your best, you have won. Don’t give up.”

Shen Kejian, CMPA Secretary General, said: “For all the children participating in this kind of competition, learning to commit and work hard is more important than results. We are pleased to have found and cultivated interest in Laser Run.”

A spokesperson for the local organising committee added: “Many of the parents helped to spread the message that sport helps children to learn the importance of cooperation, to experience the joy of winning and frustration of losing and to be able to stand up again.”

Li Ping, Vice Chairman of Changsha Municipal People’s Political Consultative Conference and Director of Changsha Municipal Sports Bureau, attended the event.

The next GLRCT in China is approaching fast, with Shanghai hosting the latest instalment on July 6.

LA 2028 buzz brings crowds to Davis (USA)

With an Olympic Games on the horizon in Los Angeles in 2028, all Olympic sports will have additional magnetism in the United States and particularly on the west coast in the coming years.

Local organisers in Davis, California sought to capitalise on the 2028 buzz when they engaged members of various running, fencing, swimming and riding clubs in the first Global Laser Run City Tour to take place on the US Pacific coast.

Laser Run, like other UIPM development sports, was created to make it easier for people from communities with no Pentathlon heritage to gain an entry into the UIPM Sports pyramid, which has the core Olympic sport of Pentathlon at the top.

On a warm and sunny day, athletes of all ages were drawn to Davis Community Park to be a part of history, with schools participating in the event along with sports clubs and parents following their children on to the Laser Run course to have their first try of UIPM’s fastest-growing sport.

Simon Pitfield, event director and local organizing committee chair, said: “This is a wonderful event! We’re having a lot of fun and people are coming from all over. I’m impressed with the great participation both in terms of volume and diversity for this first-ever Laser Run on the west coast.

“There were athletes competing from the ages of five to 87 with ability levels from walking to Olympic running.”

Apart from giving people access to UIPM Sports, the GLRCT in Davis also generated income for a wide range of local non-profit organisations. Simon added: “I’m extremely pleased with our ability to raise several hundred dollars for local schools and non-profits.”

Dan Browne, USAP Pentathlon technical delegate, said: “This is a great
Delivering new sporting opportunities in urban communities takes a high degree of commitment at the best of times. Imagine, then, the dedication it must have taken to put Venezuela on the Global Laser Run City Tour map at a time when the country is disrupted by serious political and social unrest.

In spite of this adversity, the Venezuela Modern Pentathlon Federation succeeded in putting on a Laser Run showcase for 214 boys and girls in the city of Barina, with another GLRCT to follow in Miranda on June 29.

A spokesperson for the local organising committee said: “It was an event developed with much enthusiasm and sacrifice, but above all with the responsibility of guaranteeing the expansion and popularisation of our sport in the country.

“In this event we counted on the participation of 214 boys and girls, each of them very happy and enjoying each of the disciplines that characterise our sport. Our Venezuelan Federation feels very pleased about this beautiful project and hopes to guarantee in the next Laser Run a better organisation and development in spite of the various economic limitations.”

Fond memories for all in Sachkhere (GEO)

A busy season of UIPM Sports in Georgia continued with the first Global Laser Run City Tour to be held in the city of Sachkhere. More than 260 people took part in racing at Chikhoura’s central stadium having come from Tbilisi, Sachkhere, Rustavi, Poti, Gori and Chatura.

A spokesperson for the local organising committee said: “The event was very exciting and friendly and attended by many spectators who will take away fond memories, as will the parents and athletes.

“I hope this Global Laser Run City Tour will have an impact with more children becoming involved in Modern Pentathlon.”

It was in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, that the GLRCT was born in 2017 and Georgia’s next event will be held in Rustavi city on 30 June 2019. Also in June 2019 there will be a Biathle-Triathle National Tour in Tbilisi.

Staying cool in Ouahigouya (BUR)

The universal appeal of Laser Run was underlined in Dnipro, Ukraine, on May 31 when a host of athletes from different sports experienced the sport for the first time.

The second Global Laser Run City Tour in Dnipro was attended by more than 200 participants from eight regions of Ukraine – as well as well-known onlookers from triathlon, athletics, fencing and marine multisports who left the Meteor sport complex with a new awareness of one of the world’s fastest-growing urban sports.

A spokesperson for the local organising committee said: “After extremely weather last year, this time the weather conditions were excellent. Sunny weather and the good mood of the athletes, their parents, coaches and visitors created an unbelievable atmosphere at the venue.”

The latest venue to join the circuit was Ouahigouya in Burkina Faso, where more than 300 racers sampled the thrill of Laser Run for the first time.

Burkina Faso’s first GLRCT will not be its last – far from it. On July 6 there will be another event in Tenkodogo, with a third instalment following in November in Bobo-Dioulasso.

A spokesperson for the local organising committee said: “The first Global Laser Run City Tour in Burkina Faso was a great success. We were blessed to have cool weather all day, a very large number of participants who were highly motivated, the great determination on the side of the organisers and the commitment of the technical supervisors.

“Our outlook is the effective creation of a Pentathlon club in Ouahigouya, and a project to organise a Laser Run competition before the national championship.”
“The event was well organized and attracted many athletes from different sports. Many of them admitted that Modern Pentathlon is one of the best and fun sports they ever heard about.”

Sergei Timarev, President of the regional Dnipro Modern Pentathlon Federation, said at the opening ceremony: “This competition is a good opportunity for young athletes to check their sport performance and open the road for the next disciplines.

“The Laser Run format is the first small step for our big sport – Modern Pentathlon. I am also happy that this competition brought here many athletes from the elite division who are planning to compete at the European and World Championships this year.”

Bursting on to the scene in Belarus

The GLRCT has gained another new host country after Belarus staged its first two instalments of the urban sports phenomenon. Athletes of all ages flocked to regional capitals Brest and Grodno on May 11/12 and June 23 respectively to take part.

Brest made history with the first GLRCT in Belarus in a central park venue. Participants came from inside and outside the city, as well as Ukraine and the Russian city of Smolensk. The youngest participant was six-year-old Klim Gnedchik, whose brother has enjoyed success at European and world level in Biathle/Triathle.

On International Olympic Day, Grodno welcomed another large and diverse group to the historical Zhiliber Park. A spokesperson for the local organising committee said: “People greeted the idea of Laser Run with great enthusiasm and this competitions is one of the first steps to establishing Modern Pentathlon in Grodno region.”

Two more GLRCTs will take place in Belarus after the summer - in Vitebsk on September 8 and the capital Minsk on September 14, on City Day.

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Youth World Championship hopefuls warm up in Sant Boi (ESP)

Many of the world’s best teenage athletes came together in Sant Boi de Llobregat, Spain, for the 25th annual International Open European Cup.

The Catalan Modern Pentathlon Federation organized the competition, which attracted 120 athletes from Spain, Guatemala, Egypt, Mexico, Germany, Portugal, France and Austria.

Amira Kandil (EGY) and Oriol Rutllan Dominguez (ESP) were the individual winners at Under 19 level, while Nouran Beheiry (EGY) and Juan Ochoa (GUA) came out on top at U17 level.

Egypt continued their recent record of dominance in youth events by winning five of the six women’s medals on offer. There was also one Masters category and a Para Laser-Run event.

Many of the athletes who competed in Sant Boi will be reunited in Sofia, Bulgaria when the first combined UIPM Youth World Championships (U19/U17) take place from July 18-24.

Special award in Russia for UIPM Vice President Aminov

One of the pentathlon movement’s leading administrators has been recognised with a special award in his native Russia.

Viacheslav Aminov, UIPM Vice President for Business Affairs, President of the Russian Modern Pentathlon Federation and Vice-President of the Russian Olympic Committee (ROC), was awarded the highest award of the ROC in the week of his 60th birthday.

The award is conferred ‘for merit in the development of the Olympic movement in Russia’ and it was presented to Mr Aminov on June 6 during a meeting of the executive committee of the Russian Olympic Committee. “Viacheslav Aminov is awarded the honorary sign of the Russian Olympic Committee for his great work on the development and popularization of modern pentathlon,” said ROC President Stanislav Pozdnyakov.

Mr Aminov, who has led the RMPF since 2009, turned 60 on June 10.

Tournament & Training

Camp Invitations

This is an important notice for all Athletes and Competitions organisers to continuously check pentathlon.org for all information related to invitations and visa letters.

Navigate to the National Federations Portal or to www.pentathlon.org to stay up to date with all tournament news.

Medical and Anti-Doping

Corner

WADA publishes 2019 List of Prohibited Substances

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has published its 2019 List of Prohibited Substances and Methods, an important resource for anyone involved in the UIPM Sports and the wider international sporting movement.

The list, which came into force on January 1, 2019, is accompanied by the 2019 Summary of Major Modifications and Explanatory Notes – which serves to help athletes, coaches and other support personnel to understand the latest changes – and the 2019 Monitoring Program.

“WADA is pleased to announce the publication of the 2019 Prohibited List,” said WADA Director General, Olivier Niggli. “It is one of the cornerstones of the global anti-doping program. Every year, we review the List in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders. It is vital that we stay ahead of those that endeavour to cheat the system so in reviewing the List, experts review sources such as scientific and medical research, trends, and intelligence gathered from law enforcement and pharmaceutical companies.”

For a substance or method to be added to the List, it must be determined that it meets two of the following three criteria: a) it has the potential to enhance or enhances sport performance; b) it represents an actual or potential health risk to the athletes; c) it violates the spirit of sport. Athletes who have a legitimate medical reason for using a prohibited substance or method that is on the List may be accommodated if they meet the criteria outlined in the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions (ISTUE).

The 2019 Prohibited List, Summary of Modifications and Monitoring Program are available for download on WADA’s website in English, French and Spanish.
The UIPM Global Laser Run City Tour was held in Darmstadt in the Hesse region of Germany, where UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann held discussions with the Mayor, Rafael Reisser, about future Laser Run competitions in the city. The City Government is strongly supporting this urban competition, which brings a part of an Olympic sport directly to people for all age groups.

09.06.2019, Wiesbaden, GER

The UIPM President met with members of the German horse society at the international show jumping competition in Castle-Biebrich. They discussed the development of horse sport worldwide and close cooperation between equestrian sport and Modern Pentathlon.

10.06-12.06.2019, Moscow, RUS

On June 10, UIPM President Dr Schormann met European Modern Pentathlon Confederation (EMPC) President Dmitry Svatkovsky and Secretary General Tatiana Ardabieva (also Secretary General of the Russian Modern Pentathlon Federation) to speak about the 2019 European Championships and Olympic qualification event in Bath (GBR) and other European Championships across the age categories. They highlighted the development of youth projects and Laser Run competitions as strong promotion for Modern Pentathlon at the base of the UIPM Sports pyramid.

On June 11, Dr Schormann signed a memorandum of understanding on behalf of UIPM with the Rector of the Russian International Olympic University in Moscow, Prof Lev Beloussov. Tatiana Ardabieva and RMPF Director Edouard Zenovka joined the meeting.

In the evening the UIPM President attended the 60th birthday of UIPM Vice President Viacheslav Aminov. UIPM Executive Board Member for Development Dr Viacheslav Malishev was also present along with Olympic champions Anatoly Starostin (Moscow 1980), Dmitry Svatkovsky (Sydney 2000), Andrei Mutseev (Athens 2004 and Beijing 2008), bronze and silver medalist Edouard Zenovka (Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996) and Tatiana Ardabieva.

14.06.2019, Frankfurt/Main, GER

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann took part in the opening ceremony of the General Assembly of the European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation in the Frankfurt Römer, the historical City Hall.

23.06-24.06.2019, Lausanne, SUI

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann congratulated colleagues at the
International Olympic Committee on the opening of Olympic House as he visited the new headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland on June 23.

The building was hailed by IOC President Dr Thomas Bach as a “home for the entire Olympic movement” during an inauguration ceremony on June 23 attended by UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann, Honorary President HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, Vice President Joel Bouzou and Secretary General Shiny Fang. Dr Bach was flanked by his Vice Presidents, including UIPM 1st Vice President Juan Antonio Samaranch, during the ceremony.

The legacy of Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympic Games and creator of Modern Pentathlon, is evident in the new building where a lifesize sculpture of the pioneering administrator stands. Tributes were paid to Coubertin’s legacy on the 125th anniversary of the first IOC Session, which he organised.

IOC President Dr Thomas Bach said at the inauguration ceremony: “On our 125th anniversary, we clearly see what a great visionary Pierre de Coubertin was. “By bringing the entire world together in peaceful competition, the Olympic Games are a symbol of hope and peace for all humankind.”

Dr Schormann and Mrs Fang met with HSH Prince Albert and Vice President Samaranch during the 134th IOC Session on June 24 to discuss important steps relating to the future presentation of Modern Pentathlon after the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

UIPM President Schormann said: “On behalf of our global pentathlon community we are proud to have taken part in the official opening of the new IOC headquarters, which stands as a wonderful monument to the history of the Olympic movement. It is also a powerful symbol of unity as we look to the future.

“The legacy of Coubertin has never been more visible than in recent weeks when the work of our founder has been celebrated across the Olympic movement. At UIPM we are committed to protecting Coubertin’s legacy while promoting sport as a vehicle for unity, inclusion and peace.

“We are committed to the goals of Olympic Agenda 2020 and look forward to developing our UIPM Sports movement in partnership with the IOC and other partners in the years to come.”

26.06.-02.07.2019, Tokyo, JPN

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann met National Federation Presidents from Egypt, Germany, Georgia, Japan, Korea, Poland, Ukraine and Uzbekistan and was briefed about their activities during the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final and Olympic test event.

President Schormann had a special discussion with Egyptian Federation of Modern Pentathlon (EFMP) President Sharif Elerian (also Secretary General of UIPM Vice President Joel Bouzou, President Dr Klaus Schormann and Secretary General Shiny Fang with the statue of Pierre de Coubertin.

Left to right: Annika Schleu (GER), Shiny Fang and President Dr Klaus Schormann of UIPM, Modern Pentathlon Association of Japan President Nobuo Namikoshi and Secretary General Ichiro Tomiyasu, and Hikaru Shimano (JPN) during the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final Tokyo press conference.
the Egypt Olympic Committee) about new UIPM member countries from Africa.

Sangwoo Park, President of the Asian Modern Pentathlon Confederation, briefed Dr Schormann about the UIPM Pentathlon World Cup Final in May 2020 in Seoul (KOR) and the development of new UIPM member federations in Asia. Gary Lu, CEO of Absolute Fencing, talked to the UIPM President about upcoming steps linked to the company’s UIPM sponsorship contract, which runs until 2024.

Tsuneo Takeda, President of the Japanese Olympic Committee, attended the Mixed Relay on June 30, the final day of his presidency, and presented medals along with Dr Schormann.

The UIPM President and Secretary General met with numerous departments of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games Organizing Committee (OCOG) during the competition days to agree next steps for the preparation of the Olympic Modern Pentathlon at Tokyo Stadium in August 2020.

On July 1 Dr Schormann had special briefings relating to accommodation, transportation, accreditation, ticketing, food and beverage, presentation of the sport and other issues. The meeting was arranged by OCOG Modern Pentathlon Competition Manager Noriyuki Nakamura and Sports Director Koji Murofushi took also part in the meeting. UIPM Operations Director Dr Alexandre Franca, Administration & Logistics Manager Coralie Kreidel and Technical Assistant Alexandra Sumina accompanied the President from the UIPM side.

UIPM office-bearers are hosted by the Modern Pentathlon Association of Japan at a dinner reception.
New Balance World Rankings

The PWR is updated live on www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at July 3, 2019:

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