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UIPM 2022 PENTATHLON WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

New Modern Pentathlon world champions Elena Micheli (ITA) and Joseph Choong (GBR) pictured on Super Saturday in Alexandria (EGY)
Four nations from three continents shared the joy of gold during a captivating UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Championships in Alexandria (EGY).

Korea tasted glory in the Men’s Relay and Mixed Relay on the first and last days of the competition. Host nation Egypt won the Women’s Relay and the individual titles were won by Joseph Choong of Great Britain and Elena Micheli of Italy.

Great Britain picked up the women’s team gold medal and France won the team men’s world title.

Men’s Relay: Korea start medal plunder with gold on day one

Illustrous team-mates Woongtae Jun and Jinhwa Jung drew first blood for Korea on the opening day of the UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Championships.

The world-leading duo, who finished 3rd and 4th respectively in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, dominated the Men’s Relay to win comfortably from silver medallists Egypt (Elham Hamad & Ahmed Hamed).

The host nation, in turn, enjoyed a solid margin of success over Matous Tuma and Filip Houska of Czech Republic, who picked up bronze.

FENCING

A clear advantage from the Fencing Ranking Round enabled Korea (Jun/Jung) to claim the overall lead after a Bonus Round dominated almost entirely by two teams.

After three victories for Pierre Dejardin and Jean-Baptiste Mourcia of France, the Bonus Round was owned by Martin Gajardo and Esteban Bustos of Chile as they marched up the entire ladder winning the last eight bouts.

Not that the would-be gold and silver medallists seemed to notice. Korea (Jun/Jung) used all their experience to calmly progress through the circuits and sensibly keep some stamina back for the individual tests to come. Egypt (Hamad/Hamed) did their best to threaten an upset and finished within 8sec of the winners.

In the end, Czech Republic (Tuma/Houska) had to fight off a bold challenge from France (Dejardin/Mourcia), whose exceptional Laser Run of 11:46.20 set the tone for what promises to be a captivating week.

Fifth place went to Manuel Padilla and Dulio Carrillo of Mexico, one place ahead of China (Yu/Shuo).

A Ranking Round score of 37V/11D put Korea (Jun/Jung) in the vanguard position, followed by Dmytro Baliuk and Kyrym Shekhmanevey of Ukraine and Egypt (Hamad/Hamed) who scored 34V/14D and 33V/15D respectively.

SWIMMING

The professionalism of Korea (Jun/Jung) was evident as they extended their overall lead in the Swimming pool with the fastest time of 1.51min 37sec.

Marc Spletzer and Moriz Klinkert of Germany were the next quickest (1.52.46) ahead of the 1:53.20 recorded by Yu Zhang and Shuai Luo of China.

LASER RUN

Korea (Jun/Jung) started with a 21sec cushion over Ukraine (Baliuk/Shekhmanevey) and 29sec clear of Egypt (Hamad/Hamed), with Germany (Spletzer/Klinkert) and Czech Republic (Tuma/Houska) a further 12sec adrift and with work to do.

Indeed, it was Czech Republic (Tuma/Houska) who had to work hardest for their medal, leaving Germany (Spletzer/Klinkert) in their exhaust fumes and passing Ukraine (Baluk/Shekhmanevey) to keep pressure on the top two.

Esteban Bustos (CHI) scores a hit in the Fencing Bonus Round and, below, Swimming action

Riding

A clear advantage from the Fencing Ranking Round enabled Korea (Jun/Jung) to claim the overall lead after a Bonus Round dominated almost entirely by two teams.

After three victories for Pierre Dejardin and Jean-Baptiste Mourcia of France, the Bonus Round was owned by Martin Gajardo and Esteban Bustos of Chile as they marched up the entire ladder winning the last eight bouts.
MEDALLIST’S REACTION

Gold medallist Jun (KOR) said: “This year the 2022 season is going very well for the Korea team. It’s very important that we work as a team. We were 1st today and the women will try to do the same tomorrow.”

Team-mate Jung (KOR) added: “Egypt is a special country for me after I was individual world champion in 2017, and I was very happy to have another nice victory with my team-mate Jun today.”

Silver medallist Hamad (EGY) said: “It started very well with the Fencing with a top-three position that was very good for us. Riding was very smooth, we had a clear round. Swimming was normal and Laser Run was a little bit challenging because we had very competitive runners behind and in front of us, and we managed to keep everything together to get the silver medal.

“arrel, and having a very special victory.”

Bronze medallist Tuma (CZE) said: “The day started with good Fencing from my team-mate Filip Houska, and then the Riding was clear but it was clear from many teams so there was no difference, and then in the Laser Run we had the best shooting of our lives so far, and that was the key.

Houska (CZE) said: “Matous was maybe the fastest runner here, and he made such huge progress. We are training with Martin Vlach and working on our Laser Run all the time.”

Women’s Relay: Hosts Egypt go one better on day two

Haydy Morsy and Amira Kandil were the toast of Egypt after winning Women’s Relay gold on the second day of the UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Championships.

A day after the host nation claimed silver in the Men’s Relay thanks to Eslam Hamad and Ahmed Hamed, Tokyo 2020 Olympians Morsy & Kandil proved too hot to handle for the rest of the field.

A brave effort by Mariana Arceo and Mayan Oliver of Mexico almost ran them close, with only 7sec separating the top two teams at the end, while Korea added a bronze to their gold collected on day one, as Sehee Kim and Sunwoo Kim held off 4th-placed Wei Wang and Linzhi Xie of China.

RIDING

With six perfect rounds, including scores of 360 for Egypt (Morsy/Kandil), Mexico (Arceo/Oliver), Korea (Kim/Kim) and China (Wang/Xie), there was little to separate the main contenders.

There was, however, a significant development as Tamara Alekszejev and Rita Erdos of Hungary suffered the first elimination of the championships.

FENCING

Some athletes perform well in front of home crowds, while others crumble – Egypt’s pentathletes seem to save their best performances for these occasions. So it was no surprise to see Morsy & Kandil top the standings in the Fencing Ranking Round with 24V/11D.

The host nation added all four available points in the Bonus Round to their tally, refusing to give their rivals a glimmer of hope. Their nearest challengers on the piste were Ludovica Montecchia and Alice Rinaudo of Italy (22V/13D), Iryna Khokhlova and Valeriya Permykina of Ukraine (21V/14D + four bonus points) and Mexico (Arceo/Oliver, 21V/14D).

SWIMMING

The queens of the pool were Korea (Kim/Kim), with a time of 2min 0.91sec, but there was no major advantage gained as they were less than 1sec quicker than Italy (Montecchia/Rinaudo) and less than 2sec faster than China (Wang/Xie).
LASER RUN

Egypt (Morsy/Kandil) started with a 14sec cushion over Italy (Montecchia/Rinaudo) with Korea (Kim/Kim) 6sec further behind and Mexico (Arceo/Oliver) on the shoulders of the incumbent bronze medallists.

Indeed, the best performers in the Laser Run turned out to be Mexico (Arceo/Oliver) as the Tokyo 2020 Olympian team-mates timed an impressive 13:50. Had the hosts been a bit more sluggish, it might well have cost them gold but Egypt (Morsy/Kandil) delivered the second-best time of the day (14:05) as they secured the coveted title of world champion to delight their fans.

With Italy (Montecchia/Rinaudo) struggling to maintain their challenge, Korea (Kim/Kim) took full advantage and secured bronze with a time of 14:23.

MEDALLISTS’ REACTION

Gold medallist Morsy (EGY) said: “I’m super happy that we were leading since the Fencing – we finished 1st and in the Riding we made a clear round and won the Bonus Round. In our Swimming heat we finished 3rd, not so good, but then in the Laser Run we finished 1st. I’m super happy to be here in Egypt with the gold medal with my team-mate.”

Team-mate Kandil (EGY) said: “It was an amazing day with Haydy – the whole day was very good. To be No.1 all day, nobody in Egypt has done it like this. Yesterday we were taking pictures with the boys with their silver medals and we told them we would get the gold and they said ‘no way!”

Silver medallist Oliver (MEX) said: “We are very happy with this result. We were planning on giving our best for this relay and it ended up successful. I ran fine but I rushed my shooting.”

Bronze medallist Sehee Kim (KOR) said: “We were excited after the victory by our Men’s Relay team yesterday and we prepared well.

“Fencing was sometimes good and sometimes bad, Riding was good and Swimming was nice. In Laser Run we had some problems but we won the bronze medal and we are happy and excited.”

“I thank my team-mate Sunwoo Kim so much. It’s midnight in Korea but we already received so many congratulations.”

Sunwoo Kim (KOR) added: “We have been team-mates for 10 years so we trust each other a lot, and we are good partners and good competitors. Thank you so much to my partner, it’s very nice.”

“Riding

The opening rounds in the Men’s Riding were immaculate, enabling Woongtae Jun (KOR), Martin Vlach of Czech Republic and Elgendy (EGY) to improve their medal chances with perfect scores of 300. But Patrick Dogue (GER) suffered two knockdowns and then Jan Kuf (CZE) was unseated, resulting in instant elimination.

Into the top six, the two Valentins, Prades (FRA) and Belaud (FRA), went clear and so did Mohamed Elgendy (EGY) but both riders dropped 24 points, but final rider Choong (GBR) held his nerve to deliver the 10th clear round of the day.

Swimming

From the back of the field, Jun (KOR) did his best to make up the deficit with a winning swim of 2min 00.73sec, but...
**LASER RUN**

With a 20-second lead, Olympic champion Choong (GBR) knew exactly what he was doing and he controlled the race with consistent accuracy on the range and steady running.

Behind him, the tension was electric as Mohamed Elgendy (EGY) and Szep (HUN) made light of handicaps of 24sec and 36sec respectively. It was on the very first circuit that Szep (HUN) leapt up seven places and he never let the chasing pack get close to stealing his hard-earned bronze.

As for the battle for gold, there was almost a repeat of Tokyo 2020 as Choong (GBR) found a member of the Elgendy family threatening to rewrite the script. On every lap, the teenager made up ground on the leader, eventually coming within 4sec at the final split. But just as the home crowd were starting to dream of a fairytale, Choong (GBR) summoned his well-known energy reserves and pulled away in the closing stages of the final lap, to take the title.

Behind the top three, Patte (FRA) worked incredibly hard to finish 4th, with only Ahmed Elgendy (EGY) in 5th breaking up a French procession, as Prades (FRA) and Belaud (FRA) came home next.

Typically, Vlach (CZE) recorded the fastest time of 10:11.50 to finish 12th overall, while Szep (HUN) caught the eye with an impressive 10:14.00.

**MEDALLISTS’ REACTION**

Gold medalist Choong (GBR) was asked how the words ‘world champion’ sounded: “It sounds good. I’ve said this in interviews before but ever since I was a kid, I always wanted to say I was the best in the world at something. I won the Olympics and that’s obviously the biggest thing you can win, but world champion literally means you are number one in the world. I’ve got the set now.

“I’ve been a bit of a lazy slug this year. I took a lot of time out after Tokyo, which I think I needed mentally. I’ve been on and off with media things, my mind has been everywhere. Obviously the horse riding debate is a massive distraction and that’s still ongoing. There’s been a load of things and training has been a little all over the place this year. My
priority has been on trying to get the athlete voice represented and keep horse riding.

“One hundred percent, a gold medal in Paris is the goal going forward. This was the first competition I have taken really seriously. It’s the first time I’ve felt something close to the focus I had for Tokyo. This is the first time all year I have shaved my legs for the swim!”

Bronze medalist Szep (HUN) said ‘It was my sixth or seventh competition in this year but I’m very happy. It was an unbelievable competition for me, so it’s very good. It was very important to get a quick start. In my mind I pushed in the first 600 metres and I just focused in the shooting so it was very good.’

Women’s Final: Micheli (ITA) fights off arch-rival Gulyas (HUN)

RIDING

With the Men’s Final having served up a strong display of Riding skills earlier in the day, the Women had a high standard to reach. But they duly matched their male counterparts as 10 of the 18 competitors recorded clear rounds.

With Micheli (ITA) among those notching a perfect 300 points, she maintained her position at the front of the field but so many of the leading contenders were faultless, Clouvel (FRA), Rebecca Langrehr (GER) and Gulyas (HUN) among them. There was disappointment for home hopes as Malak Ismail (EGY) was the only one of the 18 riders to be eliminated as she took a tumble, Sunwoo Kim (KOR) also enduring a difficult time as she dropped 41 points.

FENCING

A tight Fencing Ranking Round saw Micheli (ITA) put herself in contention, topping the standings alongside Sarolta Simon (HUN) and Mayan Oliver of Mexico after a score of 22V/13D.

Clouvel (FRA) and Gulyas (HUN) stayed in touch with 20V/15D, while two of the world’s best Laser Runners, Jessica Varley (GBR) and Ozyuksel (TUR), found themselves needing to play catch-up with respective scores of 15V/20D and 13V/22D.

And catch up Ozyuksel (TUR) did, as the specialist caught fire in the Bonus Round reeling off six victories and adding 12 points to her total before Abdelmaksoud (EGY) finally brought that red-hot run to an end.

Langrehr (GER) also moved up the leaderboard as she picked up four points but the most eye-catching meeting of the round was provided by world No.1 Clouvel (FRA) and No.2 Gulyas (HUN), whose feisty showdown went the way of the Hungarian. Micheli (ITA) cemented her lead as she also picked up four points.

SWIMMING

Under the fluorescent night lights, there was clarity in the pool as the Swimming round saw the leading European trio of Micheli (ITA), Clouvel (FRA) and Gulyas (HUN) separate themselves somewhat from their rivals by going 1-2-3, leader Micheli (ITA) the only one to go sub-2:10.

Abdelmaksoud (EGY) won the second heat in the fourth-fastest overall time of 2:13.67.

Elodie Clouvel (FRA) looks focused during her Riding round in the Women’s Final in Alexandria (EGY)
Champion Elena Micheli (ITA) feels the pain on her way to the podium, below, where she is joined by Michelle Gulyas (HUN) and Ilke Ozyuksel (TUR), right.

LASER RUN
Just 18 seconds separated the leader Micheli (ITA) from Clouvel (FRA) and Gulyas (HUN) as the top three athletes in the world rankings led the field for the decisive Laser Run but with so much talent within striking distance it promised to be a pulsating conclusion.

Micheli (ITA) set off in confident mood but the first shoot saw nerves from her rivals as Clouvel (FRA) struggled through a a 25-second shoot. That opened the door to Abdelmaksoud (EGY) as Green (GBR) also moved up through the field.

The lead of Micheli (ITA) had stretched to 20 seconds by the time they reached the range for a second time but Gulyas (HUN) lit up five green lights in just eight brilliant seconds to gain ground. Abdelmaksoud (EGY) had now moved up into third with Green (GBR) climbing up into 8th place, things were definitely heating up.

As a frantic battle for bronze was playing out behind them, fierce rivals but great friends Micheli (ITA) and Gulyas (HUN) were fighting to top the podium. As both held their nerve on the final shoot, Micheli (ITA) sped away with the slightest lead only to stretch it out as she showed remarkable reserves to race clear of Gulyas (HUN) who crossed the line with a smile on her face, continuing her record of claiming a medal at every event she has competed at this year.

A stunning final shoot from Ozyuksel (TUR) completed her remarkable rise up the leaderboard and she crossed for bronze ahead of a disappointed Clouvel (FRA). Green (GBR) rose from 8th to 5th while Varley (GBR) blazed a trail from 15th all the way up to 7th.

Silver medallist Gulyas (HUN) said: “I’m very happy and very thankful to my coaches and my family and everyone who helped me achieve this second medal today. After Fencing I didn’t even think I could finish [here] in such an amazing competition so I’m very happy.

“Elena is a great athlete. I think we really enjoy racing together, we are always close after each other all the time and taking each other’s places. It’s really exciting. I love her as a person, she is a great athlete so I’m happy to compete with her.”

Bronze medallist Ozyuksel (TUR) said: “I want to cry. Normally I am so excited. Today I focused on myself, I was so relaxed, I trusted myself. I tried to do my best. Shooting was not so good but that last shooting, it got me to a bronze medal.

“I hope I can break the bronze medal and make it a gold medal but I’m really so happy because this is my first time getting a senior World Championships medal so I can’t understand my feelings, really. Thanks to my mum, of course.”

Mixed Relay: Kim & Jun finish with a flourish for Korea

Sunwoo Kim and Woongtae Jun of Korea became Mixed Relay world champions on the final day of the UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Championships.

It all started well for Korea in the Mixed Relay with a clear round in Riding.
WORLD PENTATHLON NEWSLETTER
15 JULY 2022

have edged the duel after a solid start, behind her. Women’s Individual bronze Varley (GBR) just a couple of seconds Ozyuksel (TUR) set off with world No.4 right from the start when world No.5 All the tension was behind them, and it was a slow start in the Fencing especially. But we’re really pleased to come out and get a medal. “I really enjoyed that race today. I was pleased to have a slightly faster time (than Ozyuksel) after starting behind her. Her running has improved so much this season, and I think I maybe just shot a little better. It was really fun.”

Chooong (GBR) added: “I’m pleased that we’ve done it and pleased that it’s done now, as well. As Jess said, this morning I think I almost fell asleep when we had a break in the Fencing. But after the break between the Ranking Round and the rest of it, it switched on a little bit and really enjoyed it.”

Bronze medallist Ozyuksel (TUR) said: “I’m really happy and so is my teammate, because this competition was very hard with 19 countries and top competitors. We came 2nd in the Fencing but still it wasn’t enough for the silver medal. We took bronze and we are really happy because this is World Championships, the hardest competition. And today was so hard for me because I’ve been competing for five days – and now I’m dying.”

UIPM REACTION
UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “Once again today we saw the unique team spirit of the Mixed Relay, which creates very special moments for male and female athletes competing together. We had 19 competing teams and again the nations on the podium demonstrates that Modern Pentathlon is a global sport.

“A very special thanks to our hosts in the Arab Academy, which already hosted the combined UIPM 2021 Junior and Youth World Championships here in Alexandria. They offered an excellent infrastructure with good facilities, accommodation and food and wonderful venue dressing in this very green university environment.”

“Thanks again to the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation and congratulations to everything that President Shafir Elarian, also UIPM Vice President, has achieved with his team. We never forget the support of Egypt’s Minister for Sport, Dr Ashraf Soudaby, who was present here along with Dr Hassan Moustafa, President of the International Handball Federation and Honorary President of the Egyptian Olympic Committee.”

“I admire the way athletes and coaches prepared so well in adapting to the new format and performed at a high level this season. Now we are all looking forward to the Olympic qualification season 2023 and Olympic Games season of 2024.

“Also this season we are having a successful testing phase of the New Pentathlon Discipline Test Event. I can assure athletes in all age categories that they will have an opportunity to sample Obstacle Discipline, which we are testing very thoroughly because of the potential it has to create a less costly and complex Modern Pentathlon that is more accessible to the whole world.”

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the UIPM Office.

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New Pentathlon Discipline

Test Event III in Lignano Sabbiadoro (ITA) set to give youths a glimpse of the future

Future Olympic pentathletes have been invited to experience Obstacle Discipline in the first test of the concept dedicated to youth athletes.

New Pentathlon Discipline Test Event III will be held on a beach in Lignano Sabbiadoro, Italy on September 9-10, in parallel with the UIPM 2022 Youth World Championships (U19/U17) which take place from September 4-11.

The scheduling of the event enables teenage athletes from every continent to sample Obstacle Discipline in the most inclusive and accessible test event to date. UIPM’s combined Youth World Championships typically attracts more than 400 athletes from around 40 countries.

ATHLETE COMMENTS

Two youth athletes from Italy, Under 17 national champions who are looking forward to the event.

Annachiara Allara said: “Testing the new sport will be an exciting experience that I will treasure along with the World Championships. I’m really looking forward to it!”

“T’m thrilled at the idea of climbing and twirling like an acrobat. I’d love to challenge myself out of my comfort zone.”

Denis Agavriloaie said: “I’d love to participate in the next Test Event and to be able to try the new sport that probably will take the place of Riding. I like to be challenged, and it would be stimulating to put myself out there once again.

‘At the same time I really hope that UIPM and FIPM will help the clubs where athletes spend so much time to create suitable spaces to practise this new engaging discipline.”

Yasser Hefny, UIPM Athletes Committee Chair, said: “I believe athletes aged under 19 are the most important audience for the New Pentathlon Discipline process. This is the generation most likely to be competing for medals in 2028 and beyond.

“I’m delighted for our youth athletes that they will have an opportunity in Italy to sample Obstacle Discipline – especially on the beach! It will be interesting for them and also a lot of fun.”

HOW IT WILL WORK

The format of Test Event III will differ slightly as it takes place during an existing UIPM competition.

On each of the two days, the Obstacle Discipline test will take place one hour after the end of World Championships competition. Athletes will watch a short demonstration from obstacle athletes before having a monitored training session, then concluding with a short competition.

Italian clubs in attendance will also be given the opportunity to sample the course – built on a beach for the first time, demonstrating the flexibility of the discipline – in the mornings.

The obstacle course will be tailored for youth athletes. The race set-up and management will be undertaken collaboratively between global governing bodies UIPM and World Obstacle (FISO), obstacle rights-holders Tokyo Broadcasting System Television (TBS) and Spartan Race, and course builders ATS.

UIPM COMMENTS

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “On behalf of the UIPM Executive Board I am grateful to the Italian Modern Pentathlon Federation (FIPM) for adding the third Obstacle Discipline Test Event to the schedule for the UIPM 2022 Youth World Championships in Lignano Sabbiadoro.

‘After the first test in Ankara, the feedback received was overwhelmingly positive. We are confident that the second test in Manila and third test will be equally successful.

“There will be a special focus on Under 19 and Under 17 athletes in Italy. This is important because these athletes will be approaching the peak of their careers at the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games. “I encourage all National Federations, coaches, and support teams to give athletes the opportunity to participate in the Obstacle Discipline test and discover how this discipline can be successfully integrated into Modern Pentathlon’s future in the Olympic Games.”

UIPM Executive Board Member for Development, Dr Viacheslav Malishev, said: “From a development perspective, the scheduling of the Obstacle Discipline Test Event during the UIPM 2022 Youth World Championships is important because it gives the elite athletes of tomorrow the same opportunities being given to the elite athletes of today.

“I believe there will be a lot of enthusiasm about the Test Event in Italy, and the participating athletes will learn a lot from the Obstacle specialists and enjoy their chance to train and race on the course that will be built in Lignano Sabbiadoro.”

NATIONAL FEDERATION COMMENTS

Fabrizio Bittner, Italian Modern Pentathlon Federation (FIPM) President, said: “We are very proud to host Test Event III in Italy. I had the chance to witness the impact of the new discipline at the event in Ankara and I can say it was really interesting and positive.

“Obstacle racing is spectacular and it will certainly be well accepted and popular among the youngsters. I believe that our sport must become a protagonist of change and be an ambassador for a new sport and exercise culture.”

BACKGROUND

Obstacle Discipline is undergoing an intensive pilot phase as a potential addition to Modern Pentathlon for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.

After the successful Test Event I in Ankara (TUR) on June 27-28, the action switches to Asia with Test Event II taking place from September 4-11. The Test Event II, in Manila (PHL) on September 6-8, will also serve as a test event for the Youth World Championships.

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Italian Under 17 champions Denis Agavriloaie (left) and Annachiara Allara, who are looking forward to Test Event III in Lignano Sabbiadoro (ITA) in September.

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Obstacle Discipline was selected in May 2022 for testing as UIPM explores the possibility of integrating the globally popular racing concept into Modern Pentathlon after the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

At the end of the testing and evaluation phase, UIPM 2022 Congress will vote on proposals for the LA28 Modern Pentathlon format to be submitted to the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Participants in Test Event I gave the event a resounding seal of approval in their answers to an official survey. More than nine out of 10 participating pentathletes (92%) and observers (93%) said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the overall Test Event experience.

UIPM official statement: Court of Arbitration for Sport

UIPM issued a statement on July 7 in relation to a ruling announced by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

The statement read: “UIPM welcomes today’s ruling by CAS to dismiss the appeal, along with all the claims and provisional measures, filed by the Danish Modern Pentathlon Association – assisted by the Outer Temple Chambers (London, UK) – on February 13 and confirm the award rendered on February 1 by the UIPM Court of Arbitration. “UIPM takes very seriously its legal responsibilities and abides by the UIPM Constitution and Statutes in all decision-making processes.

“The CAS ruling confirms the legality of the decision taken by the UIPM Executive Board and enables UIPM to continue its democratic and transparent efforts to provide a secure future for Modern Pentathlon in the Olympic Games through the New Pentathlon Discipline process.

“To provide more context, it is important to note that the CAS award rules that:

- The appeal filed by the Danish Modern Pentathlon Association on 13 February 2022 is dismissed;
- The award rendered by the UIPM Court of Arbitration on 1 February 2022 is confirmed;
- The costs of the arbitration [...] shall be borne by the Danish Modern Pentathlon Association;
- The Danish Modern Pentathlon Association is ordered to pay to the UIPM a total amount of [...] as contribution towards the expenses incurred in connection with these arbitration proceedings;
- All other motions or prayers for relief are dismissed.”

Korea petition continues trend of National Federation support

One of Modern Pentathlon’s top-performing nations has voiced its full support for the ongoing reform of the sport via the integration of Obstacle Discipline.

The Korean Modern Pentathlon Federation (KMPF) raised a petition with more than 600 signatures in favour of UIPM’s New Pentathlon Discipline process.

Korea has enjoyed prolific success in UIPM competitions in recent years and won its first Olympic medal at Tokyo 2020. The petition was signed by members of the Korean pentathlon community encompassing “athletes, coaches, officials and concerned persons such as family, friends and fans”.

The full article can be viewed at pentathlon.or.kr and the English translation is copied below.

In the wake of the New Pentathlon Discipline Test Event I in Ankara (TUR), which was met with overwhelmingly positive feedback, the KMPF petition continues a trend of National Federation support that began with official letters of support in November 20201 and 81% voting in favour of the New 5th Discipline consultation process at UIPM 2021 Congress.

In June 2022, Pentathlon GB – which had previously stated a preference for the retention of Riding in Modern Pentathlon – pledged “full support to UIPM in their efforts to confirm our [Olympic] status and fulfil our obligation to protect the long-term future of our sport” on the basis of a member survey. Also in June, Hungary staged an obstacle practice session for pentathletes on the outskirts of the capital city, Budapest, which also met with positive athlete and observer feedback.

UIPM’s development team is currently communicating with a wide range of pending new member federations – many of them drawn to the sport by the potential of a more secure future for Modern Pentathlon in the Olympic Games.

One lapsed member, Malta, has just restored its membership, becoming the 131st National Federation after being attracted back to the fold by the potential integration of Obstacle Discipline.

Marco Tornai, Secretary General of the Malta Modern Pentathlon Association, said: “Malta started the UIPM recognition process two years ago, working to develop the activities and to develop this historical sport.

“The New 5th Discipline was for us the real booster needed, and with this new development we can try to participate in future UIPM World Championships and World Cups.

“We would like to thank the UIPM for giving us this opportunity and FISO for always supporting us in the development of our federation.”

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “The aim of the New Pentathlon Discipline process is to transform Modern Pentathlon into one of the most popular, accessible and exciting sports in the Olympic Games.

“The first Test Event of Obstacle Discipline in Ankara was very successful and it is great news that we already have two more Test Events in the pipeline, in the Philippines and in Italy.

“Korea already supported this process by giving its elite athletes the chance to try Obstacle Discipline in Ankara, and it was very encouraging to hear that so many members of the Korean pentathlon community signed the NF petition, recognising the need for change.”

The English translation of the KMPF news article reads as follows:

Dear Pentathlon families and friends in Korea,

We, Korean Modern Pentathlon Federation are always doing our best to develop the Olympic sport, Modern Pentathlon in Korea.

As you are well aware, we are now in the midst of a wave of change.

We are going to embrace more popular sport, obstacle event, as a new 5th discipline of the Modern Pentathlon in order to keep it in the official program of 2028 LA Olympic Games and also to expand the base of the Modern Pentathlon all around the world, instead of the riding.

We consider this is a wise choice for a new turning point and a better future of the Modern Pentathlon.

In this regard, we have conducted the signature campaign in Korea and delivered the signatures (total 606 signatures from athletes, coaches, officials and concerned persons such as family, friends and fans in Korea) to UIPM, confirming that we fully support the stance of the UIPM on the way in which they are introducing replacing riding in order to stay in the Olympic Games.

Once again, we sincerely hope that the Modern Pentathlon, which we all love, will be adopted as an official event of the 2028 LA Olympic Games and beyond for the next generation.
UIPM 2022 Congress to take place online with live stream

The UIPM Executive Board has agreed that UIPM 2022 Congress should take place online. The EB met last week to discuss options after it became clear there were several factors preventing UIPM member federations from being able to travel to the Congress host city of Antigua, Guatemala in November 2022.

Members had highlighted the current high cost of travel and travel insurance, while other nations are subject to continuing Covid-19 travel restrictions with the potential for new rules to limit travel by November. The EB took the view that a fully inclusive online General Assembly, using the format successfully trialled in 2021, would be the best way to underpin the democracy of UIPM Congress.

The decision is also compatible with UIPM’s continued effort to increase efficiency and reduce costs, using the flexibility of online meetings that have proved to be very effective from a cost and a participation perspective.

Unlike in 2021, the General Assembly will be streamed live on UIPM TV for all stakeholders to watch.

The hosting right of Antigua (GUA) has been deferred by two years. The city will now host UIPM 2024 Congress, which will be an elective Congress after the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

Apply now for scholarships with World Academy of Sport and University of London

For the fourth time, pentathletes have been invited to apply for scholarships to gain an online qualification in Sport Management from the prestigious University of London (UoL). The offer is part of a Memorandum of Understanding between UIPM and the World Academy of Sport (WAoS) initiated in 2020, with a special extension for Olympic pentathletes provided by the World Olympians Association (WOA).

Scholarships are available for all participants who fulfil the criteria, starting at 25% of the course fee, while pentathletes with Olympic Games experience are invited to apply for one of four 100% scholarships via WOA.

The course has a flexible timetable and is organised remotely, enabling students to work at their own pace. It is available for current and retired pentathletes as well as for young coaches and administrators of the National Federations who would like to boost their professional careers.

Applicants should be ready to cover the remaining fee. UIPM will also be able to top up scholarships from 25% to 50% after the applications are revised. For information on how to apply, please contact UIPM as soon as possible at projects@pentathlon.org.

Masters Working Group appointed by UIPM Executive Board

The UIPM Executive Board has confirmed the composition of a five-strong Masters Working Group. All National Federations were invited to nominate candidates and applications came from four continents. After careful consideration and evaluation, the following applicants were successful:

- Andra Novicka of Latvia: experienced Masters athlete who participates in Pentathlon, Biathle,

Members of the UIPM Masters movement enjoy the joy of sport

News from around the world
Triathle and Laser Run: active international pentathlete (1994-2008); Board Member of Latvian Modern Pentathlon Federation (2021-)

- Nathalie Denoys of France: experienced Masters athlete who participates in Pentathlon, Biathle, Triathle and Laser Run; in charge of Masters Commission of French Modern Pentathlon Federation (FPPM)
- Joseph Collins Ssemmanda of Uganda: experienced sports administrator and Secretary General of the Uganda Modern Pentathlon Federation (2020-); Level 1 UIPM Coach; Chairman of Kisubi Pirates Modern Pentathlon Club
- Hairul Nazwa of Singapore: Masters athlete in cycling and endurance sports with experience in competing and preparing athletes for Asian Modern Pentathlon Championships
- Juan Quintanilla of Guatemala: former pentathlete; competing now in Masters Laser Run events.

The appointment of the Masters Working Group follows the EB decision in May to find an interim solution to the lack of any UIPM Masters Committee election until 2024. The group will work with UIPM Headquarters on ongoing matters relating to the Masters movements.

The elected representatives will begin their duties with a first virtual meeting in early August.

First CCP Level 3 course held online in English

There was another landmark for the UIPM Coaches Certification Programme (CCP) as coaches from seven countries studied for their Level 3 qualification in English.

After the success of the Level 3 online CCP course delivered in Spanish in May, 11 coaches from four different continents undertook the English course from June 14-17 and benefited from a wide array of expertise.

Alongside the Pentathlon experts who delivered lectures, external presenters offered expertise in sports management, anti-doping, psychology, physiology, physiotherapy and strength and conditioning.

After an opening lecture, ‘The Role of the Coach’, UIPM Level 4 coach Jan Bartu (GBR), UIPM Technical Committee Member Agnes Kulinicz (HUN) delivered a session entitled ‘The Importance of Rules Knowledge for the Coach’.

The rest of the syllabus included discipline-specific talks about Fencing (Freci Foldes, SVK), Swimming (Dr Genadijus Sokolovas, USA), Riding (Elena Panetti, ITA) and Laser Run (Jean Maxence Berrou, FRA).

A talk on physiotherapy and injury prevention was given by Domenico Porreca (ITA) and Marco Quattrini (ITA) spoke about management of teams and multi-disciplinary technical staff. Marco Quattrini (ITA) and Jean Maxence Berrou (FRA) are Level 4 coaches.

This was the third Level 3 course to be delivered in English, with offline editions taking place already in Hungary in 2017 and Portugal in 2019. Courses at Level 3 and 4 are generally aimed at a global rather than regional or national intake.

The course was coordinated by Level 4 coach Nilton Rolim (BRA) and the student coaches came from Afghanistan, Canada, Egypt, France, Great Britain, Greece and Italy.

A talk on physiotherapy and injury prevention was given by Domenico Porreca (ITA) and Marco Quattrini (ITA) spoke about management of teams and multi-disciplinary technical staff. Marco Quattrini (ITA) and Jean Maxence Berrou (FRA) are Level 4 coaches.

Almost 30 coaches embark on CCP Level 1 journey in Jakarta (INA)

An introduction to UIPM’s Coaches Certification Programme (CCP) enabled 28 Indonesian Modern Pentathlon coaches to get their first qualification.

The latest Level 1 CCP course took place in Jakarta (INA) from May 14-20, coordinated by UIPM Level 4 coach Nilton Rolim (BRA). The island archipelago will host the postponed 2023 Asian Games and the UIPM 2023 Biathle-Triathle World Championships.

Thanks to funding from Olympic Solidarity, the coaches also attended a week-long training clinic designed to help coaches explore improvement opportunities for athletes in each of the Modern Pentathlon disciplines.

Christian Roudaut said: “It was wonderful to hear about the success of the Level 1 course in Indonesia, which enabled 28 coaches to gain a qualification through expert tuition and also to refine their coaching techniques on the ground and Modern Pentathlon development strategy via a training clinic.”

“I would like to thank Nilton and everybody involved in this successful introductory course, and we are grateful for the support from Olympic Solidarity.”

For more information on the CCP please visit the UIPM Educational Platform at uipmworld.org.
More than 180 of Modern Pentathlon’s best up-and-coming talents gathered in Krakow (POL) for the European Youth Championships (U19/U17) from July 5-15.

For organisers, the competition doubled as a venue test for the 2023 European Games in the same city, where Modern Pentathlon will join the programme for the first time and Europe’s leading senior athletes will aim to qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

Athletes from 21 countries took part across the nine days, with 12 countries represented on the podium sharing 42 medals and France leading the way with two individual golds. Matteo Bovenzi of Italy set a new Swimming world record of 1min 51.21sec (200m pool).

For the first time, UIPM enabled a refugee athlete to compete as a member of the UIPM Refugee Team (URT) – Naya Fares, who is originally from Syria and living in Germany. And the global governing body also continued its support to Ukraine by allowing athlete Platon Iefremenko (UKR) to compete under the UIPM neutral flag.

The new individual champions are:

- U19 women: Lucie Hlavackova of Czech Republic
- U19 men: Etienne Clergeau (FRA)
- U17 women: Emma Meszaros of Hungary
- U17 men: Karl Fuderer (FRA)

Janusz Peciak OLY, UIPM Executive Board Member for Sport, said: “The atmosphere of the competition was great. The young athletes showed a lot of enthusiasm and passion, friendship and high performance. Almost all coaches were very pleased with the organisation and high-level competition.”

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann attended the competition and inspected facilities as well as meeting the Mayor of Krakow, Jacek Majchrowski, and high-level competition. “The young athletes showed a lot of enthusiasm and passion, friendship and high performance. Almost all coaches were very pleased with the organisation and high-level competition. We were very pleased with the organisation and high-level competition.”

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann attended the competition and inspected facilities as well as meeting the Mayor of Krakow, Jacek Majchrowski.

For everyone who takes part in Manila this weekend, Test Event II will be a great opportunity, giving Asian athletes the chance to try out Obstacle Discipline and interact with obstacle specialists again after some of them enjoyed the experience in Ankara.

For many of those countries, the reality is they could never produce full pentathletes capable of pursuing their Olympic dream. At least not until now …

By taking a close look at Test Event II in Manila, we will also see a glimpse of Modern Pentathlon development in Asia and who could fail to be excited about the possibilities there?
President Dr Klaus Schormann’s activities

01.07. – 03.07.2022: Munich, GER

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann attended three days of celebrations and memorials marking 50 years since the Olympic Games Munich 1972.

On July 2 Dr Thomas Bach, International Olympic Committee (IOC) President, gave a very special speech including a solemn reminder of the terrible attack perpetrated on Israeli athletes and team members by Palestinian terrorists during the Games.

President Dr Bach unveiled the Olympic Rings in the Olympic Park during a ceremony also attended by representatives of the German national, Bavarian regional and Munich city governments.

President Dr Schormann worked as Deputy Competition Manager of Modern Pentathlon during the Olympic Games in Munich 1972. He had the opportunity to be reunited with former colleagues and to meet with current Olympic dignitaries such as Spyros Capralos, European Olympic Committees (EOC) President, IOC Member and Hellenic Olympic Committee President.

06.07.2022: Berlin, GER

The UIPM President attended a reception at the Government of Hesse for members of the political, business, sport and culture societies. The event was hosted by Boris Rhein, the newly-elected Minister-President of the Hesse region.

06.07.2022: New Pentathlon Discipline Ad-Hoc Working Group

The UIPM ad-hoc working group set up to manage the first two New Pentathlon Discipline Test Events in Ankara (TUR) and Manila (PHI) met online to recap on Test Event I and discuss preparations for Test Event II. President Dr Schormann gave a brief introduction and addressed the group, underlining the importance of sponsorship, spectator experience and a communications action plan.

08.07. – 11.07.2022: Krakow, POL

President Dr Schormann attended several important strategic meetings during a visit to the European Youth Championships (July 5-10).

He joined Janusz Peciak OLY (UIPM Executive Board Member for Sport, Polish Modern Pentathlon Association President and Montreal 1976 Olympic champion), Anna Bajan (Executive Board Member of the European Modern Pentathlon Confederation) and Jacek Majchrowksi (Mayor of Krakow) to speak about the future of Modern Pentathlon and the 3rd European Games, which will be held in Krakow-Malopolska from June 21 to July 2, 2023.

This will be the first time Modern Pentathlon has been on the programme and the European Youth Championships served partly as a venue test. The President and Mayor also raised
political and cultural matters relating to the conflict in Ukraine and President Schormann underlined the important role Poland is playing.

Presidents Schormann and Peciak and UIPM Executive Assistant Lena Nussbaumer attended a media opportunity with two journalists in one of Krakow’s most famous restaurants (the main restaurant of leading soccer club WISLA Krakow 1906 and other sporting institutions). Dr Schormann gave an interview to Darek Zastawny about the opportunities presented by the future steps UIPM is taking, as well as the 2023 European Games where European athletes will be aiming to qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

18.07. – 19.07.2022: Monaco

President Dr Schormann had a two-day visit to UIPM Headquarters where he met staff members to discuss the ongoing New Pentathlon Discipline process. He also met with Operations Director Dr Alexandre Franca to discuss the latest situation of Ukrainian athletes in relation to UIPM competitions and training possibilities in countries where they are living.


UIPM President Dr Schormann spent more than a week in Alexandria attending the flagship UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Championships and meeting key stakeholders from National Federations and from the Egyptian and global sports movements.

On July 25 he spoke at a press conference hosted by the Arabic Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport, congratulating the competition host on its 50th anniversary. He also officially opened the competition.
at the Opening Ceremony.

On July 27 the UIPM President and Executive Board colleagues visited the Bibliotheca Alexandrina library and had a discussion about the history of this important institution with the news technology of communication for students and universities worldwide. The Head of the Bibliotheca, Prof Dr Sherif Riad, provided a general briefing about national and international activities. Dr Schormann hosted various guests of honour during the competition, including Dr Hassan Moustafa, International Handball Federation (IHF) President and Honorary President of the Egyptian Olympic Committee, a strong supporter of Modern Pentathlon. He also had a discussion with the Egyptian Minister for Youth and Sport, Dr Ashraf Sobhy, about national sport movements and the promotion of sport as a basis for health, high performance and integration as an important pillar for a more peaceful world. Minister Dr Sobhy offered through his government strong support for the development of Modern Pentathlon in relation to new UIPM federations in Africa. They both underlined that together in solidarity should be the slogan for this work.

On July 29, President Dr Schormann hosted a meeting of UIPM Executive Board (EB) Members present in Alexandria (EGY) to discuss topical matters of Modern Pentathlon in preparation for the Olympic Games Paris 2024 and actions linked to the New Pentathlon Discipline, which will replace Riding after the 2024 season.

They also discussed the ongoing series of test events in Ankara (TUR), Manila (PHI) and Lignano Sabbiadoro (ITA), with a fourth test event to be announced soon.

On July 29, the UIPM President joined EB Member for Marketing, Martin Dawe, in a meeting with the new CEO of Pentathlon GB, Trafford Wilson. They discussed the present and future relationship between the two bodies, as well as preparations for the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in Bath (GBR) and the New Pentathlon Discipline Test Events.
Pentathlon World Rankings

The PWR is updated live at www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at 1 August 2022:

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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.”

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