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COVID-19: HOW UIPM COMMUNITY IS RESPONDING



Pan American champion Mariana Arceo (MEX) has raised funds to support the fight against COVID-19 Coronavirus after recovering from the virus. See Page 9











Olympic Games update

New qualification system for Modern Pentathlon at Tokyo 2020 **Olympic Games published**

U IPM has published a revised qualification system for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games in 2021 after its proposals were ratified by the International Olympic Committee.

The new system sets out a clear pathway for all athletes seeking to qualify for the rescheduled Tokyo 2020 Games, which will now take place in 2021 because of the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic.

The revised document confirms that the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Minsk (BLR) will be the only remaining competition where automatic qualification places can be secured. Up to three quota places per gender will be available in Minsk (BLR) from June 7-13, 2021 – after which the Olympic

World Ranking List for Modern Pentathlon will be finalised.

Dates and venues for all other competitions that make up the revised qualification system will be confirmed by UIPM in May 2020. Other main • points clarified by the new system (available for download at uipmworld. org/olympic-games) include:

- All existing qualification points, including those earned at the 2020 International Budapest Indoor in Hungary and UIPM 2020 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo in Egypt, will count towards the Olympic World Ranking List (Olympic WRL)
- All places secured at continental championships in 2019 will be protected (already confirmed by IOC President Dr Thomas Bach)
- The results of all competitions in "The UIPM Executive Board discussed the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World

count towards the Olympic WRL

- The Olympic WRL will be finalised on June 14, 2021 - one day after the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Minsk (BLR)
- The new deadline for all Tokyo 2020 sport entries will be July 5,
- Should the UIPM 2020 Pentathlon World Championships in Cancun (MEX) go ahead, the results will have no bearing on the Tokyo 2020 qualification process.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "I am very pleased that we are able today to provide further clarity to our global pentathlon family about the pathway to the rescheduled Olympic Summer Games Tokyo 2020 taking place in 2021.

the situation at length before agreeing Cup series, including the Final, will on a proposal that was ratified by the

Message from **UIPM President & Secretary General**

Dear Modern Pentathlon Family,

Please follow all the advice of the medical experts and take care of your and your family's health.

Stay in contact with your family, with your friends, with your sport colleagues (athletes, trainers, coaches, doctors etc).



together as soon as possible for

competitions, meetings and social

Every day the sun is coming up again to bring energy to our blue planet. Let's behave like nature refreshing and growing whatever conditions are given. We never give up on a better future.

Dr Klaus Schormann

Shiny Fang

Sport Department of the IOC and the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee following excellent and constructive discussions.

"Our new Modern Pentathlon qualification system gives a clear pathway to all athletes who are still aiming to qualify for the Games. It gives them 10 months to prepare for the resumption of the qualification process at the start of the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon World Cup.

"It also ensures that the UIPM 2021 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Minsk (BLR) will have even more prestige and importance, as the final opportunity to qualify for the Olympic Games. I visited Minsk earlier this year and I am that this will be a very special competition.

"Finally I would like to say that my thoughts are with everybody in the world who has been affected by the COVID-19 situation. Our sporting horizons have changed but the main priorities remain the same: stay healthy, stay strong and let us work together to defeat this virus and restore our normal lives as soon as possible."

The 2020 Olympic Summer Games, officially known as the Games of the XXXII Olympiad, were originally scheduled to be held in 2020 but due to travel restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 crisis the Games were rescheduled for July 23 to August 8, 2021.

The Modern Pentathlon Test Event took place successfully in June 2019 during the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Final in Tokyo (JPN). The Olympic Modern Pentathlon will be contested within a specially constructed Pentathlon Arena inside the 50,000seat Tokyo Stadium.

The Games will mark the return of the Summer Olympics to Tokyo for the first time since 1964, and the fourth Olympics overall to be held in Japan.

ROAD TO TOKYO: OLYMPIC GAMES QUALIFIERS

_	Women		Men
•	Haydy Morsy (EGY)	18	Sherif Nazeir (EGY)
	Laura Asadauskaite (LTU)	4 b	Joseph Choong (GBR)
3	Mariana Arceo (MEX)	(0)	Charles Fernandez (GUA)
	Samantha Schultz (USA)	4	Esteban Bustos (CHI)
	Leidis Laura Moya (CUB)	•	Sergio Villamayor (ARG)
	Maria Chaves (BRA)	E	Lester Ders (CUB)
	Lourdes Cuaspud (ECU)	\$	Amro Elgeziry (USA)
Þ	Kate French (GBR)	#	Jamie Cooke (GBR)
	Iryna Prasiantsova (BLR)	0	Valentin Prades (FRA)
	Annika Schleu (GER)	•	Martin Vlach (CZE)
	Natalya Coyle (IRL)	•	Lukasz Gutkowski (POL)
	Gintare Venckauskaite (L	ти)	Bence Demeter (HUN)
	Marie Oteiza (FRA)	•	Justinas Kinderis (LTU)
	Adelina Ibattulina (RUS)	•	Alexander Lifanov (RUS)
	Sarolta Kovacs (HUN)	•	Patrick Dogue (GER)
	Volha Silkina (BLR)	0	Valentin Belaud (FRA)
	Elena Micheli (ITA)	:•:	Jun Woongtae (KOR)
\$	Kim Sehee (KOR)	•	Lee Jihun (KOR)
	Natsumi Tomonaga (JPN)	©	Luo Shuai (CHN)
	Alise Fakhrutdinova (UZB)	Pavel Ilyashenko (KAZ)
	Zhang Mingyu (CHN)	•	Shohei Iwamoto (JPN)
•	Elena Potapenko (KAZ)	-	Alexander Savkin (UZB)
	Marina Carrier (AUS)	#E.)	Edward Fernon (AUS)















All quota places listed will be protected in the revised

Tokyo 2020 qualification process



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Left to right: An elated Janos Martinek, Attila Mizser and Laszlo Fabian celebrate their Olympic team gold medal at Seoul 1988

Modern Pentathlon in Hungary has from the national conscience. a wonderful heritage, but it hasn't always been easy to live up to the stellar success of the Sixties. Attila Mizser recalls how his team handled the burden of expectation in Seoul in 1988.

n the 1960s, Hungary succeeded Sweden as kings of the Olympic Modern Pentathlon. The Magyars owned the podium in Rome (1960), Tokyo (1964) and Mexico City (1968), claiming four of the six gold medals on offer as well as two silvers and a bronze.

Attila Mizser was born in 1961, so this spectacular run of glory passed him the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles by. But when he came into his prime, but there must have been a significant

magical moments had started to fade

Hungary hadn't produced an Olympic champion since Andras Balczo in Munich in 1972, and when Mizser and his team-mates made the journey to Seoul in 1988, it was 20 years since the last of their three team gold medals prowess - had been worn by Soviet top seven. Union, Great Britain and Italy during that time.

Many factors contributed to Hungary losing momentum during this period - not least the Soviet-led boycott of

Golden memories: Attila Mizser (HUN) in the late 1980s, memories of those degree of pressure on the shoulders of Mizser, Janos Martinek and Laszlo Fabian to make up for lost time in 1988. How well they bore that pressure.

> The Olympic team medals, now disbanded, used to be distributed according to the aggregate score of three athletes competing from each nation. Hungary didn't leave anything (Helsinki 1952, Rome 1960 and Mexico to chance over five days that ended City 1968). The team crown - the with Miszer, Martinek and Fabian all ultimate symbol of Modern Pentathlon standing prominent and proud in the

> > The highest praise was reserved for Martinek, who made sure it was a truly unforgettable event for Hungary by claiming the individual gold, 25 points clear of silver medallist Carlo Massullo (ITA). Fabian finished 7th and Mizser protected the team quotient in 4th.

Not that he has any negative reflections on the result today.

"The way to that medal was pretty long. Actually I started Pentathlon at the age of nine or ten, and I was 27 in Seoul so it was a long way. My father used to be a Pentathlon coach and that's how I came up with the Modern Pentathlon," he recalls.

"The Seoul Games were truly fantastic, on the one hand for the gold medal and on the other hand because we had cheering Hungarians all around us.

"The whole Olympic experience, when you have an official Hungarian team of more than 220 athletes and they go and cheer for each other, that created such an incredible atmosphere for us at the running course in Seoul and it was a moment I will never forget.

"It was one of the most important moments of my life, definitely. It was Attila Mizser (HUN) looks determined on horseback





Hungary team-mates Fabian, Martinek and Mizser acknowledge support received in the Fencing arena during the Seoul 1988 Olympic Games

















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something pretty strong that has stayed with me all of my life.

"I'm proud to be an Olympic champion and I have to say a big thanks to the Hungarian Modern Pentathlon community, to my team-mates Laszlo Fabian and Janos Martinek as it was a team gold medal, and definitely without them it couldn't have happened.

"I could tell you the story all day long about the Seoul experience, it was amazing."

Leaving Korea did not mark the end of Attilla's love story with the Olympics. Four years later he was in even better condition and won a spectacular individual silver medal, albeit without enough support from compatriots to add a team medal.

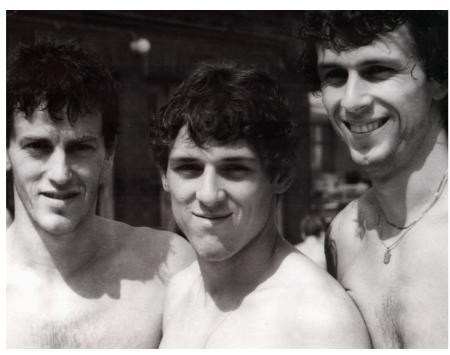
Hungary has continued to remain highly competitive since then, but only Zsuzsanna Voros (Athens 2004) has taken the ultimate prize of Olympic gold back to Budapest. Today, under the watchful eye of coach Martinek, the country has several female and male athletes with the potential to reprise the great days of the past.

So how does Attilla view the changes that have taken place in the format of Modern Pentathlon since his heyday?

"There were a lot of changes, definitely, and it was practically continuous if you go back to the history and origin and roots of the sport. They were always changing the rules relating to Modern Pentathlon, but I truly think this was necessary," he affirms.

"Today, all of us Pentathlon lovers have to know that a sport can only exist and live if it's good for the consumers. Now we live in a consumer society and if it's not interesting, if it's not quick, if it's boring ... if it is five days long it cannot be interesting to people.

"The one-day concept and the Laser Run are very strong assets for the future of Pentathlon, I truly believe it."



Mizser (HUN, left) with fellow Olympic champions Martinek (HUN) and Fabian (HUN)



Attila Mizser (HUN) in the present day







Interview: Amro Elgeziry (USA)

Amro Elgeziry (USA) is one of the most experienced and decorated athletes on the Modern Pentathlon circuit. Having already competed at the Beijing 2008, London 2012 and Rio 2016 Olympic Games, he is now preparing for a fourth appearance alongside his wife, Isabella Isaksen (USA).

Having previously competed for Egypt, the Tokyo 2020 Games (in 2021) will be Elgeziry's first Olympics with Team USA, if he is selected on the back of securing a quota place at the Lima 2019 Pan American Games.

UIPM caught up with the 33-yearold to reflect on his long career and find out how he is coping with the COVID-19 Coronavirus crisis.

Q: How did it feel in 2019 when you secured a qualification place for the **USA at the Tokyo Olympics?**

A: It felt like such an honour to have been one of the first Team USA athletes to qualify for the Games.

Q: How would you describe your previous Olympic experiences in Beijing, London and Rio?

A: Each Olympic Games felt like a unique experience. No matter how many Games I have been to, it does not lessen the excitement of stepping into the Olympic stage.

Q: If selected to represent USA at the Tokyo Games, will you do anything differently this time?

A: It is my dream to compete as part of Team USA. I have learned a lot over my 20-year athletic career. I have a feeling the Tokyo Games will be my best.

Q: What are your thoughts on the Olympics being postponed until 2021?

A: While it was a shock to hear that the Olympics would be postponed, I try to keep my focus on the positive. I have one more year to prepare myself even better.



Amro Elgeziry (EGY) in Laser Run and Riding during the UIPM 2018 Pentathlon World Championships













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Q: How have you been keeping up your physical and mental health during the Coronavirus crisis?

A: Following the regulations in my city, I am able to run every day, and I've been able to set up a shooting range in my backyard. Staying active and positive keeps me focused on 2021.

Q: What has been the most challenging part?

A: It is difficult when thinking of all the training that has been lost during this period.

Q: And what positive things have you seen?

A: One positive is seeing how the entire world is standing together. Even if we are physically distant, we are staying connected and are all in this together!

Q: When, and why, did you take up the Modern Pentathlon?

A: I began competing in Pentathlon in 2001. I was inspired after watching my eldest brother, Emad Elgeziry, compete in the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

Q: What motivates you in training?

A: Modern Pentathlon has been a huge part of my life for so long now. It is the love of the sport, and the love and support from my family that keeps me motivated.

Q: Describe yourself as an athlete in three words.

A: Dedicated. Hard-working. Motivated.

Q: Who are your role models in sport, and in life?

A: My role model is anyone who works hard and chases their dreams. I have been blessed to have an amazing family. My wife, my parents, and my siblings. They motivate me and I always look up to them in whatever I do.

Q: What is your ultimate ambition in **Modern Pentathlon?**

A: To keep improving on my past results. I always strive to be better today than the day before. My ultimate ambition would be winning an Olympic medal in Tokyo.



Elgeziry (USA) with wife Isabella Isaksen (USA) on the podium at the Lima 2019 Pan American Games









News from around the world



Mariana Arceo (MEX) shows support for her team-mate on the way to Women's Relay gold at the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Championships

Mariana Arceo (MEX) uses her foundation to support medics after **COVID-19 Coronavirus ordeal**

The 2019 Pan American Games gold medallist, Mariana Arceo of Mexico, has launched a campaign to help people affected by COVID-19 after recovering from the Coronavirus herself.

Mariana, 26, contracted the virus in February and her story attracted a lot of publicity as she was one of the first people in Mexico - and one of the first members of the global UIPM community - to be directly affected by the pandemic.

Now the athlete, who also won gold at the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Championships alongside Mayan Oliver (MEX) in the Women's Relay, is seeking to create something positive



Arceo (MEX) with a member of the medical team who treated her in hospital for COVID-19











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Arceo (MEX) sets off from the shooting range during the UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Championships

Mariana Arceo Foundation, which she more about this wonderful initiative. had set up shortly before falling ill.

Originally conceived as a means of A: Yes. Right now I am working with Arceo (MEX) is now using her foundation to channel donations towards the fight against COVID-19.

out of the publicity through the In this interview with UIPM she explains

Q: Do you have partners working with you on this project?

raising money for sports development, a group of entrepreneurs making donations, they are named Dale un respiro a México ("Give a breath to Mexico"). They have provided 50,000 masks to support hospitals in need. I

am also working with Trejo Promotion Team, a group working specifically on the NASCAR Cup Series. They will help the foundation through promotion and donations during all their events. The purpose of this is to bring support to fund projects.

Q: Is it possible to make donations with international currencies? How many donations have you received so far?

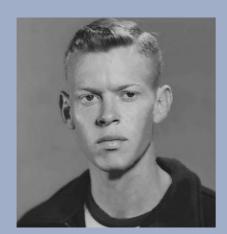
A: Donations can be made from \$1 MXN, and people can donate with international currencies too, from €1 and \$1 US.

Up to now the foundation has collected a total of \$20,000 MXN in donations. In terms of equipment, we received 50,000 face masks which is equivalent to \$2.5m (€90,000; \$100,000 US).

In January the foundation had received a total of 23 hectares of land in San Ignacio Municipality (San Ignacio Cerro Gordo) in the Mexican State of Jalisco, dedicated to sports facilities.

Q: How do you measure the situation in Mexico? Do you feel a sense of panic? Is there great solidarity between individuals?

Bob Beck (1936-2020)





Arceo (MEX) with UIPM Vice President and Mexican National Federation President Juan Manzo

and deaths linked to the Coronavirus pandemic. A lot of people started to worry and panic, mostly because people don't understand the consequences beginning? of being into stage 3. But of course A: I created the foundation in January many have been very supportive to struggle with unemployment.

hope to encourage similar actions in other countries?

A: Yes, for sure. Nobody expected to where people do not have access to endure a virus of this scale, hospitals were not able to be ready in time upon receiving so many cases simultaneously, which brought a lot of them to face a difficult situation in which they could not provide and welcome scholarship athletic equipment even for their own people's students from several countries. safety. And in all countries many individuals have been stuck without job opportunities. This kind of projects is meant to support people who are A: We are already working on the facing these situations.

A: Mexico suffered an increase in cases in social and humanitarian actions. You are inspiring many people in your country and in the world. What drove you to create it at the

2020, initially with the purpose to bring each other, especially to the ones who amateur and professional sports to a broader level, through the creation of sports events and meetings to allow **Q: Through your Foundation do you** more people to know and familiarize with sports.

There are many places in Mexico sports facilities and this is why one of the main goals of the Mariana Arceo Foundation is to make it easier for people to practise sports. This project will allow us to operate training camps

Q: What will be your next move? Something linked to this project?

construction of a sports complex, which will be built up step by step. The **Q: You started your foundation at** first step will be to provide a swimming **the beginning of the year, to engage** pool, then a running track, followed by

René Ziegler (1925-2020)





















Arceo (MEX) is joined on the podium at the Lima 2019 Pan American Games with Samantha Schultz (USA, left) and Leidis Laura Moya (CUB)

host most sporting disciplines.

Q: How are you preparing for Tokyo 2020 in summer 2021?

A: I will start preparing myself from home. Until Stage 3 ends it will be difficult to train, and health is the most important thing to bear in mind right country, and we are making progress now.

Since I got the COVID-19 and world. recovered, I understood that many people would find themselves in challenging situations, this experience opened my eyes even more.

The CONADE National Commission for Physical Culture and sports will help me to get the necessary equipment at home so that I can train as best as possible.

Q: What did it mean to you when you won gold at the Pan American Games 2019 in Lima?

A: It was an unforgettable moment, because I knew then that it marked the beginning of my dream to go to the one event every athlete is dreaming of, and for which I have been training for several years - the Olympic Games.

other projects so that the complex can Q: It's been a great few years for Pentathlon in Mexico. Do you feel the sport is becoming more popular?

A: Mexico has a long history when it comes to men's sports, and right now women are performing and succeeding well. Modern Pentathlon has been ahead and made this a priority in my and getting closer to the top of the

Visitwww.fundacionmarianaarceo. com if you would like to donate or find out more about the Mariana Arceo Foundation.

COVID-19: How UIPM's global community is responding

ll around the world, members And of the UIPM Sports community have responded in positive ways to the profound changes to life - and the suspension of organised sport caused by the COVID-19 Coronavirus the athlete's home environment, pandemic.

the athletes in Cairo (EGY) working to support disadvantaged members of the community with aid packages. In the first of a monthly series, here are some of the activities that took place in April.

On April 18 and 19, Modern Pentathlon Australia organised a time trial that engaged athletes aged eight to 20 within their homes in all parts of the country.

On the first day, there was a 2km time trail and a 10x10 shots accuracy test of laser shooting. Day two featured a Laser Run event that required athletes to replicate a warm-up similar to competition environment and then complete six laps of 200m with 5 hits.

A spokesperson for MPA said: "The April time trial was part of our long-term aim of staying connected and coming out of this together, stronger.

"The events were conducted within adhering to government rules and restrictions relating to self-isolation, In March we brought you news of and results were submitted, collated and distributed at the conclusion of the weekend.

"We will be conducting regional time trials every month, so athletes have an opportunity to stay connected with their sport and fellow athletes whilst in isolation."

In Caldas da Rainha (POR), which hosted the UIPM 2018 Under 19 World Championships, the Portuguese Modern Pentathlon Federation showed solidarity with five other organisations to jointly donate eight cardiac monitors to a local hospital.

The donation, worth €40,000, was warmly welcomed by the Mayor, Tinta Ferreira, who said it showed "hope and solidarity ... that these six entities would join together to provide this equipment that will help improve the medical response".

Some members of the UIPM Sports community have been working on the medical front line to combat the virus, including two well-known Masters athletes - Bob Noble (CAN) and Denise Slik (GBR).

Pentathlon Canada tweeted: "We want to thank our very own #brave pentathletes like Masters World Champion Bob Noble, a Flight Paramedic with the Infant Transport Team working in efforts against the COVID-19 virus. WE APPRECIATE YOU"

Pentathlon GB East Region posted and resilient' on Instagram: "Denise Silk has been a Masters world champion in Modern • Pentathlon disciplines since 2014. She had a very successful 2019 and 2020 is a new challenge. Doing her job, front line against Covid-19. Helping to keep people safe! We are very proud of you Denise."

Pentathlon GB has also led the way with its 'Power Of Five' campaign encouraging the UIPM Sports community to continue home training dates, lost funding, lost jobs, lost inspired by high-profile athletes.





Athletes from right across Australia took part in the Laser Run time trial in their homes





Masters athletes Bob Noble (CAN) and Denise Silk (GBR) have been working on the front line as medics

Kelly Fitzsimmons (CAN): 'COVID-19 is forcing all of us to be resourceful

This article, written by pentathlete Kelly Fitzsimmons, first appeared as part of CBC Sports' Player's Own Voice essay series.

thletes, coaches and teams around the world are grappling with uncertainty as I write this.

From Olympic variables to training in self isolation, changing qualifier travel opportunities. The challenges

seem insurmountable for Olympic and Paralympic athletes during this pandemic. But the passion in the sporting community burns on. Why is that? We have all faced adversity. Events that push our boundaries can define who we are. The current situation has me thinking about performance, not necessarily in the sporting arena, but amidst fear of the unknown...

"Hey Mom and Dad. So... I've had a horse jumping accident and I'm in the Guelph General hospital. I don't know what the status is ... but I can't move without pain."

















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I was trying to sound as calm as possible, knowing full well how such a call would terrify any parent.

It was June 2012. Two weeks earlier, I left my life in Calgary - family, friends, condo, stable job, and flew across the country to Toronto to try to take my professional and athletic careers to new levels. As a modern pentathlete in Canada, working full-time is pretty much a necessity. Even for national team members, all training and competition costs are the responsibility of the athlete. In a five-discipline sport, those costs add up.

Relocating to Toronto was both exciting and scary, which is the perfect mix for pushing boundaries. But here I was in a hospital bed, unable to move, alone in a strange place, without money, one contact lens in my eye, having lost the other, in the ordeal, and unsure what was going to happen next.

"Just breathe," I told myself. "One step at a time, and let's see (with the one good eye) what's the smallest thing I can do today, to make a difference?" This become my mantra as I learned to move again.

After multiple X-rays and CT scans, the orthopaedic surgeon was speechless. I'd escaped without a fracture. Both of my hips, he said, "should have been shattered". I have above average bone density, so my luck was genetic. But the result was still a nearly severed hip flexor and a long road back to sport.

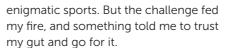
Since I was still an Alberta resident, I returned to Calgary to rehab. I was immediately flooded with concerns from family and friends. "Clearly you aren't going to do pentathlon any more!" and, "I guess that's it for Toronto?" With each well-meaning remark, my heart sank further. But I didn't want other people's fear of the unknown to swav my embrace of new opportunities. Most people think it is far too risky to give up a stable life in pursuit of one of the world's more



Kelly Fitzsimmons (CAN) takes a break during a Fencing session. Photograph by Anthony Nusca.



Fitzsimmons (CAN) looks focused on her way to the Swimming pool in 2018



back to Toronto, got a consulting job with a global agency, and focused on my healing. Over the next few years, I made my way up the sporting and professional ladders. Working and training side by side was central to the plan. Although Pentathlon Canada has a history of qualifying athletes for I began to see that Pentathlon's training Olympic Games, it is not currently one of the National Sport Organizations recognized by Sport Canada's funding framework programme. This limits easy access to government resources such as carding and Sport Institute programmes. So, self-funding, crowd-funding and support from the independent organization CanFund are all crucial.

As a working athlete, I split my time between training facilities and offices, delighting in the cultures of both worlds. I began working with communities, people are finding ways today to make a difference?

companies and start-ups on foresight projects. Working on big questions like, "what is the future of X?" and prototyping ideas that could eventually By the end of summer 2012, I flew go to market. Oddly, business and athletic choices were often based on the same challenges. What can we do today? How do we build this? How do we fund this? Will this work? Will this fail? What is the risk? What if this happens? What do we do next?

> of the all-round soldier or athlete to face the unknown is just as relevant now as it was in ancient Greece. In pentathlon, business and life, we all face uncertainty, which rewards problem solving, equanimity, endurance, resilience, curiosity, creativity, resourcefulness and adaptability.

> During this pandemic, people around the world are adapting to the unknown by engaging these very same skills. COVID-19 is forcing all of us to be resourceful and resilient. In athletic

to continue training. Swimmers are using dry-land exercise. Athletes from all sports are sharing ideas and staying motivated by livestreaming home setups for strength work. Fencers are sparring with homemade dummies. Coaches and clubs are finding virtual ways to help keep their members active. Beyond sport, companies are adapting to remote working and families are faced with balancing home offices and home schooling. The changes are difficult and they arrive fast, but we are adapting creatively.

It's easy to be overwhelmed by trying to look too far into the future. We don't know what lies ahead, what we are training for, or when. But we do know what fuels us and gives us hope. For many of us, it's sport. When our passion is ignited, we override fears, rewrite our own algorithms, get creative, and adapt. The important thing for all of us is to be kind to ourselves and each other, breathe, and ask vourself what's the smallest thing that I can do

Peter Whiteside (1952-2020)



















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UIPM development sports update



Pentathlon stars and Laser Runners gather online for #LaserHomeRun

wenty of the world's leading pentathletes signed up to take part in the world's first virtual Laser Run.

More than 800 people from 52 countries registered for #LaserHomeRun, which began on May 4 with the finals to be broadcast live on UIPM TV on May 7. Entire families signed up to compete and the ages of entrants ranged from six to 83 – thanks to legendary Masters athlete Erik Pock (DEN).

The start list included Olympic and world medallists such as Elodie Clouvel of France, Joseph Choong of Great Britain and Anastasiya Prokopenko of Belarus, as well as Youth Olympic Games champion Ahmed Elgendy of Egypt and a superstar from the past - Moscow 1980 Olympic champion Anatoly Starostin (RUS).

Elite athletes from Czech Republic, Kazakhstan. Mexico. Poland. Switzerland and Uzbekistan also joined

hundreds of Laser Run, Biathle and Triathle competitors from around the world for a concept that aims to unite the global UIPM Sports community during the COVID-19 Coronavirus

#LaserHomeRun is a new concept that enables participants of all ages to add focus to their home training regimes, keep their skills sharp and enjoy the thrill of online competition.

Laser Run is UIPM's fastest-growing development sport and the easiest to organise - a point that the governing body hopes to underline by exploring the popularity of a mass-participation virtual gathering.

The format of #LaserHomeRun is simple – in each round entrants must complete a series of exercises before hitting five targets with a laser pistol in the fastest possible time. UIPM Technical Officials have been appointed to make sure entries are valid.

There are female and male categories across six age groups - from Under 11 to Masters 60+. Qualification rounds featuring up to 15 competitors were due to take place on May 4-5 with the finals following on May 7 - streamed live on UIPM TV.

UIPM Executive Board Member for Media, two-time Olympic medallist Andrejus Zadneprovskis, said: "The aim of #LaserHomeRun is to keep the global UIPM Sports community united, motivated and active during this difficult time in their lives.

"At a time when all UIPM Sports activity has been suspended, social media is playing an important role in enabling people to meet online, compare their home training activities with each other and have fun. We hope that #LaserHomeRun will be a nice extension of this."

information about #LaserHomeRun can be found at www.uipmworld.org/laserhomeruninformation-page



Impact across **Africa**



Hands up who loves Laser Run! The joy of the GLRCT is laid bare in this group photo in Koupela (BUR)

The second instalment of a new series challenge of introducing Swimming, looking at the growth of UIPM's most popular development sport since its launch in 2015.

t's a global phenomenon, but in many ways the continent of Africa has come play format, has given much-needed to symbolise the impact of Laser Run in momentum to the UIPM Sports the five years since its introduction as a standalone UIPM Sport.

The number of developing economies across Africa - where UIPM has 28 active National Federations with several more in the pipeline – means it is inevitably the part of the world where sport development can be hardest to accelerate.

In the case of Modern Pentathlon, the rich fertiliser of Laser Run?

Riding and Fencing into the sporting infrastructure is truly acute in some

Laser Run, with its simple plug-andmovement in Africa, where the Global Laser Run City Tour (GLRCT) has been welcomed with open arms in dozens of cities and urban townships.

Pentathlon was already strongly embedded in Egypt and South Africa, giving UIPM Sports a rich presence at the north and south of the continent. But where in between has the movement been cultivated with the We invited five countries - Burkina Faso, Togo, Mali, Uganda and Ivory Coast - to shine the spotlight on their own experiences of UIPM's fastestgrowing development sport.

Burkina Faso: At the heart of a **Brotherhood**

It was a demonstration of the status of UIPM Sports in Burkina Faso that the nation hosted the Brotherhood Tournament for neighbouring countries in August 2019.

Athletes aged from eight to 18 from Mali, Niger, Togo and the host nation competed in the historic competition, which had its origins in a memorandum of understanding signed by seven

















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A Laser Run youth athlete shows great poise as she takes aim on the shooting range in Bamako (MLI)

Burkina Faso was initially built on six clubs created around Swimming pools, but eight more clubs have now been created linked to Laser Run.

The Federation has a novel eliminationstyle vision to identify its 100 best athletes and give them a swimming scholarship, and after 10 lessons identify the best 50 and teach them Fencing, and then take the 25 best athletes and teach them Riding.

Sylvestre Zare, the NF President, said: "Our short-term vision is to use more and more media to organise as many promotional events as possible linked to GLRCT.

"In the mid-term we want to continue with existing schools and increase the reach of Laser Run. We would like to create a national centre that can be self-sufficient without government support.

"This centre would help us to bring athletes and educators together with good structures and equipment such as politicians.

Burkina Faso's development has been helped by the mobility of some of its top athletes. Two competitors travelled to Lisbon (POR) for the UIPM 2016 Laser Run World Championships and a female athlete from the Reo club competed in 2017 in Cape Town (RSA) and in 2018 in Dublin (IRL).

Since 2017 Burkina Faso has organized a national championships, while organizing Laser Run exhibitions alongside popular mass-participation events such as marathons.

centre of our development because swimming pools are difficult and expensive to access. Young athletes now want to go to schools that offer Laser Run.

"Thanks to Laser Run, six of our 13 regions have provided athletes for the Nationals, which have drawn more

nations. The National Federation of and the ability to host camps and "GLRCT has also taught people that laser pistols are not dangerous, so this sport can be organized everywhere."

Togo: Development without

ne idea of the GLRCT, underlined by the new #LaserHomeRun concept, is that all participants feel part of a global movement, with the possibility of international competitions.

Laser Run enthusiasts in Togo benefited greatly from travelling to Burkina Faso for the Brotherhood Tournament in 2019. Abalo Komlan, President of President Zare added: "GLRCT is at the the Togolese Modern Pentathlon Federation, said: "This experience was a great chance for our youth athletes to travel and discover more about other cultures.

"They realised that if they can progress in the disciplines of Modern Pentathlon they will be able to travel for more events worldwide. They also realised and more participants, crowd and VIPs that the notions of group, team, brotherhood and solidarity are very

important. Some of them realised that they were confident and strong because they won their races very easily, especially two girls and two boys at Under 15 level."

In fact, it's not only international travel that has opened the eyes of Togolese youths. President Komlan added: "During our second GLRCT, we included a visit of the sport facilities as the youth athletes were there for the first time and they visited the Lomé Port around 5km away from the venue so that kids could see boats for the first time. It was an emotional moment "

The federation aims to create six regional development centres and to make Lome an epicentre for UIPM Sports in the West Africa region. So why do people in Togo love Laser Run?

President Komlan said: "People love shooting because it requires precision, dexterity, focus and self-control. For kids it's more like a game, they challenge between themselves to see who will have the best shooting during training or events. Thanks to Laser Run we have the attention of kids, who became very interested so they could evolve towards Biathle and Triathle.

"Our biggest issue is a lack of funding and materials to initiate more kids to Fencing and Swimming. But we are are ready to fight by any means the fact that the sport is expensive to develop, and to attract the government towards multi-discipline sports and the benefits for youth development in Togo."

Mali: Spreading the word

■ good communication plan has Abeen pivotal to the growth in popularity of Laser Run in Mali.

Ismaila Lingany, President of the Malian Modern Pentathlon Federation, said: "We contacted newspapers, TV and radio before, during and after competitions. We have created an account on Facebook, a WhatsApp group and a website for the federation.

"I assure you in two years of activities the Modern Pentathlon is known more than federations that have existed for more than 15 years in Mali. Before and after the competitions, people called us from everywhere to congratulate us. We had many comments on social networks."

schools in Mali, and laser shooting

parties have become a popular extracurricular activity. The GLRCT has enabled coaches to identify talent, looking particularly for good shooters and endurance athletes who might be suited to Biathle and Triathle. The next step is to formalize this development.

President Lingany said: "Our objective is to develop the GLRCT across the extent of Mali territory. We want to train sports teachers and provide schools with competition equipment.

"In the coming days we will organize a national GLRCT championships that we can use to implement our Modern Pentathlon development programme. It has been a great experience to prepare for competitions in harmony with neighbouring countries such as Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast and Ghana. This happened first on an organisational level, in the planning of training and activities during the season. And now we know our level of performance compared to others."

Uganda: Doors are open

hree instalments of the GLRCT have been held in Uganda, in the cities Laser Run has created a buzz in of Kampala and Gulu, and the invitation was extended to other countries in the



A group of athletes demonstrate the camaraderie of Laser Run in Lome (TOG)

















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East/Central African region.

Simon Peter Komakech, President of the Uganda Modern Pentathlon Federation, said: "Athletes came from Kenya to join in our event, and we also had some students from South Sudan who trained and participated in Uganda. It was a great experience for them and us.

"People in Uganda like the fun in Laser Run, the power it has in bringing different people together and the challenge of the laser beam shooting."

Like many nations in Africa, a lot of the activities in Uganda are self-funded by the National Federation, with support from UIPM. But there are plans to change that.

President Komakech added: "In the short term we will continue to promote and expand Laser Run in Uganda. This should pave the way for the development of the other disciplines: Swimming, Fencing and Riding. And we will try to create pathways to Biathle and Triathle.

"The other disciplines require finance - for example, swimming pools are not commonplace in other areas in Uganda, so one needs money to use hotel pools. The same applies to Fencing and Riding.

sponsors and I am also in talks with government to officially recognize our Modern Pentathlon Federation so that we can benefit from their support. All in all, the future looks great for modern pentathlon in Uganda."

Ivory Coast: Huge growth in participation

he extensive impact of the GLRCT is a result. laid bare in numbers alone. In Ivory Coast, 1500 athletes have participated in the format, with at least 150-200 taking part in each event and bringing friends and family along.



Racers set off with glee in Kampala (UGA)



An expectant line-up in Abidjan (CIV) as competitors wait for their chance to race

currently on hold because of the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic.

Francois-Xavier Akonde, President of the Ivory Coast Modern Pentathlon Federation, said: "We have taken the opportunity provided by the Global Laser Run City Tour to develop everywhere, and we have seen more and more participants and athletes as President Akonde added: "More and

"Attracting more attention from the steadily, step by step. We are going to public has attracted media coverage as a consequence, and now we want to attract sponsors. We will be able to coaches and judges."

"In the long term, we plan to get This enabled 12 Laser Run events to secure funding from the Government if be scheduled for 2020, which are we can achieve certain goals linked to sport and the mobilisation of youth in our country."

> Now that there is a bedrock of interest in Laser Run, the federation wants to start exploring the other Modern Pentathlon disciplines in 2021 as a step towards full participation.

> more we are willing to do Modern Pentathlon but we want to move a lot of schools and we plan to create regional associations for teaching



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President's update and monthly activities

IPM President Dr Klaus Schormann has issued a personal statement in support of athletes and National Federation members during the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic.

Dear athletes and National Federations.

We sincerely hope you and all of your families are in good health and that you are finding ways to make the best use of your time.

The whole world is currently in a difficult state and during this time it is necessary to hold together as never before. Sticking together for the weak, for all those who can't benefit from a good health system like many of us, but also sticking together as a show of strength, to win together and to be able to experience our sport together again the way we love it!

To our athletes, we hope that you can use the free time as well as possible to train and to challenge yourselves. We know it's not easy, and we know it is hard to keep focusing on something that is far away. But you need to keep going. If you can overcome this challenge – and you will – you can overcome anything. Just keep strong and optimistic!

For all National Federations, we know



you might feel desperate. The locked training venues are a financial burden; however, life must continue, even when the most significant thing in our lives - our sport - is on hold.

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Many of you are worried about where this will lead and if you have the necessary resources to get through this challenging time. But you must

making the best of it, for the sport and for everyone out there who is supporting us, but especially for our

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They deserve most of all to be back on the field and doing what we all love so much. Because what is a sporting world without athletes?

01-30.04.2020: Darmstadt, GER

IPM President Dr Klaus Schormann had various phone conferences throughout April with the IOC Sport Department and IOC President Dr Thomas Bach together with all other IF Presidents and Secretary Generals.

He contacted all Presidents of National Federations who are organising UIPM

competitions in 2020 to discuss with them the possibility to rearrange from 2020 to the year 2021. The information exchange will continue in May.

President Dr Schormann and the UIPM Executive Board (EB) and staff are in an ongoing process to find new ideas for the coming months in 2020 and for the Olympic year 2021. The UIPM leadership is satisfied with the revised Modern

Pentathlon Olympic Qualification System for Tokyo 2020, hosted in 2021, which was ratified by the IOC EB.

The UIPM President and Secretary General Shiny Fang are also in final discussions with the IOC about the qualification system for the Youth Olympic Games 2022 in Dakar (SEN) and preparing a draft of the field of play for the New Tetrathlon format.















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Medical and Anti-Doping Corner



World Anti-Doping Agency releases COVID-19 athlete Q&A

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has responded to athlete queries concerning anti-doping in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic by publishing a Question and Answer (Q&A) article that it developed in consultation with its Athlete Committee. This article is reproduced by UIPM with permission from WADA.

Q. Can I still be tested during the COVID-19 pandemic given the many restrictions in place, especially as it relates to social distancing and self-isolation?

A. Yes. Where no mobility or physical contact restrictions have been put in place by local authorities, testing may still occur anytime and anywhere.

Q. If I am tested, what will be done to minimize the chances of infection?

A. If a testing program can continue, ADOs need to put enhanced measures in place, consistent with the recommendations from health care authorities, to protect your health and that of sample collection personnel. More information can be found in WADA's ADO Guidance of 20 March 2020.

Q. What specific measures will ADOs take to minimize the chances of transmission?

A. Firstly, ADOs have been advised to conduct only the most critical doping controls. When conducting these tests, sample collection personnel must wash their hands regularly, and sanitize their hands or put on new gloves upon arriving at the testing location. Athletes and sample collection personnel must also, as far as possible, maintain the recommended social distance (two meters).

Q. What should I do if I have symptoms that indicate I may have COVID-19?

A. You should prioritize your health and the health of those around you. If you are concerned that you may have contracted the virus, the priority is to self-isolate and follow other precautions (hand washing, etc.) as recommended by international health organizations. You should also contact your local health authorities to ensure that you are following proper procedures in your region. In an antidoping context, you should advise your ADO of your situation with your whereabouts submission or when doping control personnel notify you for testing so that they can adjust their plans accordingly.

Q. Do I still need a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) if I have a medical condition requiring a prohibited substance or method?

A. As long as you remain subject to testing, you remain responsible for ensuring you have a valid TUE. If you have difficulty accessing a physician during the COVID-19 pandemic in order to access the necessary documentation to support your TUE application, you should document all actions and impediments to comply with the relevant requirements, and this will be considered on a case-by-case basis.











Q. If athletes are not being tested regularly or less than usual, what is WADA doing to ensure clean competition when the situation returns to normal?

A. WADA is closely monitoring where levels of testing have been reduced or cancelled altogether. When the sporting landscape returns to normal, these 'gaps' in testing may be addressed through additional targeted testing.

Q. Do I still need to provide my whereabouts information?

A. Unless your ADO tells you otherwise, you should continue to provide whereabouts information as you remain subject to testing. If you wish to share information about your health, self-isolation, mobility restrictions, etc. which may impact doping controls, please share this information with your whereabouts submission.

Q. Can I refuse to be tested if I am self-isolating, in quarantine, or do not feel that adequate precautions are being taken by sample collection personnel?

A. No. Unless there is a mandatory isolation/lockdown, you are advised to comply with testing while following the preventative measures put in place by your ADO. If you refuse to be tested or if you do not complete the sample collection process after notification, or if you are not able (or willing) to provide a sample due to a lack of protective measures, your refusal will follow the normal results management process which affords you due process and the opportunity to justify your action. Keeping in mind that little testing is taking place, where appropriate, athletes are encouraged to comply with testing. If you rely on the assistance of a representative to assist with the doping control process (especially for minors or athletes with an impairment), and a representative is unavailable due to the impact of COVID-19, this too should be taken into account in the results management process.

Q. With reduction in testing, how can I have confidence in the future that I will be competing in a doping-free environment?

A. Placing public health above the needs of the anti-doping system means that there will be impacts on the fight against doping in sport. However, there is significantly less training being carried out and significantly fewer competitions taking place. It is also important for athletes to remember that doping control samples continue to be stored for future analysis and that with the Athlete Biological Passport, some samples collected post-COVID-19 may reveal indications of doping that occurred during the period. Finally, while testing may be reduced worldwide during this period, you can contribute to anti-doping efforts by ensuring you are up to date on the latest information and education and encourage your peers and teammates to do the same. You can familiarize yourself with WADA's anti-doping education resources (adel.wada-ama.org).









New Balance World Rankings

The PWR is updated live on www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at 30 April 2020:

MEN			
RANK	NATION	NAME	POINTS
1	GBR	Joseph CHOONG	210
2	KOR	LEE Jihun	181
3	FRA	Valentin PRADES	176
4	GER	Marvin DOGUE	174
5	UKR	Pavlo TYMOSHCHENKO	167
6	KOR	JUN Woongtae	164
7	GBR	Jamie COOKE	162
8	FRA	Valentin BELAUD	160
9	RUS	Alexander LIFANOV	148
10	HUN	Adam MAROSI	145
11	RUS	Alexander LESUN	145
12	LTU	Justinas KINDERIS	140
13	GER	Patrick DOGUE	137
14	CZE	Martin VLACH	134
15	KOR	JUNG Jinhwa	134
16	EGY	Eslam HAMAD	133
17	CZE	Jan KUF	132
18	CHN	LOU Shuai	131
19	CHN	ZHANG Linbin	130
20	HUN	Bence DEMETER	128

WOMEN					
RANK	NATION	NAME	POINTS		
1	FRA	Elodie CLOUVEL	195		
2	GBR	Kate FRENCH	186		
3	GER	Annika SCHLEU	179		
4	RUS	Gulnaz GUBAYDULLINA	173		
5	ITA	Elena MICHELI	173		
6	BLR	Volha SILKINA	172		
7	LTU	Laura ASADAUSKAITE	170		
8	GBR	Joanna MUIR	162		
9	LTU	Gintare VENCKAUSKAITE	161		
10	KOR	KIM Sunwoo	157		
11	TUR	Ilke OZYUKSEL	155		
12	RUS	Uliana BATASHOVA	153		
13	BLR	Iryna PRASIANTSOVA	150		
14	MEX	Mariana ARCEO	145		
15	HUN	Tamara ALEKSZEJEV	139		
16	FRA	Marie OTEIZA	138		
17	RUS	Anna BURIAK	137		
18	JPN	Natsumi TAKAMIYA	136		
19	GER	Janine KOHLMANN	130		
20	ITA	Alice SOTERO	128		

The full New Balance World Rankings are available at www.pentathlon.org



Baron Pierre de Coubertin

"The Modern Pentathlon event would test a man's moral qualities as much as his physical resources and skills, producing thereby the ideal, complete athlete."

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