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UIPM 2021 CONGRESS

Members of the UIPM Executive Board gather in Monaco after their election / re-election during the 71st UIPM Congress
The formulation of this Working Group is subject to approval by the UIPM Executive Board within this week, after a series of nominations and recommendations.

"UIPM calls for continued solidarity and unity from the community to work together aiming in the same direction. Debates will continue but only through focusing on a common goal can the community present the IOC with a rock-solid plan in 12 months' time."

"It is the firm belief of UIPM that all members of its community want the same thing — a stronger pentathlon — and a combined effort is the only way to overcome the existing challenges ahead.

"UIPM's goal is to make a fresh start and kick-start a new history for Modern Pentathlon to 2028 and beyond. Faster, higher, stronger, together — in solidarity for future generations."
President Dr Schormann re-elected as President of UIPM

**Dr Klaus Schormann (left) is embraced by Juan Antonio Samaranch Jr after their respective re-elections as President and 1st Vice President of UIPM.**

President Dr Schormann has been re-elected to serve an eighth term as President of the Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne (UIPM) during a groundbreaking 71st UIPM Congress, which was held virtually for the first time with an electronic voting system managed by Lumi Global from November 27 and 28.

The Congress, held virtually for the first time with an electronic voting system managed by Lumi Global from November 27 and 28.

The delegates voted 81% in favour of ratifying the UIPM Executive Board’s historic decision to open a ‘5th Discipline’ consultation process, announced on November 4, to propose to the IOC a format for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games with a new 5th Discipline, to be determined by the UIPM. The aim of this ongoing process is to evaluate alternative disciplines to Riding with a view to adding a new discipline to Modern Pentathlon after the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

The ratification of Congress enabled stakeholders to continue the 5th Discipline consultation process with the official backing of the global community. Once the 5th Discipline consultation is complete, the UIPM community will have the final say on the proposed new composition of the sport with a vote during the 72nd UIPM Congress in 2022.

The 71st UIPM Congress also featured the election of a new Vice President – Sharif Elerian OLY, who is President of the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation and Secretary General of the Egyptian National Olympic Committee – and the re-election of Vice Presidents Joel Bouzou OLY, Viacheslav Aminov and Juan Manzo Oranegui.

President Dr Schormann said: “The 71st UIPM Congress was a very important Congress, not only because of the election of the UIPM Executive Board and all the Committees, but also because the delegates supported the decision taken recently by the Executive Board with respect to the proposal sent to the IOC regarding the 5th Discipline.

“The high majority in favour of this decision gives us a very comfortable feeling and confirms that the UIPM EB acted in the interest of the UIPM family. The debate was fair, open and very clear. Delegates were given the opportunity to speak in chronological order according to a queue system, with no preferential treatment and full transparency.

“As UIPM President, I am very happy that we will retain the team that has worked so hard for so many years in the interests of our Union and our sporting movement. This allows us to continue our discussions, to focus on our priorities for the future with a visionary spirit and a commitment to innovation.

“I ask our National Federations to remain with us in this spirit so that we are united, working in solidarity for the future for all our sports so that we can keep Modern Pentathlon in the Olympics and continue to progress all the UIPM Sports that offer us such a strong base for promotion and participation.”

Vice President Samaranch, who is currently leading the IOC Coordination Commission for the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022, addressed Congress with a strong endorsement for the 5th Discipline consultation process.

He said: “We are at a defining moment for Modern Pentathlon. In the past, we placed our defence on tradition. But the world has changed dramatically – we are in a digital era where everything is measurable and it is no good to go to the IOC with emotion and tradition.

“For new sports until recently it was almost impossible to change the program but now the programme is changing. Sports climbing, surfing, 3x3 basketball, and these sports got a lot of traction in Tokyo in the age group that is the big focus. Now we have to compete for our place with sports that are already in the programme. They are there and they have made a splash.

“That is why the Executive Board took a decision with urgency – to give us the opportunity. If we manage to find the right fifth sport, with everyone pulling in the right direction, we have a chance.”

Vice President Bouzou, who is also President of the World Olympians Association, also made a passionate speech in favour of change in the
Modern Pentathlon format.

He said: “I want to see in the future a lot of pentathletes wearing the OLY pin. Is it a pleasure to drop Riding from the Olympic format? No. But it is the only option.

“We need to look at the reality. Our sport is still being seen as unfair — too many great athletes see their hopes destroyed by the draw. The world is not waiting for us. The IOC is changing.

“I think we have incredible opportunities. We are not a sport that is ‘finished’ by definition. Pierre de Coubertin was talking about Rowing before Riding. Why? Because he was talking about skills, the complete athlete. The complete athlete is not only an athlete for themselves. This is our challenge — to build up a large number of role models for the global society who are the inheritance of Pierre de Coubertin.

“We can create a future for our athletes, coaches, our National Federations. For the Olympic Programme there is no choice. We make the right choice or we go to the Olympic Museum.”

UIPM Treasurer John Helmick was re-elected along with UIPM Executive Board Members Martin Dawe, Dr Viacheslav Malishev, Janusz Peciak OLY and Andrejus Zadneprovskis OLY. All results of the elections are listed on the opposite page.

The following National Federations’ applications for membership of UIPM were approved:
- Chad
- Croatia
- East Timor
- Eritrea
- Iraq
- North Macedonia
- Rwanda
- Saudi Arabia
- Sierra Leone
- South Sudan
- Sudan

Congress also approved a range of motions relating to UIPM’s Code of Ethics, Competition Rules, Election Rules, Medical Rules, and Rules of International Organisation, as well as horse welfare and gender equality.

UIPM 2021 Congress elections

UIPM President
Dr Klaus Schormann (GER)

UIPM Vice-Presidents
Juan Antonio Samaranch Jr (ESP)
Joel Bouzou OLY (FRA)
Viacheslav Aminov (RUS)
Sharif Elerian OLY (EGY)
Juan Manzo Orañegui (MEX)

UIPM Treasurer
John Helmick (USA)

UIPM Executive Board Members
Member for Sport Janusz Peciak OLY (POL)
Member for Marketing Martin Dawe (GBR)
Member for Media Andrejus Zadneprovskis OLY (LTU)
Member for Development Dr Viacheslav Malishev (GEO)

UIPM Honorary Auditors
Helio Cardoso (BRA)
Dr Beata Simoka (HUN)

UIPM Technical Committee
Agnes Kulcsar (HUN)
Andrea Dell’Amore (ITA)
Ana Ruth Orellana (GUA)
Dongkook Chung (KOR)
Corine Bouzou (FRA)
Ali Assem Abdelghany Ali (EGY)

UIPM Medical Committee
Dr Natalia Ofitserova (BLR)
Dr Atanas Andreev (BUL)
Dr Marco Michelucci (BRA)
Dr Dapeng Bao (CHN)
Dr Mohamed Ahmed Abdelmonem (EGY)

UIPM Business Affairs Committee
Barry Tompkins (CAN)
Andrey Kuzmanov (BUL)
Ana Luisa Almeida (BRA)
Mohamed Hady Gad (EGY)
Resurgent year for GLRCT wraps up on another busy note

At a time of year when things may have been winding down for many the Global Laser Run City Tour showed no signs of slowing in the final quarter of 2021 with 13 events across eight countries and three continents.

As the year wraps up, the return of the GLRCT to so many new corners of the world after COVID-19 disruptions stands as one of the brightest spots on the UIPM calendar. The urban sports phenomenon has a hectic schedule ahead for 2022 too.

Generations brave testing conditions in Mossel Bay (RSA)

From the youngest athlete aged just eight to the oldest at 68, the GLRCT at the Van Riebeeck Stadium in Mossel Bay, South Africa on October 2 was a test for all generations.

Extreme winds and rain could have blown preparations off course but luckily veteran Masters champion Johan Windt (SA) was on hand to help prepare all participants for the challenge to come. Windt presented a clinic for first-time competitors and over 75 athletes went on to take part.

In truth they were competing against the conditions as much as each other but despite the extreme weather the day was a great success with many new athletes attracted to Laser Run.

A new wave of athletes show off brilliance in Kiev (UKR)

The Global Laser Run City Tour is no stranger to the Ukrainian capital of Kiev and it returned to the western part of the city in October for a hugely successful event at Brigantina Children’s Club.

Over 250 athletes from across the country gathered in the capital to show off their Laser Run prowess with competitions opened by the Head of the District Sport Department, Zagoria Stanislav.

“Modern Pentathlon is a very popular sport in this district and it is very pleasant to see so many young athletes investing their time to develop their bodies,” he said.

All age groups were represented at the Brigantina Club with the performance of more veteran competitors praised by observers.

The head coach of the Kiev regional Modern Pentathlon Federation, Olha Shevtsova, thanked the Ukraine Modern Pentathlon Federation and UIPM for the support.

“This competition format is a perfect tool, which makes modern pentathlon more dynamic and interesting for the athletes,” she said.

All participants received traditional certificates, backpacks and souvenirs,

Above: all smiles at the #LaserRun photo booth in Mossel Bay (RSA)

Below: youth athletes on the start line in Kiev (UKR)
Busy year in Philippines rounds off with sixth event in Ormoc

The Philippines has been a regular feature of the GLRCT calendar in recent times as the urban sport won an immediate audience in the country. In fact, an event organized in Ormoc in the Eastern Visayas region in late November was the sixth UIPM development event organized by the Philippines Modern Pentathlon Association in a particularly productive 2021. These included several Laser Run and Biathle-Triathle competitions as well as a Biathle-Triathle National Tour.

The GLRCT on November 20 was organized at the Ormoc City Public Oval and resulted in healthy participation by young athletes from the region who competed in age groups U13-U17.

Chisinau (MDA) welcomes over 200 athletes to ‘sports festival’

Chisinau’s Equestrian School of Modern Pentathlon played host to over 200 athletes in late October as GLRCT attracted home hopefuls from Moldova and visiting athletes from Russia.

Athletes across 10 different age categories entered with Russian athletes joining in the Masters 40+ and 60+ categories. “Thanks to the active support of the spectators, the event was filled with the atmosphere of a sports festival,” said a spokesperson for the local organizing committee.

Fans of modern pentathlon had the opportunity to compete at the same distance with active Moldovan elite athletes such as Valentin Samsonov (winner in the Senior category) and eminent veterans like Alexei Vasilianov (winner in the Masters 40+ category) and Alexander Kasatov (RUS; winner in Masters 60+).

All participants were awarded with GLRCT diplomas and the winners were awarded with commemorative medals, certificates and cups.

Ankara (TUR) doubles up with two competitions in quick succession

Ankara made up for lost time with two GLRCT events in the space of a little over a month with a total of 350 athletes gathering from around Turkey to take part.

The first competition took place on October 30 and was organized in the Kecioren Municipality, in the north of the capital city.

Another GLRCT competition took place on December 4th in co-operation with the Ankara Metropolitan Municipality with a day of exiting action taking place in Gençlik Parki (Park of the Youth), one of the oldest parks in the heart of the city.

Georgia’s GLRCT fever spreads far and wide

As if to go one better than their near neighbours Turkey, Georgia hosted three Global Laser Run City Tour events over the course of four busy weeks at the end of the year.

The first took place in the nation’s capital Tbilisi on November 20 where the event was held very successfully with numerous safety measures against the COVID-19 pandemic undertaken by all involved.

Participating teams came from regions across Georgia including Sachkhere, Chiatura, Rustavi and Gori competing with five clubs from Tbilisi — Pieri, Penta, Geo-Penta, Black Sea and Aqua Center.

“I’m very glad that we organized this GLRCT in Tbilisi,” said Natia Matchavariani from the LOC. “Because of the pandemic the amount of participants was not much more than in previous years but I want to mention that two new clubs appeared in this competition and it’s very big positive for the future.”

Rustavi, a city in the southeast 25km from the capital, was next on the schedule with a GLRCT competition taking place at the city’s Central Stadium on December 5. Remarkably, it attracted even more participants than the earlier event in Tbilisi.

A week later on December 12, attention moved to Chiatura where teams from Sachkhere, Chiatura and Gori and the Pieri, Penta, Geo-Penta and Black Sea clubs in Tbilisi took part the city’s central stadium.

“I’m glad that the city of Chiatura was host to such a great event,” Valeri Tskhadadze from the LOC said. “At this competition, the local government body attended and were involved in the awarding ceremony. Every year they happily support a GLRCT being held in their city.”

Athlete Natia Kochiashvili said she was happy that so many more young athletes are interested in being involved in GLRCT.

“I hope that in the future GLRCTs will be held almost every region in Georgia,” she said.
Four more countries join the BTNT worldwide circuit

While the first half of 2021 saw much excitement at the long-awaited resumption of the Biathle-Triathle National Tour in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, things barely quietened down as the year progressed with plenty more athletes shining across the globe.

Turkey, Burkina Faso, the Philippines and South Africa all joined in on the action in the second half of 2021, meaning that nine countries across three continents hosted multi-discipline events on the UIPM BTNT calendar this year.

Heat is raised as Kerpe (TUR) toasts return of competition

Izmit played host to Turkey’s first BTNT of the year in early August and while the resumption of action had been long awaited, the event benefited from additional interest as it doubled up as a national team selection competition.

With the help of the Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality, national team hopefuls went through their paces in the tourist hotspot of Kerpe on the Black Sea.

With places on the line for the both the European and World Biathle-Triathle Championships, the multi-sport action was fast and frenetic in Kerpe.

BTNT racing and fencing camp in Ouagadougou continue Burkina Faso’s growth

As one of the countries at the forefront of UIPM Sports’ growth in Africa, Burkina Faso has been a hive of activity in recent years. Laser Run and Biathle-Triathle competitions have attracted not only local participants but also those from neighbouring countries.

On August 14 the federation organized a Biathle-Triathle National Tour at the Nogtaaba village in the capital city of Ouagadougou.

“Despite the rain, there was an atmosphere of excitement and commitment among the pentathletes,” said a spokesperson for the local organizing committee. “With the obtaining of fencing equipment from the UIPM, we were also able to organize a fencing training camp.”

Philippines’ SEA Games legacy grows in Ormoc

As part of the legacy commitments and continued successes of the 2019 South East Asian Games which the country hosted, the Philippines continues to organize not just frequent Biathle-Triathle National Tours but Global Laser Run City Tours too.

After a successful Triathle event in February and Biathle event in early May, the Philippines Modern Pentathlon Association conducted Biathle-Triathle National Tour with a particular focus on Triathle in Ormoc on September 25.

The competitions took place, as is rapidly becoming a tradition, at the new Ormoc City National High School venue. The participants were PMPA young pentathletes with boys and girls across U13-U17 age groups testing themselves in shoot-run-swim event under the UIPM brand.

Picturesque Stellenbosch (RSA) welcomes world champions home

As BTNT venues go, Somerset College in Stellenbosch may be the most breathtaking, surrounded by mountains on the one side, vineyards on the other and the ocean just over the hills.

In late October, the college played host to almost 120 Biathle athletes from Under 9 all the way up to 60+ with the same grades for the 95 Triathle competitors. Three gold medalists from the recent Biathle-Triathle World Championships in Weiden (GER) were on hand. “We had a lot of new athletes and a lot of interest in the practice shooting area,” said a spokesperson for the local organizing committee.
UIPM announces new TV and digital partnership with ISB and creation of Television Commission

Madrid-based company ISB has won the tender to become UIPM’s new television and digital content partner. ISB will team up with UIPM at a historic time of change for Modern Pentathlon with a new Television Commission also being created to help make the sport’s TV product a dynamic and engaging success.

The tender was issued by UIPM after ISB submitted a bid which ranked highest based on five deciding factors: their understanding of the brief, experience in similar sports, evidence of success in similar projects, quality of bid proposal and value for money.

Earlier in August 2021, UIPM issued a tender in order to find a partner regarding the production and distribution of its television programme as well as digital content for its social platforms. The tender attracted nine total bidders and UIPM thanks them all for the great quality of their proposals.

UIPM believes ISB is the right candidate to work with in building a strong, compelling television and digital product for our new Modern Pentathlon format as well as our other multi-discipline sports.

By winning this tender, ISB will have the responsibility to coordinate, produce, distribute and manage the rights of eight major UIPM events including the whole Modern Pentathlon World Cup series, the World Cup Final and the World Championships.

UIPM’s development path is also a part of the agreement as a live feed will be produced for the Biathle-Triathle World Championship as well as the Laser Run World Championships as the host broadcaster of all its major events, UIPM is confident ISB in appointing a partner with vast experience in the Olympic movement will enhance the quality of UIPM’s TV product. The values of heritage and innovation that UIPM has in its DNA are in line with ISB’s use of new technologies and production enhancements through its work with the Olympic Games.

ISB was founded by Manolo Romero, one of the pioneers in sports television, and specializes in host broadcast coverage of major sporting events.

In 2001, the IOC asked ISB to launch Olympic Broadcasting Services to be responsible for the Host Broadcasting operation of all Olympic Games, Olympic Winter Games and Youth Olympic Games until the end of 2012.

ISB’s broadcasting of each event has continued to exceed all previous occasions and it has been acknowledged by numerous Olympic Golden Rings, Emmys and other awards. This in turn has assisted many rights-holding broadcasters in achieving similar success and broadcast rating records in their home territories.

ISB CEO, Ursula Romero, said: ‘After having personally produced Modern Pentathlon for the Olympic world feed, I am very honoured and excited to be able to create beautiful and dynamic pictures of such an established and historical sport such as Modern pentathlon. It will be a welcomed and inspiring challenge.”

UIPM is also announcing the creation of a Television Commission, a body whose role will be to contribute to the enhancement of its TV product by fostering the creative ideas that can be found within the Modern Pentathlon family as well as outside experts.

The commission will be composed of a representative from the Athletes Committee, a representative from the National Federations, a representative from the UIPM’s media partner, the Executive Board Member for Media and the Executive Board Member for Marketing.

UIPM Secretary General, Shiny Fang, said: “UIPM had been struggling with its TV product since the day that TV became the most crucial medium for the Olympic movement in the 1990s. That is partly due to the unique multi-sport nature of our sport in multiple venues, as well as the length of the competition.

‘But from 2018, we have been able to provide a one-venue concept for all 5 disciplines to present spectators a more compacted, dynamic view with 1 seat watching all 5 disciplines within 5 hours, as recently happened at the Tokyo Games. However, it is still largely an edited live product with highlights and the only live broadcast coming for the Laser Run.

‘From 2022, UIPM will be able to
present a 90-minute real live TV program for broadcasters and much wider audiences to really know this historic sport. For that, we need a partner with full Olympic experiences and spirit to help us, advise us, and to help us demonstrate the beauty of the sport. We are confident that ISB will be that partner.

UIPM is looking forward to working with ISB’s expert team to explore all the possibilities to show a compact and exciting MP program, allowing more people to know the sport, access the sport, and eventually join in. It won’t be an easy task but there is great excitement at the possibility of digging deeper into all of the potential of a sport that carries the spirit of Coubertin and Olympism forward.”

UIPM 1st Vice-President, Juan Antonio Samaranch, said: “I am delighted that Samaranch, said: “I am delighted that these two historic developments have been made for the future of UIPM’s television product. As someone who has watched so closely the dynamic and consistent success ISB have had, it is a potentially transformative agreement to now have ISB turn its expertise to our great UIPM sports. ISB have shown vision and invention on so many occasions and that they become UIPM’s partner at this transformational moment for Modern Pentathlon seems to be a case of perfect timing.

“The creation of a first ever Television Commission is also hugely welcome. I am honoured to be the first chairperson of the commission and look forward greatly to working with our athletes and wider community to ensure UIPM’s television and digital content does justice to our sport and athletes and helps engage all of our existing and dedicated fans and wins millions of new fans along the way.”

UIPM Sport Director and 1976 Olympic champion Janusz Pieciak OLY (left) joins the medal presentation for the women’s team event

Five nations share gold at European U24 Championships

Podium places were shared as the fifth instalment of the European U24 Championships saw frenetic finishes throughout the three days of action in Drzonkow (POL).

With athletes from 16 nations across the continental gathering, the depth of talent was clear from the very off. It was left to the women’s entrants to get the ball rolling and they did so in style. Barbara Hartmanova of Czech Republic raced to an early lead as she dominated the pool in a time of 2:14:10. As action moved to the piste, Elzbieta Adomaityte of Lithuania was in dominant form, racking up 22 Fencing victories, Sweden’s Marlena Jawaid just behind with 21.

While three competitors recorded perfect runs in the Riding round, Poland’s Natalia Dominia was fastest. It would all come down to a nail-biting Laser Run with the destination of the medals still up in the air on the final round of shooting.

In a truly great year for Great Britain, Olivia Green raced clear of the rest down the finishing straight to take gold with Jawaid (SWE) second and Katerina Krejci (CZE) third. Team gold went to Great Britain too ahead of Belarus and Ukraine.

On day two, it was the Men’s turn to match their female counterparts for fireworks. They did just that with Turkey dominating in the pool before Germany’s prowess on the piste. German’s occupied three of the top four places in the Fencing round with Marc Spletzer (GER) best of all. Riding required skill and concentration and many riders turned in a great performance on the very challenging course with Uladzislau Nesienau from Belarus best of all with a perfect score 300 points.

Going to the Laser Run, German athletes looked to be in prime position but the Shooting rounds proved particularly decisive. Maksym Aharushev from Ukraine held his nerve best of all and took gold ahead of the Hungarian pair. Csaba Bohyn and Balazas Szep. The Germans made do with team gold with Ukraine and Hungary filling out the podium.

With 18 teams competing, the Mixed Relay on the closing day proved to be just as action-packed as the individual events. Ukraine and Turkey once more proved that the pool was the playground as they got off to greats starts in the Swimming round.

Onlookers described the Fencing round as particularly fun to watch with the competition now heated and three teams tying on 23 victories apiece — Great Britain, Belarus and Lithuania. Similar could be said for the Racing round which was again close.

In an unmissable Laser Run, it was Maksim Maruk and Kseniya Klimiankova of Belarus who avoided all distractions with some brilliant Shooting to stay ahead of the field. In a razor-thin battle for silver it was the Polish team of Ewa Pydyszewska Ewa and Lukasz Gutkowski who saw off the challenge of Great Britain with Toby Price and Olivia Green settling for bronze.

All in all, gold was shared by five nations and seven countries out of the 16 made it on to the podium in a hugely successful weekend that proved the future is indeed very bright across the continent of Europe.

Next generation of UIPM Sports stars light up second UTS World Virtual Youth Festival

The next generation of UIPM stars have again successfully taken part in the world’s only virtual youth festival, the UTS World Virtual Youth Festival 2021, which lit up the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from November 20–27.

Our youth athletes took part in the Max Fit competitions and Youth Ambassadors scheme at the biggest virtual event for youth in 2021. The second string of the event was again organized with the patronage of some of the biggest sporting organizations in the world including the IOC, IPC, SOI, SportAccord, GAISF and AIMS.
UIPM was among over 100 organizations who joined forces with one mission: to promote inclusion, non-discrimination, equality, and the youth of the world standing together towards a better future.

The seven-day event was opened by IOC President Dr. Thomas Bach with competitions across five categories, four workshops and six conferences all taking place on the virtual platform where the leaders of sport and athletes of the world shared knowledge and discussed sport-related issues.

Modern Pentathlon athletes got medals of all value in their Max Fit categories – a repeat gold for Guatemala from last year’s winner of this same festival, Ashley Moscoso (U11), silver for Maria Olsanokaya (RUS; U13) and bronze going to South Africa and Tonya Shoenau (U14).

Young athletes were at the centre of all activities. One of the panelists of the UTS World Youth Ambassador workshop called “Cultivate Community” was 11-years-old Kyra Seow, a youth pentathlete from Singapore. Last year Kyra was acknowledged by UTS with pentathlete from Singapore. Last year Kyra Seow, a youth workshop called “Cultivate Community” the UTS World Youth Ambassador Shoeman (U14).

Last but not least, UIPM Technical Delegate Dmitry Menshikov of Russia and UIPM Project Manager Anfisa Kasyanova (BLR) were judging in the Festival Finals on November 20-24.

UIPM Executive Board Member for Development, Vacheslav Malishev (GEO), said: “In 2021 we still haven’t yet got over the pandemic. The UTS 2nd Virtual Youth Festival is a wonderful initiative which allows so many youth athletes to taking part in multi-sports event, despite travel restrictions and borders. I congratulate all of the athletes, ambassadors and judges who represented UIPM in this unique event and congratulations to UTS on further paving the path towards better future.”

UIPM President, Dr Klaus Schormann thanked the youth of the UIPM and of the world and their parents for coming together in solidarity and support, with the festival highlighting the talents, skills and inspiration of kids. He said: “This festival for many young people is a first but very special moment to receive not only medals and recognition but also valuable life experience including experience in using new technologies and social media. Pentathlon youth once again proved that it is in the centre of the worldwide sports agenda. We in UIPM are very proud of our youth.”

The youth of the world including pentathletes will receive their medals and certificates soon. Uzbekistan has been announced as host of the third edition of the festival in 2022.

Aksin (TUR) and Huang (CHN) savouring scholarships as World Academy of Sports application reopen

The World Academy of Sports continues to provide athletes with opportunities from high school to postgraduate education with UIPM athletes part of the WAoS Academic Pathway programme.

Two Modern Pentathlon representatives undertaking the prestigious Sport Management course at the University of London have been awarded financial support provided through the memorandum of understanding between UIPM and WAoS. These two new students join other three students that started studies in February 2021 and now they are among a group of over over 150 students taking the course, representing 23 sports and 64 nationalities.

Ipek Aksin (TUR) who has won the single full scholarship and Sophia Huang (CHN) who will have 25% of her fees covered, started their studies in September. The programme can be completed over a period of five years. To be selected, applicants should show a background in UIPM Sports, studies they have already undertaken (or relevant work experience or professional references) and their level of English language proficiency.

International level pentathlete Aksin (TUR) said: “When I learned about the full scholarship, I felt very honored. It made me so happy since getting accepted to such a prestigious university was like a dream come true. I once again realized that our organization is not just only about sports but much more. Instead being part of the big UIPM family supports you with cooperation and solidarity.

“The learning process involves virtual learning and it is up to everyone’s own pace. Of course, there are some deadlines for the courses, but it is up to you to decide when you want to study. There are some reading materials as well as videos that explain the lecture. The most fascinating and enjoyable part of the lectures is lecture forums in which you can exchange ideas with fellow students. I think it is a unique opportunity to learn about different cultures and sports, as the program involves several people from diverse nationalities with various sports backgrounds.

“I believe it is crucial to understand the importance and power sports management holds. This is why educating myself in this field can assist me to understand behind the scenes of sports organizations. When I end my professional career in Modern Pentathlon, I still want to be involved in the community and do my absolute best to be effective. I hope the things I learned with this scholarship opportunity can be useful for me to reflect both in my country and in the UIPM family.”

Huang (CHN), who is also UIPM Media Coordinator for China, added: “Many thanks to UIPM, I’m glad to have a chance to be part of the WAoS PGCert program. I have already started the online course of international sports management. I enjoy webinars a lot, friendly tutors, lovely classmates... It’s a valuable post-school study experience. I hope after learning I can gain a full picture of sports event organization and have some insights into sports marketing. My wish is that after study
I can contribute more to the UIPM marketing plan in China.”

Any UIPM athlete can now apply for a scholarship as part of the programme’s third intake. The partnership between UIPM and WAoS will again provide immediate opportunities with one fully-funded scholarship and 10 scholarships of 25% available for the WAoS/University of London Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) in International Sports Management.

Additionally, WAoS is offering 100 scholarships for the WAoS Athlete Certificate which is an online course developed for student athletes aged between 15 and 18 years of age who want to gain a broader understanding of the tools needed to become successful and knowledgeable athletes.

UIPM President Dr. Klaus Schormann underlined the continuing benefits of the partnership and the programme: “We are delighted to continue partnering with the World Academy of Sport to enable our athletes but also NF officials, staff and volunteers to acquire new qualifications through participating in WAoS leading education programmes. I encourage any member federation who would like their athletes to be considered for the available scholarships to apply, as this may be the first step towards an exciting new career.”

WAoS Managing Director, Chris Salis, said: “We are delighted to be able to offer this round of scholarships to the UIPM members after the highly successful launch of scholarships for the February and September 2021 intakes.

“The global sport industry is quickly rebounding. It is becoming more professional and global. The demand for highly qualified senior managers is increasing. A postgraduate qualification can give students the extra level of skill needed to progress.”

The provision of educational opportunities with WAoS is part of UIPM’s commitment to athletes through the Athletes Centered Programme (ACP).

Mexico and Ecuador taste gold in Junior Pan American Games in Cali (COL)

Double gold medalist Catherine Mayrany Oliver of Mexico was the standout performer as the best young pentathletes in the Americas starred in the 1st Junior Pan American Games.

It was only the second time a high-level Modern Pentathlon competition had taken place in Colombia, and 46 athletes from 15 countries travelled to Cali for five days of competition (December 1-5).

Dominant Women’s Individual champion Oliver (MEX), who had already won the qualification competition in Oaxtepec (MEX) in August, was joined on the podium by teammate Cecilia Meza (MEX), who won silver ahead of bronze medalist Camila Fuenzalida of Argentina.

The Men’s Individual crown was won by Andres Torres of Ecuador after a convincing victory over silver medalist Franco Serrano (ARG) and Mathias Nobre (BRA), who claimed bronze.

Individual champions Oliver (MEX) and Torres (ECU) secured a quota place in the 2023 Pan American Games in Santiago (CHI). Guatemala, Cuba, Chile and Venezuela also had athletes ranking in the top 10 of the individual events.

There was further success for Mexico in the Mixed Relay as Oliver (MEX) teamed up with Lorenzo Macias (MEX) for a second helping of gold. Silver went to Paula Valencia and Andres Fernandez of Guatemala, while Dina Leyva and Marcos Rojas Jimenez of Cuba took home the bronze.

At the end of the busiest year I can remember – dealing with a complex pandemic situation, managing a rescheduled Olympic Games and discussing fundamental changes to our sport – I have one question for every member of our global community to consider.

What are your resolutions for 2022?

I’m very aware that it has been a tough time for those who have devoted their lives to Modern Pentathlon, especially the athletes and coaches, officials and administrators operating at the elite end of the sport.

Change is difficult to manage, and you have been working for many years towards the goal of creating success in a sport you understand well. Now you are being asked to adapt – not only for the immediate changes relating to Paris 2024 but also for the transformation coming down the road for the longer-term future.

Adaptation can be challenging, but I also believe we – as people, and more particularly as Modern Pentathlon people – are capable of responding to the challenge. Our community is bursting with innovation and intelligence and I’ve lost count of the number of times I’ve already seen you demonstrate flexibility and positivity in the face of change.

I fully believe we can work together to make Modern Pentathlon better for everybody.

So now is the time to look forward – and there is a lot to look forward to. In just a couple of months we will have the first Pentathlon World Cup with the elimination format and the new showpiece of all five disciplines in 90 minutes. Spectators in Cairo and viewers watching on TV and online will be the first to see pentathletes riding, fencing, swimming, shooting and running in this compelling new format – and it will be amazing to visualise this concept making its debut on the Olympic stage in Paris.

Knowing the dedication to Modern Pentathlon that exists in our community, I imagine most athletes who intend to compete in 2024 will have already adjusted their training. I hope this new challenge is creating a fresh perspective, perhaps a new type of motivation.

Of course it’s possible that some athletes will be better suited to the new order and the short, sharp format – it’s exciting to think we will see new types of pentathletes on the podium and leading the world rankings, alongside those current superstars who I’m sure will also respond well to the challenge.

Depending on your age and stage of development, perhaps you are immediately focusing on being the best in 2022 or trying to peak for 2024 – planning how to manage the transition from one discipline to another within 90 minutes. For those taking a longer-term view of prospects around Los Angeles 2028 or even Brisbane 2032 – with the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026 on the horizon as a major development goal – perhaps you are already channelling more energy into Swimming, Fencing and Laser Run and moving the focus away from Riding.

As I wrote already, adaptation can be hard but it’s easier for those who see the opportunity within. So, athletes, please think about your resolutions for 2022 while I tell you one of mine. One of my big goals – shared by the wider UIPM executive and administration – is to improve communication with the athletes who underpin our sport.

I believe we already made progress towards this resolution in 2020 and 2021, but we also heard the criticism from those who feel we can do much better. This feedback can, and will, help us to improve, working closely with a new UIPM Athletes Committee that you elected to represent your best interests in the coming years.
Inside UIPM
Monthly activities of President Dr Klaus Schormann

04.11.2021: Innovation Call with NFs & Committees
The UIPM Executive Board informed all National Federations and UIPM Committee members about the 5th Discipline consultation that will consider alternatives to Riding after the Olympic Summer Games Paris 2024. The new discipline has to be identified in the coming months by the 5th Discipline Working Group, which includes all stakeholders of UIPM. The final decision will be made at the UIPM 2022 Congress in Antigua (GUA).

05.11.2021: IF Forum
UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann took part in SportAccord’s virtual International Federation (IF) Forum 2021, which brought together 300+ representatives from more than 125 IFs. The Forum covered key reflections from the rescheduled 2020 Olympic Games, entitled ‘Tokyo 2020 – Learnings and Takeaways for the Future’.

09.-10.11.2021: Transition Seminar
President Dr Schormann remotely joined the IF Transition Seminar, held in Lausanne (SUI) and attended by IOC President Dr Thomas Bach. President Dr Bach thanked all Summer IFs and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) for their contribution to the great success of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 and looked ahead to the upcoming editions of the Olympic Games.

10.11.2021: CAMP Congress
The UIPM President welcomed all African Federations for their General Assembly, where delegates had a briefing of activities for the future and elected a new African Confederation President, Sylvestre Zare from Burkina Faso, as well as new CAMP Executive Board Members.
16.11-17.11.2021: Paris, FRA

UIPM President Dr. Klaus Schormann and Secretary General Shiny Fang had their first site visit after Tokyo 2020 in Versailles, where the Modern Pentathlon Stadium will be placed in front of the Versailles Palace during the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

Furthermore, Jean-Philippe Gatien and Anne Murac from the Paris 2024 Organising Committee updated Dr. Schormann and Mrs. Fang on preparations, enabling the UIPM President and Secretary General to discuss fine details of the venue and sport programme with the organisers.

19.11.2021: Masters Committee

The UIPM President and Secretary General briefed the UIPM Masters Committee about the ongoing issues with Riding. Furthermore, the group discussed the future of the Masters movement and the UIPM Masters World Championship in 2022 in Hämeenlinna (FIN). The video conference was also attended by UIPM Vice President Joel Bouzou, Masters Committee Chair Peter Engerisser and Members Shereen Saleh and Heidi Walli, and UIPM Operations Director Alexandre Franca.

25.11-29.11.2021: Monaco, MON

On November 25/26 the UIPM Executive Board took place for the
first time in UIPM’s expansive new office headquarters. The meeting featured discussions on topics relating to the future of UIPM, as well as developing the sport in more countries to increase accessibility around the world.

At the end of the first day, EB members joined UIPM staff for a social reception.

On November 27/28 the 71st UIPM Congress took place virtually, with UIPM Executive Board Members and staff present in Monaco and the General Assembly managed by Lumi Global broadcasted to the worldwide UIPM Sports community.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann was elected for his eighth term as UIPM President, while 1st Vice President Juan Antonio Samaranch also received a ringing endorsement to continue in his role.

Delegates also voted 81% in favour of ratifying the UIPM Executive Board’s historic decision to open the 5th Discipline consultation process.

01.12.-06.12.2021: Cali, COL

UIPM President Dr Schormann travelled to Colombia with Executive Assistant Lena Nussbaumer to attend the 1st Junior Pan American Games.

They met with NOC Presidents and Secretary Generals and participating Modern Pentathlon athletes from various countries.

A deep discussion took place with the President and Vice President of the Guatemala Olympic Committee (COG), as well as Percy Barberena, President of the Guatemala National Modern Pentathlon Association (ANPMG) about the UIPM 2022 Congress in Antigua (GUA), where Modern Pentathlon’s new 5th Discipline will be decided.

The Junior Games with more than 20 nations underlined the strong activities in the Americas under the leadership of the Guatemala National Modern Pentathlon Association (ANPMG) by Percy Barberena, President of the Guatemala National Modern Pentathlon Association (ANPMG), and Dr Schormann in Cali (COL) with (left to right): Lena Nussbaumer, Sergio Victor Grupierre (NOC Argentina Secretary General and PASO Technical Committee Member), Jorge Salas (Pan American Confederation President) and Jorge Rosales (PASO Technical Committee Member).
Pan-American Confederation President Jorge Salas OLY and the strong support from UIPM Vice President Juan Manzo as well as NORCECA Confederation President Rob Stull OLY.

On December 4, the UIPM President briefed all Pan-American Member Federations about the current positioning of Modern Pentathlon in the Olympic Movement and answered questions relating to the 5th Discipline consultation.

Dr Schormann received full support from all delegates for UIPM’s strategic direction. They thanked UIPM for the new steps, providing much stronger possibilities for development of UIPM Sports.

Accessibility for the majority of athletes around the world is the key to a bright future for Modern Pentathlon.

Dr Schormann joined Confederation President Salas in an informal meeting with Santiago Fernandez, President of the Colombia Modern Pentathlon Federation (FCPM) and thanked him for the support of his federation and for the excellent and well-organised competitions.

The UIPM President also congratulated Pan-American Sports Organisation (PASO) President Neven Ilic, and Secretary General Ivar Sisniega (also Chair of the UIPM Innovation Commission) on the organisation of the inaugural Games, which was a milestone for the development of sport around the whole American continent and a bridge for youth to senior competitions.

On December 5, President Schormann and Ivar Sisniega met IOC Vice President Nicole Hoevertsz and briefed her on the
outcome of the 71st UIPM Congress held a week before, including the 5th Discipline consultation.

06.12-10.12.2021: Florida, USA

UIPM President Dr Schormann and the Vice Mayor of Fort Myers, Dr Liston Bochette III (also President of Modern Pentathlon Federation of Puerto Rico and Treasurer of NORCECA) visited various cities of Florida, where they met with Mayors and city council members. In this goodwill tour the main issue was to promote Modern Pentathlon in Florida and to find new partnerships for UIPM through politics, businesses and the academic world. They went to Miami, Fort Myers, Sarasota, Saint Petersburg, Tampa, Gainesville, Orlando and Palm Beach.

The UIPM President met with the Mayor of Palm Beach, Danielle Moore, at the Mar-a-Lago historical landmark. They discussed business and sponsorship opportunities and possibilities for hosting competitions and UIPM meetings.

At a basketball match at the University of Florida (UF) where he holds the positions of Associate Chair and Master Lecturer, the UIPM President met with Prof Dr Douglas DeMichelle. Dr DeMichelle offered Modern Pentathlon athletes the chance to experience learning internships that allow them to contribute to agencies, learn the culture of organisations and make professional contacts in sport management. Further talks will take place about this exciting opportunity.

The UIPM President with Dr Liston Bochette III (President of Modern Pentathlon Federation of Puerto Rico) and Danielle Moore, Mayor of Palm Beach

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Pentathlon World Rankings

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

WORLD PENTATHLON NEWSLETTER
NOV/DEC 2021

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@TheUIPM
@UIPMtv
@Vivamodernpentathlon

Baron Pierre de Coubertin
“The Modern Pentathlon event would test a man’s moral qualities as much as his physical resources and skills, producing thereby the ideal, complete athlete.”

UIPM World Rankings

The PWR is updated live at www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at 12 December 2021:

**MEN**

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“Coubertin understood that adaptation was a part of staying relevant with the spirit of the times. We believe he would appreciate a change towards a discipline that embodies the spirit of Pentathlon and modernises the sport.”

Coubertin Family