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### **UIPM 2023 U19 AND U17 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**









In Alexandria (EGY) and Istanbul (TUR) a new era of Modern Pentathlon dawned as the UIPM 2023 U17 World Championships and then UIPM 2023 U19 World Championships saw next-generation athletes compete in a full Pentathlon sequence of Fencing/Obstacle/Swimming/Laser Run for the first time









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### **UIPM 2023 U19 World Championships**

### Golden glory for Ismail (EGY) and Clergeau (FRA) in Istanbul (TUR)

It was another gold-laden Super Saturday for Egypt and France as both the Women's and Men's finals at the UIPM 2023 U19 World Championships served up drama aplenty in Istanbul

Malak Ismail gave further signal of Egypt's golden generation of emerging talent as she claimed Women's gold with a superb all-round performance. Ismail (EGY) carried a huge lead into the Laser Run but almost saw victory disappear as Sumin Shin of Korea stormed to silver. Bronze went to Zora Zeman of Hungary. Team gold also went to Egypt with Hungary taking silver and France bronze.

Etienne Clergeau gave France its own golden moment in the Men's Final as he dug deep and triumphed in an energysapping Laser Run, making up over 30 seconds and climbing from a starting position of sixth to top the podium. Behind him Hungary toasted a medal double with Botond Tamas winning silver after a blistering Laser Run and compatriot Zalan Jasso bronze. That was more than enough to ensure a Men's Team medal for Hungary too as they took bronze with Egypt combining for silver and gold again going to France.

With three continents sharing the women's podium, the truly global appeal of Pentathlon was again on show. Athletes from 35 nations are competing in the Turkish capital this week in what is a historic U19 World Championships. Thanks to the integration of Obstacle, nextgeneration athletes are now pursuing world titles in the new sequence of Fencing/Obstacle/Swimming/Laser



Malak Ismail (EGY) lived up to her world ranking by claiming gold in Istanbul (TUR)

Modern Pentathlon after the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

#### WOMEN'S FINAL

Ismail (EGY) had bounced back from a rocky start in Friday's Fencing Ranking Round to ultimately dominate proceedings, taking a 10-point lead on Coline Flavin of France into the Fencing Bonus Round. There Ismail (EGY) added Yuri Kim moved up the leaderboard by adding six points to her total. The Bonus Round's most impressive performance came from Katarzyna Debska of Poland who picked up a whopping six victories.

Having recorded the fastest Obstacle in Qualification, Alexandra of Czech Republic underlined her expertise in the new

Run that will be adopted at all levels of her time, finishing fastest in 0:33.87. Seven others broke the 40-second mark while leader Ismail (EGY) shaved five seconds off her own Qualification time with 0:41.20 with Zeman (HUN) a sliver behind her in 0:41.23.

As the action moved to the Swimming discipline, Great Britain's pedigree in the pool was underlined by Eva Marsh who was fastest of all 36 finalists in four points to her tally while Korea's a blistering time of 2:17.63 but both Ismail (EGY) and compatriot Farida Khalil of Egypt, recently crowned UIPM 2023 U17 world champion, were in hot pursuit, finished second and thirdfastest respectively. The consistent performance of Shin (KOR) continued as she finished ninth-fastest in 2:22.81.

Ismail (EGY) however remained out in front and began the Laser Run with a discipline by shaving over a second off whopping 27-second cushion over



Gyarmati of Hungary the only other athlete within 40 seconds of the leader. However as Ismail (EGY) surprisingly displayed some nerves on the range, Shin (KOR) began to hunt her down neck and neck.

Meanwhile Hungary's reputation in the combined discipline was being underlined by both Blanka Bauer and Zeman who were slicing through the field. Ismail (EGY) dug deep and showed her reserves to race back in front and cling on for a memorable gold. Shin (KOR) took silver after shaving 21 seconds off the gap between the rivals while Zeman (HUN) claimed bronze narrowly ahead of Ralitsa Miteva of Bulgaria, Flavin (FRA) was fifth with Khalil (EGY) sixth.

### MEN'S FINAL

of Canada had been inseparable in came in the pool when Matteo Bovenzi jumping to the head of the field in the Fencing Ranking Round as both racked up 27 victories. It was Cho (KOR) who than second-fastest Bartosz Szmytke said: "Today was really amazing.

Shin (KOR) with Flavin (FRA) and Lili was able to add two more to his tally in Saturday's Fencing Bonus Round to move into an early outright lead. Compatriot Juchan Lee of Korea added six points to his tally with victories very evenly spread around the early top 10. with the pair arriving at the final shoot In a sign of the remarkable consistency that was to come Clergeau (FRA) sat in fourth place after picking up two wins in the Bonus Round.

> The Obstacle discipline once again proved an exhilarating addition to a major global championship as six of the 36 finalists went sub-30 seconds. Denis Agavriloaie of Italy was fastest of all in 0:25.13 and there was joy for the host nation with Erkan Altunay of Türkiye less than a second behind. The competition remained wide open when early leaders Cho (KOR), Shulz (CAN) and Clergeau (FRA) all placed in the bottom guarter of Obstacle.

Hanseo Cho of Korea and Quinn Schulz Arguably the day's most stunning display of Italy stormed to a remarkable time of 1:57.68, fully seven seconds quicker

of Poland. Clergeau (FRA) stayed on the tails of the leaders with the eighthauickest time.

That pool performance rocketed Bovenzi (ITA) into a commanding lead ahead of the decisive Laser Run, enjoying a 25-second advantage on the field with Schulz (CAN) behind him and Jasso (HUN) setting off fourth. Another six competitors including Clergeau (FRA) were within 40 seconds of the leader. The sense that the medals had yet to be truly decided was confirmed in a brilliant Laser Run that saw multiple lead changes. Remarkably having started in 13th position, Botond (HUN) propelled himself into contention alongside teammate Jasso (HUN). However it was Clergeau (FRA) who stormed to the front and didn't relent. winning by 12 seconds from the Hungarian duo with Mohamed Sherif of Egypt fourth, Bovenzi (ITA) fifth and Nojus Chmieliauskas of Lithuania sixth.

#### CHAMPIONS' REACTION

Women's gold medalist Ismail (EGY)







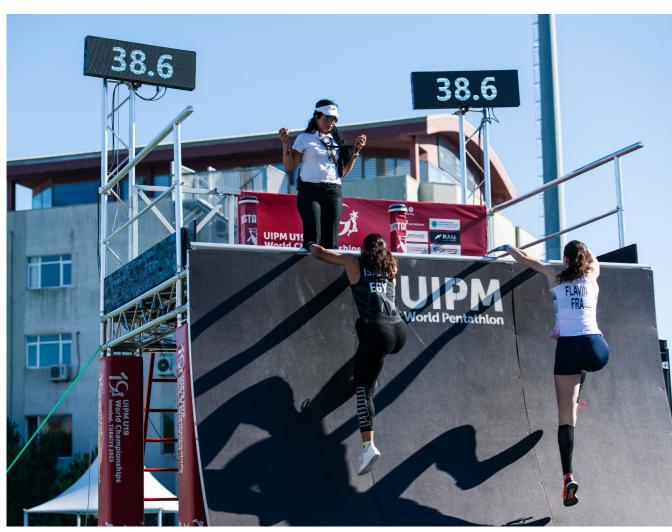












The Obstacle disicpline served up some scintillating battles in the Women's Final at the UIPM 2023 U19 World Championships

Yesterday I started the Fencing and didn't go well in the first part with two victories and seven defeats. I was very bad. Then I got really good in the last 26 matches, I just lost two. It was very nice to do that.

"I was a little nervous about Obstacle because I didn't compete in it before. I think the Obstacle is good, it's amazing to compete on. It's good to see so many young athletes now and they're happy with the Obstacle discipline. It's an adventure game!

"I'm trying to qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympics. It's a dream for me but I hope to do it and then go to the Los Angeles Olympics after that!"

Men's gold medalist Clergeau (FRA) said: "I am very happy, it's amazing! I can't find the words. I came to have



Men's finalists power through the pool in Istanbul (TUR)

fun and to do the best I could and I find that one can't put into words. myself with two gold medals and it's not in the Mixed Relay. These are sensations and a little surprised that the athlete in

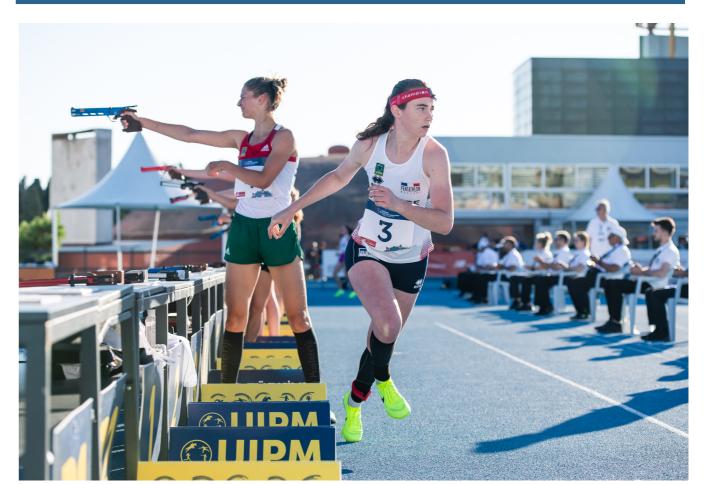
over because I will compete tomorrow "When I crossed the line, I felt so proud











The Laser Run provided plenty of late action as the first medals of Super Saturday were decided in the sun of Istanbul (TUR).

second didn't follow me because I shot very well.

"The Obstacle discipline is new this year and we could train as the federation found a way to train so we came well prepared. I did a mistake on the rings and it cost me 10 seconds (20 points) but I focused and caught up. I have a good feeling about the Obstacle discipline and I think it will be interesting."

### Mixed Relay: France on top of the world after Clergeau and Flavin sprint to gold

rance finished top of the medal table on the final day of the UIPM 2023 U19 World Championships after winning their gold medal in the Mixed Relay.

Men's Individual and Team gold medallist Etienne Clergeau (FRA) added a third world title alongside team-mate



Coline Flavin and Etienne Clergeau of France claimed U19 Mixed Relay gold

Coline Flavin (FRA), who had finished 5th in the Women's Individual Final 24 hours earlier.

With their golden treble France topped the competition medal table ahead of Egypt, who had already won two golds











The inclusion of Obstacle in Modern Pentathlon has already led to some fascinating moments of drama with Istanbul no different.

and added a second silver thanks to one day, and it's a good start, I think, in what looked like a decisive lead with a Women's Individual champion Farida Khalil and Mohamed Sherif in the Mixed Relay. Korea finished third in the medal table with one gold and one silver topped up by a bronze claimed by Sumin Shin and Hwanhee Lee.

#### MEDALISTS' REACTION

Gold medallist Clergeau (FRA) said: "Today was incredible, I don't have the words. It was a very great day, all disciplines were very good and my team-mate was very good too. We are the team of the day.

"Obstacle is a very nice discipline, there is a lot of complexity but we can train for it and be better next time and all the time.

this competition. I hope I will be better every day to add to the dream. I want to say thank you to everybody who helped In the Ranking Round they scored me in my project."

Partner Flavin (FRA) added: "It was a and next-best Eva Marsh and Freddie good day, all was fine. I think Fencing was our best because we had a very, very good performance. I think Obstacle is a good discipline. It's so hard and difficult, and I like this.

"Thank you to everyone who helped me and thank you to Etienne for the good day. Thank you coaches and the French team."

### **ACTION REPLAY**

Fifteen nations lined up in the Mixed "My dream is to be Olympic champion Relay and France (Flavin/Clergeau) took

incredible Fencing performance.

26 victories with only four defeats, putting distance between themselves Barlow of Great Britain (20V/10D), who they defeated in the final bout of the Bonus Round too.

Katarzyna Debska and Bartosz Szmytke of Poland performed best in Obstacle (1min 06.74sec) and second-best in Swimming (2:02.14) in a bid to put some pressure on the overall leaders, but France (Flavin/Clergeau) were 3rd in Obstacle with only Egypt (Khalil/Sherif, 1:11.45) and the Poles out-performing them. Great Britain (Marsh/Barlow) posted the best combined Swimming time of 2:01.81.

Into the Laser Run, there was still a massive gulf between the top duo and the chasing pack, with France (Flavin/Clergeau) starting with a 40sec advantage over Egypt (Khalil/Sherif) and Poland (Debska/Szmytke) 5sec further behind.

And there was no twist in the tale as France (Flavin/Clergeau) added a second to their lead in finishing 41sec clear of silver medallists Egypt (Khalil/ Sherif), the champions even posting the best Laser Run time of the day (12:55.10).

As the Polish challenge stuttered, Korea (Shin/Lee) took full advantage by racing into the bronze-medal position and holding on.

### Swiss twins lead the charge in historic relay battle as Korea claim men's honours

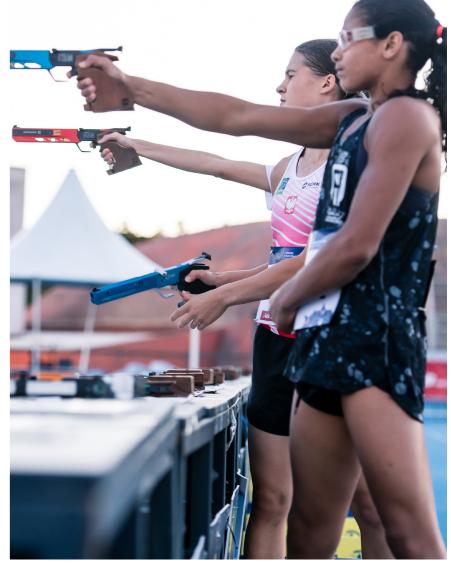
win sisters from Switzerland and a male duo from Korea became the first-ever Under 19 world champions in a full Modern Pentathlon including the new Obstacle discipline.

A thrilling Women's Relay on the opening day of the UIPM 2023 U19 World Championships was won by 17-year-olds Florina and Katharina Jurt (SUI) after a tight contest with silver medallists Annachiara Allara and Teresa Gioia and bronze medallists Gabrielle Holland and Susie Roberts of Great Britain.

Earlier, Korea returned to the top of the podium after drawing a blank at the recent U17 World Championships with an impressive Men's Relay gold for Juchan Lee and Hanseo Cho. Silver went to Denis Agavriloaie and Matteo Bovenzi (ITA) while France claimed bronze thanks to Karl Furderer and Nathan Dupuy-Leriche.

### MEDALISTS' REACTION

Women's Relay gold medallist Florina



There was still a massive gulf between the top duo and the chasing pack as the Laser Run continued in the Mixed Relay at the UIPM U19 World Championships.

Jurt (SUI) said: "I'm so happy, we gave was a nice feeling to run in this beautiful everything to win. I love the new discipline, I liked Riding but the change is really great.

"I think my dream is the same as all other athletes – we want to go to the Olympics and do our best."

Katharina Jurt (SUI) added: "I'm feeling overwhelmed because I never thought it would be possible for us to be better, because our Fencing was not that good. We were 3rd last.

"After the Obstacle, we won and we changed many places, I think six, and then the Laser Run is our discipline. It

weather, and it was a beautiful end.

"I love the change, too. We have ridden for a long time, since we were little, and we liked Riding but Obstacle is good for us because we are great in the discipline. We trained hard to get that far in the discipline.

"To win the Olympics in Los Angeles is a great goal for us, and together it will be a long and cool journey."

Men's Relay gold medallists Lee (KOR) and Cho (KOR) said in a joint interview: "We are very happy about the medal today. Very excited.

















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France topped the podium in the Mixed Relay in Istanbul to ensure they would also end the event atop the medal table too.

exciting, although hard. It was our first time competing in Obstacle, we trained successes. a little in Korea. Our dream is the Olympic gold medal, in Los Angeles.

"Thank you to our Team Korea coaches, and our families too."

### MEN'S RELAY

An impressive 18 nations lined up in the Men's Relay and despite performing well with 24 victories, Korea (Lee/Cho) were out-performed by Quinn Schulz and Connor Chow of Canada, who top-scored with 25V/9D. Mexico (Angel Charbel Martinez & Jorge Hernandez) notched 22V/12D. Korea (Lee/Cho) came out on top with four additional points in the Bonus Round, where

"The Obstacle discipline was very Uzbekistan (Sadriddin Kobiljonov & Japan (Yousuke Tomita & Keigo Ito). Aziz Muminov) stood out with four

> There was a clear winner in Obstacle as Italy (Agavriloaie/Bovenzi) became the only team to break the 1min barrier with their excellent combined time of 58.63sec. Host nation Türkiye (Baris Dogu Celik & Erkan Altunay) and Korea (Lee/Cho) were next-fastest over the

> On to Swimming and Italy (Agavriloaie/ Bovenzi) continued their podium advance with another standout performance. With 1:48.93 they were more than 5sec quicker than Egypt

An intriguing Laser Run brought the Final to a close and Korea (Lee/Cho) finally prevailed by 11sec over Italy (Agavriloaie/Bovenzi), with France (Furderer/Dupuy-Leriche) finishing a comfortable 3rd ahead of Japan (Tomita/Ito) and Mexico (Martinez/ Hernandez), whose time of 12:26.70 was comfortably the best.

#### WOMEN'S RELAY

With 16 nations lining up, it was Elisa Ramos and Isabella Zetina of Guatemala who narrowly emerged on top in Fencing. Their Ranking Round score of 18V/12D was matched by (Marwam Allam & Yassin Elhady) and both Germany (Sarah Dicks & Josefine





Republic (Katerina Vanova & Alexandra

Fernandes) less than 1sec behind and

& Habiba Ramadan), but six points in the

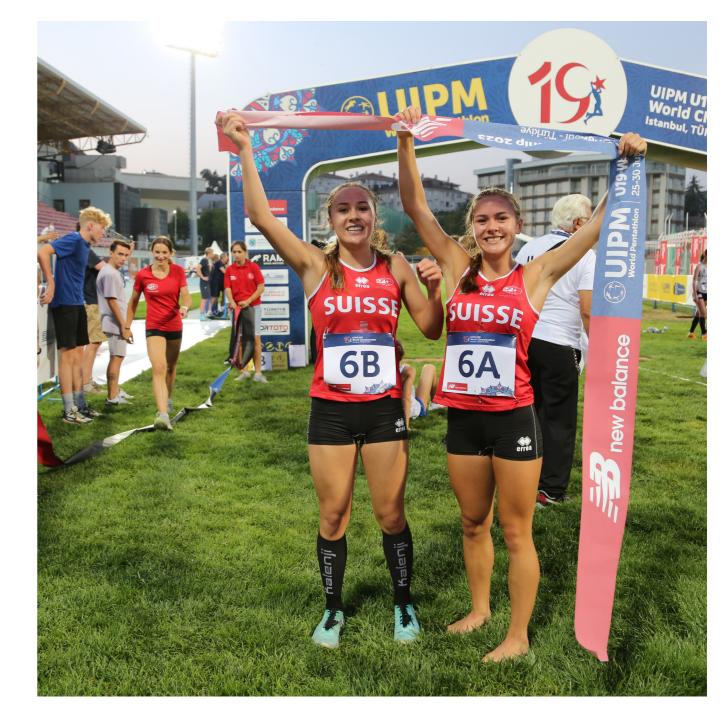
Bonus Round gave Guatemala (Ramos/

Zetina) the edge overall.

Unterberger) and Egypt (Nouran Beheiry Hungary (Orsolya Varga and Mira The starting leaders in Laser Run were Mecsnober) also very quick.

> There was no sign of any team achieving overall dominance as Poland (Katarzyna Debska & Malgorzata Karbownik) proved fastest in Swimming with a time of 2:10.27 and both pursuit.

Czech Republic (Vanova/Fernandes), (Debska/Karbownik) and Hungary (Varga/Mecsnober) but the Eastern European challenge was overturned by three exceptional performances. Switzerland (Jurt/Jurt) timed 13:37.10 to win gold by 4sec from Italy (Allara/Gioia, 13:57.50) with Great Britain (Holland/Roberts) timing 13:54.70 to deny the Czech duo a medal.



Twins Florina and Katarina Jurt helped deliver gold for Switzerland in the Women's Relay at the UIPM U19 World Championships

















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### **UIPM 2023 U17 World Championships**



There was golden glory for the host nation on an historic Super Saturday at the UIPM 2023 U17 World Championships in Alexandria (EGY)

### It's golden glory for Egypt and France as Alexandria (EGY) witnesses a new dawn

gypt and France will be the countries listed in the record books forever more but for every nation competing in Pentathlon, the UIPM 2023 U17 World Championships will carry a little bit of history.

Athletes from 26 nations took took part in the first global youth competition to feature a five-discipline Pentathlon, run according to the sequence of Fencing/Obstacle/Swimming/Laser Run that will be adopted at all levels of Modern Pentathlon after the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

UIPM Secretary General Shiny Fang commented: "This was the first time our UIPM U17 World Championships included a full Pentathlon including Fencing and the new Obstacle race on top of Swimming and Laser Run.

"It makes a huge difference in the requirement of athletes to reach a competitive level across all disciplines, but our athletes met this challenge successfully and with incredible

"Seeing so many young, smiling faces around the competition is extremely inspiring, it's like seeing the future of the sport - dynamic, embracing and super exciting!"

Farida Khalil (EGY) drew the love of the crowd and made history as the first Youth athlete to become individual world champion in a full Modern Pentathlon

The impressive Khalil (EGY) crossed the line 15sec ahead of the competition in the Women's Final, with Nadja Farmand of Germany and Annachiara Allara of Italy claiming silver and bronze respectively. The Egyptians doubled up with team gold with Germany taking silver and Hungary bronze.

An incredibly dramatic Men's Final followed in the evening session at the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport, where Mathis





Action from the piste during the Women's Final at the UIPM 2023 U17 World Championships

1 1/1

Issaka Idelarge (FRA) won a four-way team-mate Mohamed Hassan (EGY) sprint to the finish line to become world champion.

Szmytke of Poland, who in turn finished 1sec ahead of Tarek Sadek (EGY) whose

narrowly missed out on a medal. Egypt unsurprisingly added another team gold as Ukraine (silver) and Poland Idelarge (FRA) prevailed but only by (bronze) joined them on the podium 1sec from silver medallist Bartosz at the end of a late night in Alexandria (EGY)

#### WOMEN'S FINAL

Farmand (GER) was the standout performer in Fencing, claiming an exceptional 30 victories with only five defeats in the Ranking Round to take a 20-point lead into Super Saturday. And with team-mates Hannah Dicks (GER) and Amelie Treib (GER) lurking after success in the Bonus Round, Farmand (GER) proved her mettle again with victory in the final bout to protect her lead.

ALEVA TAV

Khalil (EGY) also scored well in Fencing (24V/11D) and made some ground on the leaders with a 5th place in Obstacle - which was dominated for the second time this week by Amaya El-Masri (GER) as the only athlete to finish the course in less than 30sec. Diana Rajinckas of Hungary and Alessia Canto (ITA) were next-fastest over the sprint course.

Over to the Swimming pool and it was here that Khalil (EGY) made a major



















Athletes try to pierce the pool first in the Swimming discipline at the Women's Final in Alexandria (EGY)

move towards overall supremacy, with the day's best time of 2min 14.48sec, a fraction faster than Wakana Uchiyama of Japan with Zofia Wyczolek of Poland timing 2:16.65.

Laser Run began with Farmand (GER) holding a 13sec lead over local favourite Farida (EGY), with Dicks (GER) a further 20sec behind. And it was all about the top two as they jostled for that coveted gold medal, Farida (EGY) eventually holding her nerve to seal an unforgettable win on home soil. Allara (ITA) flashed around the course in 10:06.10 to clinch a surprise bronze with a time only bettered by Ganah Elgindy (EGY), who finished 5th after a maintaining his podium ambitions with 10:01.59.

#### MEN'S FINAL

Jacob Li of Canada was the king of the piste with 26 victories giving him pole position in the Ranking Round and a 10-point advantage over local athletes

Hassan (EGY) and Sief Soliman (EGY), on 24V/11D. Hassan (EGY) had the last laugh in the Bonus Round, reducing the lead of Li (CAN) to six points.

Slippery conditions caused by high humidity on the Obstacle course meant that Swimming came next, and Szmytke (POL) obliterated the field with an outstanding 1:58.08 - a time that would be competitive in a senior men's his prey all day. His time of 9:01.70 final. Team-mate Krystian Trepczyk (POL) and Oleksandr Klymenko of Ukraine were next-fastest.

Several exceptional Obstacle performances followed, with Li (CAN) 27.25 and Franciszek Dubrawski (POL) timing 26.49. There was no doubt about the day's Obstacle star, however, as Platon lefremenko (competing as a neutral under the UIPM flag) scorched the course with a stunning 24.22.

Such was the variety of skills and specialties on show that there was a bunch start at the front of the Laser Run, with Klymenko (UKR) following leaders Szmytke (POL) and Hassan

it was 5th-placed starter Idelarge (FRA) who pounced having quietly stalked was only bettered by an exceptional 8:49.60 by Reuben Cawley of Great Britain, ending a day that showed not only the diversity of global talent at this level but the rich potential of the newlook Modern Pentathlon to be even more exciting than previous editions,

### MEDALISTS' REACTION

Women's world champion Khalil (EGY) said: "It's a great feeling and I thank God for this great achievement. I've been working hard for about two years to achieve this.













All eyes are locked on the targets during the Laser Run finale of the Men's Final at the UIPM 2023 U17 World Championships

I finished one discipline, I focused on the next one and never told myself that the competition was over, even if I was doing well.

Obstacle. I love Riding, I love horses, but I think with Riding I would have a very long way to prepare for it and train for it. Obstacle is very easy and quick for me to adapt, and I feel that having advantage.

Silver medallist Farmand (EGY) added: "I like the Obstacle discipline, I think "I'm so happy, I can't believe it. It's so nice. Fencing was really good, amazing, and I was really happy with my Obstacle time and then Swimming was OK. In Laser Run, shooting could and have fun." be better but it was OK.

"I took it one step at a time. Whenever "In Germany we used to go to a hall to Men's champion Idelarge (FRA) said: "At train for Obstacle, but we didn't do it so many times and we will learn it more."

Allara (ITA) said: "I'm really happy because I didn't think it would happen "I am very thankful for the inclusion of and I don't know what more to ask.

"During the Fencing [Bonus Round], better than during the Ranking Round, I competed at the full extent of my abilities and I am proud of myself. In five disciplines at this age gave me an Obstacle, I improved compared to the last time [in the Women's Qualification].

> I can improve but I like the course. Obviously, my dream is to compete in the Olympic Games but for now I just want to keep doing what I am doing

first, I was very happy when I crossed the finish line but I couldn't really celebrate it because something hurt so much that I had to stop and it stopped the euphoria.

"Looking back, I realise that what I accomplished is grand and I am very, very proud of it. It's really important for me, it's something that represents a lot of work so it's a crazy feeling.

"During the Obstacle discipline, I felt stressed because we don't know it very well and I couldn't work it a lot. I find it fun but we didn't master it yet and I like to master all the disciplines.

"I won't compete during the rest of the season, I will take a break until next season. My dream is to get a gold









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medal at the Olympic Games."

Silver medallist Szmytke (POL) added: "I feel good and I'm in shock because I did not expect a medal in the Final, because I started training for Fencing in October. That's not much time to learn, but it was much better than I expected.

"In the sprint I was so exhausted, I didn't feel anything. I just said 'go ahead and finish as best you can', I didn't think about it during the race."

Sadek (EGY) said: "I'm feeling very proud. I'd love to thank my coaches and my mother. At the beginning of the season it was so hard, I had a bad ankle injury, but thank God with all my doctors' and coaches' help, I came to the World Championships and did my

"My dream is to compete in the Los Angeles Olympics 2028. Obstacle was so much fun, and it felt so good to be competing."

### Mixed Relay: Great Britain end an impressive week on golden note

Great Britain came out on top among 14 nations with a convincing Mixed Relay gold on the final day of the UIPM 2023 U17 World Championships.

Host nation Egypt finished clearly top of the medal table with seven medals including four golds, but a commanding dual performance by Chloe Johnson and Sebastian Forrest ensured the British team did not go home emptyhanded.

Having won Women's Individual and Team gold a day before, and Women's Relay silver earlier in the week, Farida Khalil (EGY) completed a prolific week with a remarkable podium 'slam' two gold and two silver medals as she signed off with a Mixed Relay silver alongside Omar Amer (EGY).

There was also a second bronze medal of the championships for Hungary, thanks to Linda Haraszin and Marcell



Canada celebrate a Fencing victory in the Mixed Relay in Alexandria (EGY)

of Czech Republic (Jakub Samiec & Alexandra Fernandes) as the world's added the four available bonus points. leading U17s became the first in history to compete for world titles in a full, Alessia Canto and Ascione Francesco five-discipline Pentathlon.

Great Britain (Johnson/Forrest) stood out in Fencing with a Ranking Round

Hugo Gyurka holding off the challenge haul of 22 victories, three more than Hungary (Haraszin/Gyurka), and they

> of Italy proved fastest on the Obstacle course with a combined time of 1min 02.40sec, while Egypt (Khalil/Amer) also looked sharp with 1:04.98, a

fraction of a second quicker than Great Britain (Johnson/Forrest).

Poland clearly set the standard in Swimming with 1:56.54 from Hanna Jakubowska and Bartosz Szmytke. The best Laser Run performance was from Czech Republic (Fernandes/Samiec) as they posted a time of 9:12.75 to fall just short of the podium.

#### MEDALISTS' REACTION

Gold medallist Johnson (GBR) said: "We felt nervous, in one word. In the shoots your hands shake and it's scary. But we shot well.

"We started well this morning, had a really good Fencing Ranking Round and kept the energy really high. That got us off to a good start and tried to carry that through to the end of the day."

Team-mate Forrest (GBR) added: "I was quite nervous that [Amer, EGY] was going to catch me after my bad first shoot but I kept a good pace on the next run, had a good last shoot and just went from it from there.

"The Obstacle discipline was brilliant, we really like that. It's more inclusive and more people are able to do it. It's really fun!"

Silver medallist Amer (EGY) reflected: "It was so hard. We were looking for the gold medal but what we say afterwards is 'thank god'. We will stay positive and thankful for the silver medal.

"The second shoot, I think my first three shots were not good but after that it was okay. Obstacle was good, so good. Swimming, Fencing ... I love Modern Pentathlon.

"It was so beautiful to compete in front of our families here. I can't describe this moment. It's so beautiful, all of Egypt is happy for us now."

Bronze medallist Haraszin (HUN) said: "I'm really happy because I think it's a great achievement. I'm so glad and



Action from the Obstacle discipline during the UIPM 2023 U17 World Championships Mixed Relay

















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Action from the Swimming discipline at the Mixed Relay in Alexandria (EGY)

really good, we were happy with it. by Amaya El-Masri and Nadja Farmand Before the Obstacle I was so nervous but we did a great job."

Team-mate Gyurka (HUN) added: "I was really worried because I messed up my first shoot. If I hadn't have messed that up, it would have been a battle, you know. We had a 20-second lead because of Linda, she was really good. I would have felt terrible if we would have lost a medal because of that!"

### Historic Relay success for Germany and Egypt on opening day in Alexandria (EGY)

Four athletes from Germany and Egypt made history as the first-ever world champions in a Modern Pentathlon including the new Obstacle discipline.

proud of my teammate. Fencing was U17 World Championships was won (GER) after a tense battle with silver medallists Sarah Mohamed and Farida Khalil (EGY). Bronze went to Alice Gelormino and Anna Chiara Allara of

> Later, the host nation found its path to the top of the podium as Osama Zaki and Mohamed Hassan (EGY) won the Szmytke and Franciszek Dubrawski of Poland and Germany's second medal of the day (bronze) was claimed by Arija Talebi and Vitus Thieke.

#### MEDALISTS' REACTION

Women's Relay gold medallist Farmand (GER) said: "I'm very exhausted and it was so hard, but we are happy that we performed the best in the competition."

really cool, and not too hard, but really intense, really fun. Our dream is to join the Olympic Games, maybe make a medal in 2028 in Los Angeles."

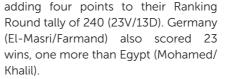
Men's Relay gold medallist Zaki (EGY) said: "We feel very tired, it was a very hard race. We trained for many years. We played a Pentathlon, not a Triathle or a Tetrathlon, and we won the gold medal. Our families supported us, it Men's Relay. Silver went to Bartosz was genius, and we are very happy for ourselves and for them. Our dream is the Olympics in Los Angeles."

> Hassan (EGY) added: "It's our first championships with the five disciplines, and we won the race. The Obstacle discipline was so fun."

### WOMEN'S RELAY

Ten teams started the Women's Relay and it was Korea (Damin Jung & Hyejin The Women's Relay at the UIPM 2023 El-Masri (GER) added: "Obstacle is Yoon) who performed best in Fencing,





Germany (El-Masri/Farmand) then put their names in the history books as the inaugural winners of a global Pentathlon Obstacle discipline, with a Leading the way and topping a combined time of 1min 12.68sec. Italy (Gelormino/Allara) also performed well with 1:15.70, while a third-fastest time of 1:23.54 and a deficit of 21 points for Egypt compared to Germany demonstrated the quality of the top performance.

On to Swimming and Egypt (Mohamed/ Khalil) made a nine-point gain on the leaders with their top time of 2:07.19, while Poland (Olga Cisek & Hanna Jakubowska) also excelled with 2:07.38.

Germany (El-Masri/Farmand) started the Laser Run with a 17sec and they were pushed all the way by the local heroes, Egypt (Mohamed/Khalil), who finished within 4sec of the champions with Italy (Gelormino/Allara) finishing with a comfortable bronze.

UIPM U17 World Championships Alexandria, EGYPT 2023

#### MEN'S RELAY

14-strong Men's Relay field in Fencing were Great Britain (Sebastian Forrest & Jack Murray), with 17V/9D and four extra points in the Bonus Round.

Korea (Taegyung Lim & Minjae Kim), Germany (Talebi/Thieke) and Hungary (Bendeguz Zeteny Domjan & Botond Basa) each won 16 bouts in the Ranking Round and Egypt added a vital 10 points in the Bonus Round.

The Obstacle course was where Poland (Szmytke/Dubrawski) signalled their podium ambitions, with a best

combined time of 58.14sec. Great Britain (Forrest/Murray) also excelled at the new challenge with another sub-1min time of 59.48, with Germany (Talebi/Thieke) ranking 3rd.

In Swimming, Poland (Szmytke/ Dubrawski) made an even bigger impression with a huge performance in the pool, timing 1:50.65 to move another 7sec clear of Egypt (Zaki/ Hassan, 1:54.27). But the roles were reversed in the final discipline, as the young hosts showed the same conviction as their senior counterparts who have begun to dominate at the top of the sport.

Egypt (Zaki/Hassan) completed the Laser Run course in 8:45.78 to take gold with a 10sec margin over Poland (Szmytke/Dubrawski), with Germany (Talebi/Thieke) keeping Great Britain (Forrest/Murray) at bay for bronze.



















Sarolta Kovacs OLY (HUN) shared her insights with the young hopefuls of Modern Pentathlon during a forum held in Alexandria (EGY)

### Olympic medalist Kovacs (HUN) attends U17 athlete forum in Alexandria (EGY)

■arolta Kovacs OLY of Hungary, The Tokyo 2020 Olympic bronze medallist, shared insights with the next generation of pentathletes during a forum that took place during the UIPM 2023 U17 World Championships in and I really liked it. Alexandria (EGY).

Now working as a laser shooting coach with the Hungary national team, Kovacs (HUN) was joined at the forum by UIPM Athletes Committee Chair Yasser Hefny OLY, his fellow coaches Florence Dinichert OLY and Dr Walid Sayed, and former athlete Cristobal Rodriguez of Spain, now UIPM Events Operations "I think this is so important. We talked Officer.

The panel appearance was part of a week-long programme of educational activities delivered on site by UIPM Education & Projects Manager Anfisa Kasyanova, following the International Olympic Committee (IOC) recommendation that International

Federations arrange events during competitions to inspire, motivate and educate the next generation of

Sarolta Kovacs OLY (HUN) said: "The educational activities and pentathletes forum were very important. It was my first time participating in such activities Athletes were asked about their

"The youth athletes from Hungary who participated in the forum told me it was very nice evening where they heard other nations' opinions. Such activities are good for all athletes because there they know each other better and can be inspired by each other.

about motivation and this is the key for success as well as mental health. I motivates me to continue to be an fully enjoyed our conversations at the forum. Such activities are important for coaches, too, because we learn from other coaches and we learn how we can assist our athletes. I hope UIPM will continue such activities."

The educational topics covered during the week included mental health, competition manipulation, safe sport, performance nutrition, anti-doping, personal brand and social media, educational and career opportunities and Olympic values.

motivations to practise sport and meet the challenges of Modern Pentathlon, and they mentioned the dream of winning Olympic gold, the opportunity to travel the world and discover new countries, to meet friends, to see a process of improvement in performance and results in competitions, and to win prize money.

Abdel Jalil Pitrioipa of Burkina Faso said: "I love Modern Pentathlon, and what athlete in the sport is that my country is not famous in the world, it's very poor and I noticed that Modern Pentathlon is not considered a popular sport.

"I want to prove to everyone that it's a very good sport and it has a lot of



The next generation of pentathlon stars gave very positive feedback from the session held during the UIPM 2023 U17 World Championships

benefits for everyone. Also I want to improve the delivery of Modern Pentathlon in my country. I competed here with all these athletes who are wonderful and it was very interesting for me. Also I want to represent my country around the world."

Jacob Li of Canada, who finished 10th and completed all activities of the programme, said: "As an athlete, the education, opportunities and resources activities and it is great that we have offered by the UIPM educational activities it now. It was very interesting, fun and are vital in laying the foundation for a adapted for all athletes. successful athletic career.

they provide, athletes can develop and strengthen their skills, benefiting not everything." only from educational support but also

chance to connect with other athletes. Moreover, the interactive nature of these programmes fosters athlete engagement and incentivises a focus a chance to learn about the sport on education."

coach, added: "We participated in extraordinary courses under the Athlete Certification Programme (ACP). When I was an athlete we didn't have such

"I and my athletes from Georgia will be "With these programmes and the tools happy if similar events are held both online and in our country. Thanks for

from networking opportunities and the Unliet Thomatos, mother of 13-year- UIPM Educational Platform.

old South Africa athlete Tatiana Thomatos, said: "The workshops held were so informative. It gave the athletes that they are performing. The athletes were eager to go and this was also a Natia Matchavariani, Georgia youth great way to make friends from other countries.

> "In the future I will encourage the athletes to attend more as they add so much value to their development and growth in the sport. Thank you!"

> The activities were delivered in hybrid format and besides learning at the campus in Alexandria (EGY) through games, Q&A and workbooks, athletes could test their knowledge through quizzes on the same themes at the













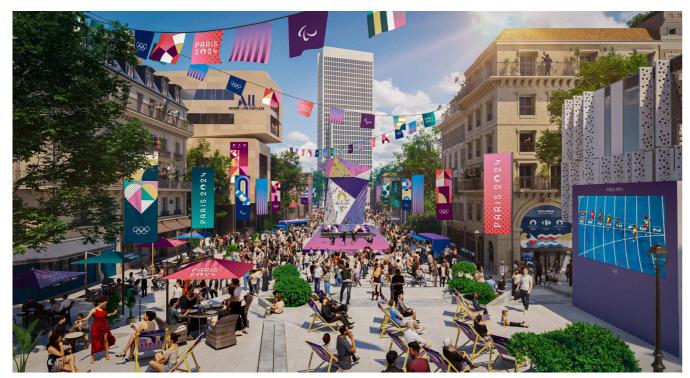




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## **VOYAGE TO PARIS 2024**

### Olympic Games countdown: Part IV



n clocks to Paris 2024 are now being measured in days and months as the world looks forward to a new era of 'Games Wide Open'

### Leading off...

With less than a year to go, the focus is already on the impact of Paris and its Games Wide Open concept

countdown is no longer measured in years but in months and even days. July 26 marked the official One Year To Go mark for the 2024 Summer Olympic Games in Paris and now that the world is counting down in more immediate measurements, the excitement is really rising.

The International Olympic Committee and local organisers in the French capital marked the key anniversary by reiterating just how historic next summer's global gathering will be.

Paris 2024 will represent a new era of the

Olympic Games which the IOC believes will serve as a red, white and blueprint for the future of the event. Most pertinently, for the first time in history, quota places will be distributed equally: 50% female and 50% male. Of course Modern Pentathlon has been ahead of the curve with complete gender equity since the 2000 Games in Sydney.

One of the key factors in the Paris Games setting the agenda for Los Angeles, Brisbane and all that will follow is the Games Wide Open concept.

With a focus on inclusivity, Games Wide Open represents a push for unprecedented public access and engagement with an Olympics, not just as spectators but taking part on some of the venues too. For instance 20,024 participants will run the exact same

marathon route as the Olympic athletes.

Paris will also see many of its most iconic monuments and tourist sites transformed into venues for the Games, the city itself becoming an open-air sports arena

As the first Games to be planned in line with the Olympic Agenda 2020 reforms Paris is minimising construction, using 95% existing or temporary infrastructure. All energy used will be 100% renewable.

The countdown clock is only going one way now, as those athletes vying for priceless qualification places know all

Either way, Paris will be ready for the world. The world should be ready for a wide open Games.

### > Paris Pointer

With exams now behind her, Gulyas (HUN) is eyeing a return to the podium after Paris place is secured

With less than a year to go to the Olympic Games there is a new name atop the UIPM women's world rankings. Italy's Alice Sotero stormed to gold at the European Games in early July, securing her country's second quota qualification place in Paris and vaulting to No.1 in the leaderboard of female pentathletes.

That was a position that Hungary's prolific Michelle Gulyas had made her own over the past 12 months and while it sounds ridiculous to say that she has had a quieter season so far in 2023, Gulyas herself is adamant she is ready to roar back to her very best.

Gulyas (HUN) also claimed a quota qualification spot for next summer's Olympics at the European Games in Krakow (POL) but did so while finishing 7th. That may represent an impressive position for most competitors but Gulyas (HUN) has made the podium her own for over a year now, finishing among the medals in nine-straight senior events from March 2022 to April 2023.

After taking silver at the UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Championships in Alexandria (EGY), Gulyas is targeting another impressive showing at this year's event in Bath (GBR) from August 21-28. Another spot among the prizes could see the 22-year-old reclaim her No.1 to that competition." ranking with trademark rapid speed.

"I'm very relieved about the [Olympic] qualification," Gulyas said. "I was a little bit sad about the full competition and how it turned out but my main goal was the qualification and that I could manage that so I'm happy about that.

"My season was tough because I had to finish university, I had the exams so I had to skip a few competitions before the European Championships. So I think it could be felt during the competition that of them costing just €24. Almost half of



I was still not mentally there. I'm hoping tickets sold to the general public cost for something better for the World Championships.

"I will have a high altitude training camp before the World Championships and I hope that will help my physical disciplines so I'm really looking forward

### **Numbers game**

**7,000,000** With just under a year now until the spectacular opening ceremony along the Seine, Paris 2024 organisers have confirmed that ticket sales to the general public have already passed the 7 million mark! In total, there will be just over 10 million tickets available for the Games with 1 million

### **Qualification latest**

After the European Games, 18 of the 72 quota places at Paris 2024 have now been claimed

Women: Italy (2), Spain, Great Britain, Lithuania, France, Hungary, Germany and Czech Republic. Men: Egypt, Italy, Great Britain, Hungary, France, Germany, Poland, Ukraine and Switzerland.

Now the focus immediately shifts to the remaining 54. Next up for grabs is three more places for both men and women at the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Championships in Bath (GBR) in August.

Full details can be found at uipmworld. org/olympic-games

















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## **Bond of brothers: Meet the Elgendys**

In a new 'Pentathlon Personalities' series, a strong family ethos keeps two Egyptian brothers driving on towards Paris — and beyond

Ahmed Elgendy has just pulled up outside his family home in New Cairo City, southeast of Egypt's capital. The 35-minute commute from another busy day training at Cairo Stadium has left him feeling peckish. But he fears that when he gets inside he's going to have to source his own lunch. That's because his devoted mother Mona will be concentrating on another meal — his brother's.

"Many times I will come back home after training and I see my mother is preparing for Mohamed a very nice dinner and she hasn't even yet asked me if I wanted to eat something," Ahmed says. "So you know, he can't lie about it. Mohamed is my mum's favourite!"

Mohamed, the younger of these two remarkable brothers and the baby of four Elgendy siblings in total, is sitting in the driver's seat having navigated the route home from training. He can only laugh and nod just a little to acknowledge that yeah, maybe he is his mum's favourite.

Ahmed Elgendy made history in Tokyo two summers ago when he became the first African pentathlete to medal at an Olympic Games. His silver there followed a stream of prizes at youth and senior level as he rose to the very top of the sport at the age of 21. But just two years on and one year out from the Paris Games, he finds his brother, himself now 21. hot on his heels.

They currently sit third and tenth respectively in the UIPM World Rankings. But in second place is compatriot Mohanad Shaban, who is enjoying a brilliant season highlighted by a gold medal at the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Final in Ankara (TUR) in June.

With a maximum of two qualifiers per country for next summer's Games, the



Brothers Ahmed and Mohamed Elgendy embrace at the finish line in Alexandria (EGY) last year.

Elgendys could well find themselves going toe-to-toe for an Olympic ticket. But as UIPM learned when joining Ahmed and Mohamed on the Cairo commute via FaceTime, theirs is a strong and co-dependent brotherly bond.

"I think our relationship is very special. We are sticking to each other very strongly. We love each other and are always trying to help each other: in life and in our sport. Mohamed just entered the senior level in the last year but I am always pushing him to be better," Ahmed says, revealing that he found it hard to concentrate on his own performance as his little brother made his silver medal breakthrough at the UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Championships in Alexandria (EGY) last year.

"I was even supporting him in the Laser Run. I was focusing on him. I was not too far from the podium myself but I had just returned from shoulder surgery and trained for three weeks so after the last shooting series I was fifth and maintaining my position so I was always looking at Mohamed. I wanted him to get gold but maybe next time!"

On the afternoon we catch up it is Mohamed who is weaving through Cairo traffic and Ahmed who does most of the talking. "He is a good talker," Mohamed laughs later. With just two years separating them, it's no surprise that little brother has followed big brother. But they have their differences.

Ahmed started pentathlon at the age



Ahmed Elgendy, left, and younger brother Mohamed laugh during their drive home in Cairo (EGY).

journey in the sport at five. While Ahmed stuck with it from Biathle all the way up. Mohamed drifted away, trying squash, fencing and for a while nothing at all.

"He stopped for three years without any sport and then he gained too much weight in these years. He was maybe a heavy boy then!" smirks Ahmed as he looks over at his brother. "When he was 14 or 15 he started to do Fencing only. He was very talented in Fencing. In 2019 he turned back to Pentathlon. When you stop for eight years in Swimming and get back it's very hard to get back to that level but he's done well. He was coming back gradually in Laser Run too but now he is one of the best in the world."

Ahmed has had lots of time to admire his sibling's development — a little more time than he would have liked. Surgery on that shoulder injury kept him on the sidelines for a while. But it also helped and family feel watching him.

"I didn't know the feeling of my family until I started to watch Mohamed in laughs. the competitions! It's much easier to compete than to watch your brother or son or daughter. When I started to watch Mohamed in the last year when I was injured, I found myself very tense and getting way too nervous for him."

of six with Mohamed beginning his With Egyptian pentathletes riding the crest of a wave, both brothers say there is an energy and spirit in the national team camp driving everyone on. But Mohamed has personal inspiration too.

> "After each competition that Ahmed goes to and comes back with a medal, that is what motivated me," says Mohamed. "He inspired me to make achievements like he has made."

> They drive each other on too, even when they come face to face on the piste. "It's so, so hard when we are against one another in the Fencing," says Ahmed. "I want him to win. He wants me to win. It's a very difficult match.

"Last year in the senior World Championships in Alexandria, in the first match against each other, I got the victory. But after that, Mohamed got second position in Fencing overall. I was 16th or something. When I won that first him to finally understand how his parents match, I was worried. 'Oh, will it affect him?' But he did brilliantly."

"I think actually I fired him up," Mohamed

While Shaban's incredible form has made the possibility of both Elegndys qualifying for Paris look tricky, they're not ruling out the possibility. "The only way that Mohamed and me can qualify for Paris together is that we both have to get a medal in the Senior World Championships in 2024. It's a very hard target and it needs a lot of work but it's not impossible," says Ahmed. "The competition between the three of us has got so much harder but it's a good motivation to try to be better."

Ahmed's mantra is to "Be or Be", his adaptation of the Shakespearean "To be or not to be" but with the negative outcome removed: "You have to have the mindset of winning. No other option than winning," he says. "There is no 'not to be', it has to be called 'be or be' because when there is another option, an option to lose, you can think about

What about a fitting slogan for Mohamed? Be [like Ahmed] or Be [better than him]' perhaps? The two laugh at the suggestion. They may both be at the earlier stages of their career but the tight bonds suggest their rivalry can only become so fierce. Family is central to their lives, with parents Mona and Osama a huge influence. Their mother is also a key part of their team.

"Our family stick to each other. We are giving our family the priority in everything," says Ahmed. "When we were young and wanted to go on an outing on the weekend with friends, we first had to see if there was a family day because that is the priority.

"My mother, since I started Pentathlon, she has been committed to supporting us everywhere. Because my father was working a lot, my mother took all the responsibilities. She was a teacher but in 2017 she retired early to concentrate with us on our sport. She has sacrificed a lot. She takes care of every detail. She is a nutritionist, taking care of all of our food, driving us to training and maybe that's the best thing because driving in Egypt is very bad! It's very stressful."

Another reason why it's good to have a little brother: driving you home and driving you on too. The Elgendys' journey to Paris is not easy but they're determined to make it work their way.

















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## **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO UIPM**

### Celebrating 75 years since Union formed



UIPM was founded in Sandhurst Camberley (GBR) on August 3, 1948 after the London Olympics Modern Pentathlon

### President Dr Schormann leads global movement. celebrations as global accord of August 3, 1948 is remembered

Pentathlon Moderne (UIPM) is 75 years young.

On August 3, 1948, the first autonomous governing body of the Olympic sport of Modern Pentathlon was formed in from the city of London where the 1948 Olympic Games was taking place.

For the previous 36 years of its existence since being introduced by Baron Pierre de Coubertin in Stockholm in 1912, the five-discipline multi-sport had been run by an International Olympic Committee (IOC) commission.

On the fifth and last day of the London 1948 Olympic Modern Pentathlon, 17 representatives of 16 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) came together at the Royal Military Academy to establish an accord that would enable the sport Features of the evolution during the to evolve and grow into an inclusive Schormann era include:

The first UIPM President in 1948 was Tor Wibom (SWE), and he was succeeded Union Internationale de a year later by the 1920 Olympic champion, Gustaf Dyrssen (SWE), who served until 1960. General Sven Thofelt (SWE), the 1928 Olympic champion, led UIPM from 1960 to 1968 and the combined Union Internationale de Pentathlon et Biathlon (UIPMB), until Sandhurst Camberley (GBR), 50km 1988. His successor, Igor Novikov (USSR), served from 1988 to 1992 when UIPMB was split, resulting in the creation of the International Biathlon Union. The current incumbent, Dr Klaus Schormann, was elected to lead UIPM in 1993.

> As the longest-serving UIPM President, Dr Schormann has led and overseen the evolution of Modern Pentathlon into a sport compatible with the 21st century which continues to respect Coubertin's original premise - to examine the complete athlete.

- Modern Pentathlon's journey from five days to one day, and now to a showcase of five disciplines in 90 minutes - a compelling event to suit modern viewers and spectators
- The integration of Obstacle in place of Riding, now in place at Youth and Junior levels, making the sport more globally accessible, reducing cost and complexity and adding youth appeal and relevance
- UIPM's growth into a worldwide family of more than 130 member nations enabling athletes of all ages and backgrounds to enjoy multisports and pursue the Olympic dream via Modern Pentathlon
- Full gender equality achieved with the inclusion of women in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games following years of discussions between President Dr Schormann and the IOC President, Juan Antonio Samaranch
- UIPM Headquarters set up in Monaco with a professional management structure registered under Monegasque law in 1997.

### Dr Klaus Schormann | UIPM President (pictured right)

"For me this anniversary is something really special. Having first been elected in 1988 as UIPMB Vice President for Marketing and Publications and then as UIPM President in 1993, I have been involved in the leadership of our Union for 35 of its 75 years. In 1993 we had 63 National Federations; now we have more than 130.

"On August 3, 1948, our Union was created by the 16 nations that competed at the London Olympics, and it happened at Sandhurst Camberley – a great academy for the Commonwealth, where the Olympic Modern Pentathlon had just been organised.

"From 1912 to 1948, the IOC managed Modern Pentathlon through a Commission, while the NOCs worked closely with military and police departments to prepare athletes. Right up until the Munich 1972 Olympics, military figures dominated the so-called 'officer sport'.

"The creation of the Union Internationale more organised and independent Modern Pentathlon movement. Since that day we World Championships was held.

"I am proud of the great teamwork inside the UIPM Executive Board together with all UIPM Committees and Commissions and working groups that have resulted in UIPM becoming a very dynamic International Federation, always following the guidance of the Olympic movement and focusing on the present and future generations.

"Our founder and creator, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, would also be proud to see the honest way in which we are following his philosophy to this day, taking care of his legacy and heritage.

"I quote Coubertin's original premise for Modern Pentathlon: 'To test a man's moral qualities as much as his physical resources and skills, thereby producing the ideal, complete athlete'

"I quote Aristotle: 'The most perfect sportsmen are the pentathletes because in their bodies, strength and speed are combined in beautiful harmony."

"These historic statements are of course equally valid and applicable to female pentathletes.

"Today we mark UIPM's 75th anniversary and later in August, we will have a special celebration not far away from Sandhurst Camberley in Bath, where our flagship UIPM Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships will take place in the country where our Union was born. I think we all have many reasons to be very happy and proud about that."



### Francesco Ricci Bitti | Association of Summer Olympic Federations (ASOIF)

"On behalf of ASOIF I congratulate UIPM on its 75th anniversary.

"With the sport's heritage closely linked with the Modern Olympic Games de Pentathlon Moderne was the start of a founder Baron Pierre de Coubertin, modern pentathlon enjoys a rich Olympic tradition since being first included at the learned how fast we could grow, with Stockholm 1912 Games. UIPM has also more nations joining, and soon the first shown an appreciation of innovation and a willingness to evolve with the times.

> "UIPM was one of the founding ASOIF members and we have always enjoyed a strong and fruitful relationship. I should like to take this opportunity to wish you a successful Paris 2024 Olympic Games next year and all the very best for the future."

#### James S. Davis | New Balance Chairman

"New Balance congratulates UIPM on its 75th anniversary. We are proud to have been part of the history of this sport for more than 25 years. New Balance is proud to sponsor the sport of Modern Pentathlon and the highly talented athletes who compete in it."

### Joel Bouzou OLY | UIPM Vice President; World Olympians Association President

"2023 marks 111 years since Modern Pentathlon was introduced in the Olympic Program by Baron Pierre de Coubertin in Stockholm's Olympic Games.

"The three 1s in 111 represent the three ways our wonderful sport is sacralised as the first among sports, as the best one to symbolise the complete athlete (1), the Olympic spirit (1) which prevailed in the ancient times when the Olympic Games were surrounded by the Olympic truce (1). "The whole story started in 708 BC when Lampis from Sparta reached Olympic glory. That was 2731 years ago and this very long time tells about the evolution of Pentathlon, the most symbolic sport of the Olympic programme.

"Today we are also celebrating the 75th "Happy anniversary dear UIPM!"

birthday of the Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne, which received from the IOC in 1948 the privilege and the responsibility to make sure Pentathlon lives in modern times and in the future. "Seventy-five years is long for a human life but short in comparison with the longevity of Pentathlon's spirit. So, whatever the necessary evolutions will be, let's remain strong and united to carry on this beautiful

### Tatiana Ardabieva | European Modern Pentathlon Confederation President; long-serving UIPM Executive Board

symbol, which is so important in the world

of today and in the future!"

"For seven and a half decades, the International Union of Modern Pentathlon with pride and dignity has demonstrated the unity of athletes of all the continents and fully justified its title 'Modern Pentathlon' by constantly modernising the sport according to modern trends, attracting young people to its ranks."

### **Hyunjun Kim** | Asian Modern Pentathlon Confederation President

"We are happy to join in celebrating UIPM's 75th anniversary. We believe that a newlook Modern Pentathlon with Obstacle will be a more dynamic and appealing sport around the world. We, Asia, one of the most active continents, will always support the UIPM in the future."

### Jorge Salas OLY | South American Modern Pentathlon Confederation

"On August 3, 1948, the International Union of Modern Pentathlon was created. Today from South America we want to pay tribute to three moments in these 75 years.

- To the vision of Baron Pierre de Coubertin and to all those who kept alive that memorable legacy.
- To the development of our sport in South America; today with legitimate pride we can say our Confederation has managed to incorporate all countries as active members. Modern Pentathlon is part of the programme of all the South American and Pan American events. We are proud to say that we were able to organize the Olympic Games in Rio and the Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires.
- The present and the future are our challenge, we support the policy of change and renewal. We thank President Dr Schormann and his team for the enormous effort they make to carry out this stage of necessary and beneficial changes at a global level.

















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### ON SITE: UIPM 2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships, Bath (GBR)



UIPM Technical Committee Member Agnes Kulcsar (HUN) led two of the three Judges Certification Programme courses in Bath (GBR)

#### **UIPM** Judges **Programme: Dedicated months of** been busily progressing too. work come to fruition in Bath (GBR)

With the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships rapidly approaching around the corner, years of planning is close to coming to fruition for organisers in the historic been significant but so very worth it city of Bath (GBR).

of the details, no matter how major or minor, it takes to run one of the biggest competitions in the sport. Over the past seven months, preparations for the judges who will play a crucial role in the success of the competition,

**Certification** which runs from August 21-28, has

With three separate UIPM Judges Certification Programme sessions organised specifically for the event in Bath (GBR) since January, the investment in resources and time has with 37 judges who will be directly involved with the 2023 UIPM World That planning has extended to all Championships earning their judging

> The final course of the three wrapped up last month when six British judges were put through their paces by UIPM

Kulcsar (HUN) with a specific focus on Fencing and JCP Levels 1, 2 and 3

That course followed two previous editions with UIPM JCP Educator and Technical Committee member Andrea Dell'Amore (ITA) overseeing a twoday course on May 23-24 in both Bath (GBR) and Melksham (GBR), which saw 10 students take part in sessions focusing on Riding and Laser Run, again at JCP Levels 1, 2 and 3.

The first module of the year had taken place from January 12-15 with Agnes Kulcsar (HUN) again at the helm and Technical Committee Member Agnes helping to upskill 23 students from

certifications being undertaken.



Great Britain in Fencing, Swimming and Laser Run at all three levels of JCP

The novel and dedicated approach

means there are almost 40 newly

certified or further qualified judges

ready to play their part in the UIPM

2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World

Championships. With the competition

sure to attract the very best in the sport

with Paris 2024 Olympic qualification

quota places up for grabs, these new

judges will be relied upon to help things

certification.

judges who are up to speed with every group of judges who have been aspect of each discipline.

"As a result of this detailed and diligent work by both UIPM staff and local organisers in Bath over the past few

expertly drilled in all aspects of the job. I thank Andrea and Agnes particularly for their patient and detailed instruction and commend the organisers for their approach with these sessions and now months we know we have a great look forward to a wonderful event."



The most recent UIPM JCP session in June had a focus on Fencing in preparation for the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships



Over 30 new and further qualified judges are now ready for the upcoming competition in Bath (GBR)









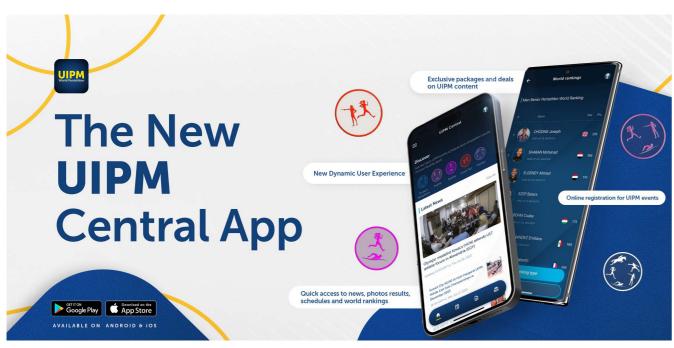








### News from around the world



The improved functionality of the UIPM Central app reflects the continuing evolution of Modern Pentathlon with the integration of Obstacle

## UIPM launches new and improved version of UIPM Central app with added features

Anew and improved version of the UIPM Central app has been released via the Google and Apple app stores.

The update is the first since 2017 and the improved functionality reflects the continuing evolution of Modern Pentathlon with the integration of Obstacle as a new discipline.

The update includes the following new and improved features designed to engage and inspire both the UIPM Sports community and the wider world of athletes and sports fans.

- A new presentation of competition results and schedules, enabling faster access to information
- News, photo galleries and world rankings
- Exclusive packages and deals on UIPM content
- Online registration for UIPM events.

User registration is mandatory with the new app, which comes as the latest technological advance to strengthen UIPM's digital ecosystem.

# Kuwait City (KUW) to host inaugural UIPM Middle East Asia Championships in December 2023

Luwait City (KUW) will make UIPM Sports history on December 7, 2023 by hosting the inaugural UIPM Middle East Asia Championships.

Middle East Asia is one of UIPM's fastest-growing regions, with member federations in Afghanistan, Bahrain, Kuwait, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria and United Arab Emirates.

The introduction of the Middle East Asia Championships follows UIPM's successful endorsement of the recent UIPM 2023 Southeast Asia Championships in Pattaya (THA), which continued the process of the Asian Modern Pentathlon Confederation (AMPC) offering opportunities to Asian

athletes to compete internationally within their own geographical region.

Now UIPM and the AMPC will jointly oversee the pioneering Middle East Asia Championships, which is being hosted by the Kuwait Olympic Committee and Kuwait Modern Pentathlon Committee.

The competition format will be Laser Run and Kuwait City (KUW) will also host a UIPM Global Laser Run City Tour the same day, adding a further opportunity for athletes of all ages to compete for regional recognition.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "After the success of the UIPM 2023 Southeast Asia Championships it is great news that athletes in another part of Asia will be given a new opportunity to compete internationally.

"Oursportingmovementhasa significant history in Middle East Asia with Qatar having hosted three UIPM Champion of Champions in Doha, athletes from Bahrain competing in Olympic Games and World Championships, and Dubai hosting UIPM World Championships in Biathle.

"Now we have a fresh start, and the UIPM 2023 Middle East Asia Championships promises to be a wonderful celebration of sport. On behalf of the UIPM Executive Board, I am grateful to our partners in Kuwait for hosting this historic gathering."

AMPC President Hyunjun Kim added: "As President of AMPC, I am very pleased that we will have another regional development championships in Kuwait this year, after the success of the UIPM 2023 Southeast Asia Championships in Thailand in May. This is not only a proof that we, Asia become bigger and bigger with more member federations, but also a very positive signal that the AMPC will have more member federations in the future.

"I appreciate the initiative of Modern Pentathlon family in Kuwait and also express our thanks to UIPM for their support and interest in Asia. As always, we will work closely with the LOC for the successful competition in Kuwait."

## UIPM Independent Panel decides on eligibility criteria and timelines for neutral athlete applications

The Independent Panel set up to review applications from athletes with Russia or Belarus passports who apply to compete as neutral athletes in UIPM Sports has decided on the eligibility criteria, application procedure and timelines.

The panel, chaired by three-time Olympian Aya Medany OLY (Egypt) and comprising Ana Ruth Orellana (Guatemala), Dr Sungjoo Park (Korea), Nishanthe Piyasena (Sri Lanka) and Dr Harald Vervaecke (Belgium), has aligned with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in establishing the definition of neutrality of Individual Neutral Athletes.

The panel is also in line with the United Nations with regard to the protection of individuals' rights.



The UIPM JCP course in Alexandria (EGY) saw over 50 students get new certifications.

UIPM's application process opens on July 31, 2023 for those who wish to compete in UIPM Sports as Individual Neutral Athletes. No teams of athletes from Russia or Belarus will be allowed to compete, and individual athlete applicants must satisfy the Independent Panel that they have never actively supported the war in Ukraine, do not serve the Russian or Belarusian military or national security agencies, and comply with anti-doping regulations.

Very similar rules apply to the eligibility criteria for support personnel (coaches and trainers, medical staff and physiotherapists, etc).

Application forms – available on request, along with the full criteria, procedures and timelines from eligibility@pentathlon.org – must be sent to UIPM inside a window of 10 days beginning 90 days before the start of the relevant event.

### UIPM Judges Certification Programme: Judges get to grips with Obstacle in Alexandria (EGY)

istory was made at the UIPM 2023 U17 World Championships in Alexandria (EGY) when, for the first

time ever, the Obstacle discipline was integrated into a global competition.

The week marked the beginning of a new era for the sport with the Fencing/ Obstacle/Swimming/Laser Run format to be adopted at all levels of Modern Pentathlon after the Paris 2024 Olympic Games

With this new dawn very much front of mind, a hugely productive UIPM Judges Certification Programme course was run in conjunction with the event in Alexandria, with over 50 participants putting a particular focus on the new discipline.

Under the expert tutelage of UIPM JCP Educator and Technical Committee member Andrea Dell'Amore (ITA), a group of 51 students were put through their paces at Levels 1, 2 and 3 for a full week from July 6-12.

The students included 49 from the host country with three notable additions — Jawid Khawar (AFG) from Afghanistan, Abdallah Mohamad Mosa Abo Hasa (JOR) from Jordan and Vaibhav Chaphekar (IND) from India — as UIPM continues to support development of our sports in the Middle East and Asia.

















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There were nine participants in the UIPM Judges Certification Programme in Barcelona (ESP) recently, led by UIPM JCP educator Agnes Kulcsar

the course.

UIPM JCP Educator Andrea Dell'Amore (ITA) said: "This is such an exciting time for our sport with the integration of Obstacle and while we saw the athletes in Alexandria give the new discipline rave reviews, the judges are just as energetic about it!

"It's so important that we continue to work with our judges to ensure they are up to speed on Obstacle and this course was so helpful in that regard. Across the week, the standards were impressively high and I'm delighted to say that all participants passed as they continue their judging journeys."

Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation Board Member and UIPM Technical Committee Member Ali Assem said: "Alexandria's place in the history of Pentathlon will always be remembered with this first global event to include this great new discipline and everyone at EMPF was proud that we helped organise such a successful competition.

There were 20 women and 31 men on "However we're just as focused on our efforts to help continue the education of judges as they play such a key part in our sport. It was really pleasing to have worked with UIPM on organizing such a well-attended JCP course in Alexandria and I thank Andrea for his work on this course.

#### Certification **Judges** Programme: Spain prepares for its first UIPM Pentathlon Challenger

Precious Olympic places will be on the line when Madrid hosts its newly rebranded UIPM Pentathlon Challenger event later this year in Madrid (ESP).

With that in mind, a group of judges were put through the paces in Barcelona in July, taking part in a UIPM Judges Certification Programme course in Barcelona (ESP) with Levels 1,2 and 3 of certification at stake.

UIPM JCP educator and Technical Committee member Agnes Kulcsar (HUN) was on hand for the course which ran from July 5-9 and was run in conjunction with the Modern week of competition in Madrid."

Pentathlon International meeting as part of the Catalan Setmana de l'esport.

The UIPM Pentathlon Challenger Spain event takes place from September 27 to October 1 and the nine students who took part in the recent course will all be on hand in Madrid for the competition. There were eight Spaniards and one Hungarian, Sarolta Zalai, among the five men and four women on the course.

UIPM JCP educator Agnes Kulcsar (HUN) said: "This was a very dilligent group of students who were eager to learn and improve their judging skills which made for a very enjoyable course in Barcelona. I thank them for their efforts and dedication and look forward to the event in Madrid later this year."

Spanish Modern Pentathlon Federatio Technical Director Pedro Perez said: "We are all really looking forward to hosting the UIPM Pentathlon Challenger Spain in September and are focused on putting on a great competition. I thank UIPM for their support in helping ensure our judges are ready for a great

### **Inside UIPM**

Secretary General Shiny Fang's message

### Integration, enjoyment!

### innovation

**E**verything we do in UIPM, we do it with tomorrow in mind. Our traditions and heritage are important but without a plan for the future, a vision for the type of sport that our children and their children can enjoy, we are history.

Two recent UIPM competitions, the 2023 World Championships for U19 and U17 athletes, illustrate this point. When we watch athletes compete in the new version of Modern Pentathlon, especially in the integrated Obstacle discipline, we see the joy of discovery and the potential of a future in which our sport becomes more relevant and more popular within the Olympic movement.

And in terms of securing that future, we are almost there. Some hard work remains but, by the middle of October, we will know if the incredibly hard work already undertaken was worth it. My message to the hundreds of young pioneers who competed in Alexandria and Istanbul is simple: keep training and keep believing.

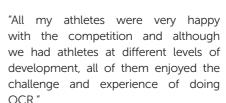
Here are some reflections about the success of these two competitions and how we can improve in future, starting with the UIPM 2023 Junior World Championships in Lithuania in September.

### Geographical diversity / accessibility

More African countries participated in the competitions, and the athletes were very proud of their performance and attendance, most of them participating for the first time in a five-discipline Pentathlon.

#### Coach / athlete feedback

The feedback received indicates a majority very satisfied with the Obstacle course. In the words of one coach, getting to the top of that finishing wall.



#### Attractiveness / spectator reaction

We saw screaming, cheering and clapping during the whole Obstacle event, everything came so naturally, and there was an impulsive excitement about the level of athletic skill and vocal support for the athletes to overcome each obstacle. I never saw a Modern Pentathlon competition with such a high • volume of spectator energy and noise.

#### Understandability

The head-to-head format is easy to understand, athletes competing for the fastest time and challenging each other to set a new competition record - at this early stage, also a world record - and to prove they are the most capable of



### Organisational efficiency

A standard course that varies with a couple obstacles from competition to competition creates a consistency of organisation and presentation arrangement, and is especially helpful with keeping costs down, making everything absolutely predictable for organisers.

#### Is there any space to improve?

- Of course, from event to event we are learning and improving, together with the evolution of athlete skill
- The two competitions have enabled us to reflect on what could be improved to arrange better events in a lot of other aspects too.
- UIPM already raised the bar of the general event organisation together with local organisers compared to previous years. Although each LOC has its unique difficulties and specialties, we clearly see where to go for the future...

















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### **Inside UIPM**

**President Dr Klaus Schormann's statement** 



UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann at the UIPM 2023 U19 World Championships which took place in the Turkish capital city of Istanbul

### Dear UIPM family, dear friends

Iready we reached the end of July in This historic year of transition for our beloved sporting movement. Together we have achieved many things, with numerous opportunities still to come.

Whether you are an athlete or coach, technical official or administrator, professional or volunteer, you are playing a part in a historic transformation. Not only can the reinvention of Modern Pentathlon futureproof our sport, it has the potential to increase the global popularity and positive impact of the Olympic Games for future generations.

In July we saw the Obstacle discipline integrated into Modern Pentathlon for

new opportunity for participants in the UIPM U17 and U19 World Championships to compete across five disciplines. We could all see the high level of enjoyment on the Obstacle course, where the standard of performance is already

I take this opportunity on behalf of the UIPM Executive Board to express gratitude to all in our movement who are working hard to make this transition as smooth as possible for athletes of all ages, all stages of development and all social backgrounds. By helping to make our movement more accessible in more countries around the world, Obstacle is a unifying force!

the first time at global level, creating a On August 3, we marked the 75th anniversary of UIPM, which was founded in Sandhurst Camberley during the London 1948 Summer Olympic Games. In this context I am delighted that we will be back in Great Britain, only a few days after the anniversary, for our flagship

> University of Bath provides a modern high-performance environment.

> August 27 will be another key milestone on the Road to Paris, with up to six direct qualification quota berths available for

> annual event. The UIPM 2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships promises to be a wonderful event. The beautiful host city of Bath is steeped in history and the Sports Training Village at the





On the final day of the UIPM 2023 U19 World Championships, UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann met with the Turkish Minister of Youth and Sports, Osman Askin Bak (centre) in his office in Istanbul (TUR) They discussed the sports movement in Türkiye as an important factor for education and health.

President Dr Schormann briefed the

American Games in Santiago (CHI).

We recently marked 1 Year To Go until

Paris 2024, where the world will see

an incredible showcase of Modern

Pentathlon at the Chateau de Versailles.

While our thoughts start to move in the

Minister about Modern Pentathlon and all combinations of five disciplines including the new challenge presented by the integration of Obstacle. A close cooperation between the Ministry of Sport of Türkiye, the Turkish Modern Pentathlon Federation and UIPM was underlined durina this meetina.

President Dr Schormann also met Prof Dr

Veli Ozan Cakir (left), President of the Turkish Modern Pentathlon Federation, in Istanbul (TUR) and they discussed the creation of new Modern Pentathlon centres in various Turkish cities and the decision of the FB of TMPF - with strong support from the Ministry for Sport and Youth - to organise numerous national and international competitions in recent years. Ankara (TUR) will host the UIPM 2024 Pentathlon World Cup Final.

the Paris 2024 Olympic Games in the direction of Paris, we remain absolutely Women's and Men's Individual Finals. And focused on delivering on the mandate soon there will be further qualification of UIPM Congress to preserve our future opportunities at the African & Oceania in the Olympic Games through the Championships in Cairo (EGY), the Asian integration of Obstacle. We know that Games in Hangzhou (CHN) and the Pan the IOC Session in Mumbai in October will decide if our road will go further than

Games in Los Angeles in 2028.

In September, we are looking forward to visiting Druskininkai in Lithuania for the UIPM 2023 Junior World Championships

Paris 2024 to the next Summer Olympic

- another landmark moment in this year of transition, a story of discovery where many actors are playing a key role.

UIPM may be 75 years old, and Modern Pentathlon in the Olympic Games may be 111 years old, yet some things never change. Everything we do follows the Olympic motto: Faster, Higher, Stronger, Together.

Dr Klaus Schormann **UIPM President** 





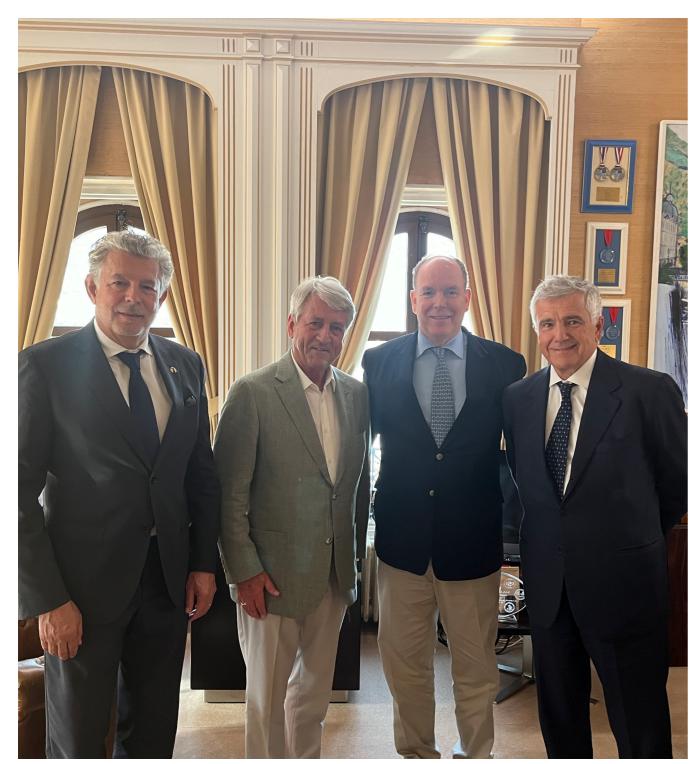












L to R: UIPM Vice President Joel Bouzou OLY, UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco (UIPM Honorary President) and UIPM 1st Vice President Juan Antonio Samaranch meet at the Palace of Monaco

### meet with HSH Prince Albert II of Presidents on July 18. Monaco

President Dr Klaus Schormann and Highness has also been a Member of President, and Joel Bouzou OLY, UIPM

As Honorary President of UIPM, HSH UIPM President Dr Schormann he Palace of Monaco was the venue Prince Albert II of Monaco has been for a strategic meeting between an active ambassador for the Modern HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, UIPM Pentathlon movement since 1997. His UIPM 1st Vice President and IOC Vice

UIPM President and Vice Presidents two of UIPM's most experienced Vice the International Olympic Committee (IOC) since 1985.

> travelled to Monaco for the meeting along with Juan Antonio Samaranch,

Vice President and World Olympians President.

Together they discussed issues of sporting politics relating to the future of Modern Pentathlon and general items concerning the Olympic movement ahead of the Paris 2024 and Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games. They also discussed the global development opportunity presented by Modern Pentathlon's new format.

Earlier in his trip to Monaco, President Dr Schormann met Dr Harald Vervaecke (President of the Belgium Modern Pentathlon Federation) to discuss the development of Modern Pentathlon in Belgium based on the new format.

UIPM President Dr Schormann also presented Dr Vervaecke with a certificate as Member of the UIPM Commission for Culture & Education, to which Dr Vervaecke has contributed for a long time with his extensive experience.

The two Presidents also spoke during their July 15 meeting about the political situation based on the military occupation of Ukraine and the possibility of neutral athletes taking part in UIPM competitions.

On July 17-18, President Dr Schormann attended UIPM Headquarters in Monaco and met with several UIPM staff for operational briefings on ongoing actions linked to international competitions and development projects in Africa and Asia.

Dr Schormann discussed with staff members important points relating to the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Bath (GBR) and key points around preparation for the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

The new format of Youth and Junior competitions with the integrated Obstacle discipline - which in 2023 has offered U19 and U17 athletes the chance to compete in a five-discipline Pentathlon at global level for the first time - was deeply discussed.



Above: UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann with Belgian NF President Dr Harald Varvaecke. Below, I to r: UIPM Events Operations Director Alexandre Franca, UIPM Development Director Maxime Papillon, UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann and UIPM Finance Director Valerie Russo



















### **Pentathlon World Rankings**

The PWR is updated live at www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at July 30, 2023

MEN			
RANK	NATION	NAME	POINTS
1	GBR	Joseph CHOONG	210
2	EGY	Mohanad SHABAN	195
3	EGY	Ahmed ELGENDY	174
4	HUN	Balazs SZEP	174
5	HUN	Csaba BOHM	173
6	MEX	Emiliano HERNANDEZ	168
7	FRA	Valentin PRADES	166
8	KOR	Changwan SEO	159
9	KOR	Woongtae JUN	155
10	EGY	Mohamed ELGENDY	152
11	FRA	Valentin BELAUD	152
12	CZE	Martin VLACH	150
13	GER	Marvin DOGUE	149
14	HUN	Richard BERECZKI	144
15	FRA	Christopher PATTE	141
16	ITA	Giorgio MALAN	133
17	HUN	Bence DEMETER	129
18	CZE	Marek GRYCZ	128
19	FRA	Pierre DEJARDIN	128
20	JPN	Taishu SATO	127

WOMEN				
RANK	NATION	NAME	POINTS	
1	ITA	Elena MICHELI	208	
2	HUN	Michelle GULYAS	190	
3	TUR	Ilke OZYUKSEL	185	
4	FRA	Elodie CLOUVEL	171	
5	ITA	Alice SOTERO	170	
6	GBR	Kerenza BRYSON	166	
7	GBR	Olivia GREEN	166	
8	EGY	Salma ABDELMAKSOUD	162	
9	GER	Rebecca LANGREHR	161	
10	FRA	Marie OTEIZA	160	
11	ESP	Laura HEREDIA	157	
12	LTU	leva SERAPINAITE	153	
13	GBR	Charlie FOLLETT	152	
14	LTU	Laura ASADAUSKAITE	150	
15	LTU	Gintare VENCKAUSKAITE	148	
16	GBR	Jessica VARLEY	143	
17	MEX	Mayan OLIVER	141	
18	HUN	Blanka GUZI	136	
19	KOR	Seungmin SEONG	136	
20	MEX	Mariana ARCEO	136	

The latest UIPM World Rankings, World Cup Rankings and Olympic Games Rankings are all 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."

### **UIPM HEADQUARTERS**

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