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UNION INTERNATIONALE  
DE PENTATHLON MODERNE



## World Pentathlon Newsletter

### CONTENTS

- Paris 2024 Olympic Games qualification - p.2
- Voyage to Paris 2024: Part III - p.8
- New Pentathlon Discipline - p.10
- Laser Run Spotlight - p.14
- ON SITE: UIPM 2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships - p.20
- Para Sports Spotlight - p.22
- News from around the world - p.23
- Inside UIPM: Secretary General's Message - p.32
- Inside UIPM: President's Activities - p.34
- Pentathlon World Rankings - p.40

## 3RD EUROPEAN GAMES: DOUBLE GOLD FOR ITALY



Italy's Alice Sotero, left, and Giorgio Malan savour victories at the European Games in Krakow (POL), securing Paris 2024 Olympic qualification quota places





# Paris 2024 Olympic Games qualification



Women’s medalists, from left, Laura Heredia (ESP), Alice Sotero (ITA) and Olivia Green (GBR) take a moment to pause for a post-ceremony selfie.

## 3rd European Games: Sotero and Malan lead Italian charge to gold and Olympic qualification

Sixteen athletes have earned their countries direct qualification quota places at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games with outstanding performances at the 3rd European Games.

On the penultimate day of the multi-sport Games in Krakow-Malopolska (POL), eight women and eight men competed for the third time in the competition and it was team-mates Alice Sotero and Giorgio Malan of Italy who were crowned new European champions after topping the standings.

World-record breaker Sotero (ITA) won the Women’s Final ahead of silver medallist Laura Heredia of Spain and

Olivia Green of Great Britain, who claimed bronze.

The women’s medalists were joined by the following five athletes in attaining a direct Olympic qualification quota place for their country:

- Laura Asadauskaite of Lithuania
- Marie Oteiza of France
- Michelle Gulyas of Hungary
- Annika Zillekens of Germany
- Lucie Hlavackova of Czech Republic

Sotero (ITA), who finished 4th at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, was at the top of her game for most of the event, winning the Fencing Ranking and Bonus Rounds as well as Swimming, and scoring 293 in Riding.

She was rewarded with a new overall Modern Pentathlon world record of 1,443 points, with Heredia (ESP) – who could become the first Spanish woman to compete in an Olympic Modern Pentathlon next year – and Green (GBR) also exceeding the previous record of 1,424 held by Blanka Guzi (HUN).

A new world Laser Run record was set in the Women’s Semi-finals by Guzi (HUN), who posted an exceptional time of 10min 48.90sec. The previous record held by Gintare Venckauskaite (LTU) was also bettered in the Final by team-mate Asadauskaite (10:50.10), Venckauskaite herself (10:54.40) and Green (GBR, 10:57.40).

Later, Malan (ITA) was the shock winner of the Men’s Final after destroying a



Patrick Dogue (GER) in action during the Riding discipline of the Men’s Final at the 3rd edition of the European Games in Krakow (POL)

packed field to achieve an eventually comfortable victory over Tokyo 2020 Olympic champion Joseph Choong (GBR), who won silver as Csaba Bohm (HUN) picked up bronze. Malan (ITA) even tied the current world record of 1,534 points set by Woongtae Jun of Korea earlier this season.

The three medalists were joined by the following five athletes in attaining a direct Olympic qualification quota place for their country:

- Valentin Prades of France
- Marvin Dogue of Germany
- Lukasz Gutkowski of Poland
- Oleksandr Tovkai of Ukraine
- Alexandre Dallenbach of Switzerland

A total of 18 Paris 2024 direct quota

qualification places have now been achieved, after the earlier success of Elena Micheli (ITA) and Mohanad Shaban of Egypt at the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Final in Ankara (TUR).

As the action came to an end in Krakow (POL), Germany won Women’s Team gold with silver and bronze going to Lithuania and Hungary respectively. Great Britain took the Men’s Team gold and there were medals for France (silver) and Italy (bronze).

Earlier in the week, Czech Republic (Karolina Krenkova and Martin Vlach) won the Mixed Relay, with Hungary (Kamilla Reti and Mihaly Koleszar) winning silver and Great Britain (Jessica Varley & Samuel Curry) winning bronze.

## CHAMPIONS’ REACTION

Women’s gold medallist Sotero (ITA) said: “There were so many times I could get a medal, I think the last one was in 2019, so to win gold here in front of my family and coaches, it’s very funny and beautiful. I think the conditions were similar to an Olympic Games, so we could try to feel like we were competing as Olympians here. I think I need to focus more on Fencing and Shooting, which were the most important disciplines for me here.

“I think it’s the first time a woman and man from the same team won the gold medal at this level of competition, so it’s beautiful for us, and good for future competitions like this. I am happy with how I came back after the pregnancy, and now I qualified for Paris and I will





The competition was unsurprisingly fast and fierce on the piste in the Fencing Bonus Round of the Women's Final at the European Games.



Action from the Swimming discipline in the Women's Final in Krakow (POL).

try my best there. I hope something will happen different to Tokyo."

Men's champion Malan (ITA) said: "My running is good, and I tried to go at my pace. My focus was on shooting, because sometimes my shooting is not so good. Today it was good enough, and I'm super happy. My focus has been really on Paris these past two years. So I can't really think about what will happen after Riding is replaced. Ask me after Paris."

UIPM PRESIDENT'S REACTION

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "First of all, let me say thank you that we were allowed to have Modern Pentathlon in the programme of the European Games, with the Olympic qualification for eight women and eight men. It was excellent promotion for our sport to be seen together with other sports like we have in the Olympic Games.



The Women's Final was an energy-sapping affair in Krakow (POL)

"Everything that was prepared for this competition was at a high level, also the horses were the best horses of the season, and both men and women performed in such a way that I'm very proud of. This is a message to the world. The Spanish athlete, it was a surprise that she was able to get on the podium, also the Italians winning two times, there is a dynamic of different countries producing athletes who can win.

"The athletes were so focused, but also fair, in the competitions, I must say thank you to all the coaches for the way they prepared their athletes for this very important qualification competition for Paris 2024.

"We are so united in our movement, and that makes me very proud, and I am thankful to all the referees and volunteers who made it happen. Congratulations to



Reigning Olympic champion Joseph Choong (GBR) moves ahead of experienced rival Valentin Prades (FRA) to secure a quota qualification place for next summer's games in Paris with silver.





Men's champion Giorgio Malan (ITA) on the podium with Joseph Choong (GBR) and Csaba Bohm (HUN)



Mixed Relay honours went to Czech Republic with Hungary second and Great Britain taking bronze.

the Organising Committee, and to the European Olympic Committees President Spyros Capralos and his team, and to the people of Poland who supported this European Games and especially the Modern Pentathlon competition, which I am sure they enjoyed very much."

European Modern Pentathlon Confederation (ECMP) President Tatiana Ardaieva added: "The long-awaited debut of Modern Pentathlon at the European Games was impressive, thrilling and held at a very high level. The European Confederation went

through a thorny path to achieve its dream to be included in the Games and the reward for this was the brilliant performance of Modern Pentathlon at the European Games.

"Dear European athletes! Thank you very much for your skills and dedication to Modern Pentathlon.

"Dear European coaches and officials! Thank you very much for your impact in bringing up such a talented generation of athletes who demonstrate their excellence from competition to competition.

"On behalf of the European Modern Pentathlon Confederation I would like to thank the Polish Modern Pentathlon Association, without which this event would not happen. ECMP expresses its sincere gratitude to Krakow-Malopolska 2023 for their hard work.

"I sincerely thank all my colleagues of ECMP Executive Board for unity, friendship and professionalism in the course of our preparation for the Games. And in conclusion: I express my personal sincere gratitude to UIPM President Dr Klaus Schorman for his permanent support, for believing in us in our activities, for being always with us and always aware of what is going on in his sport at every continent.

"Long lives Modern Pentathlon, the sport which is always ready to inspire!"

#### UIPM rebrands four Paris 2024 qualification events as Pentathlon Challengers

The first 18 Modern Pentathlon qualification places at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games have been secured and now a rebranding initiative from UIPM aims to add prestige and relevance to all competitions on the road to Paris.

The UIPM Executive Board has agreed to a proposal – first tabled at UIPM 2022 Congress – for numerous competitions to be assigned the status of UIPM Pentathlon Challenger.

The Pentathlon Challenger label in the Paris 2024 cycle applies to a series of four Olympic ranking competitions run by National Federations outside of the UIPM competition circuit, and they are as follows:

- UIPM 2023 Pentathlon Challenger Poland | Drzonkow (POL), August 1-6, 2023
- UIPM 2023 Pentathlon Challenger Spain | Madrid (ESP), 27 Sep - 1 Oct, 2023
- UIPM 2023 Pentathlon Challenger Kyrgyzstan | Bishkek (KGZ), October 14-18, 2023
- UIPM 2024 Pentathlon Challenger Egypt | Cairo (EGY), January 25-28, 2024

Points achieved by athletes in all Pentathlon Challenger competitions count towards their ranking in the Olympic Pentathlon World Rankings. The rebrand is also designed to standardise actions and procedures for the four competitions in the series and give more visibility, clarity and adherence to the Olympic qualification pathway.

UIPM Executive Board Member for Sport, Janusz Peciak OLY, said: "The new Pentathlon Challenger competition is a great opportunity to earn Olympic Games qualification ranking points for those athletes who do not earn a direct qualification quota place for Paris 2024. The top six athletes in the OPWR can qualify for the 2024 Olympics, and the Challenger events in Africa, Asia and Europe can help them accumulate the points they need. Sometimes one point can decide who will become an Olympian."

UIPM Executive Board Member for Development, Dr Viacheslav Malishev, added: "I am happy to see the first step towards creation of a new competition series which will help develop Modern Pentathlon around the world."

**UIPM PENTATHLON CHALLENGER**  
1-6 August 2023, Drzonkow - Poland

**UIPM PENTATHLON CHALLENGER**  
27 Sep – 1 Oct 2023, Madrid - Spain

**UIPM PENTATHLON CHALLENGER**  
14-18 October 2023, Bishkek - Kyrgyzstan

**UIPM PENTATHLON CHALLENGER**  
25-28 January 2024, Cairo - Egypt

Four competitions in 2023 and 2024 have now been rebranded as UIPM Pentathlon Challengers



# VOYAGE TO PARIS 2024

## Olympic Games countdown: Part III



The opening ceremony of the 1924 Olympic Games at the Stade de Colombes in Paris where a tribute was paid to Pierre de Coubertin. (Picture: IOC)

## Leading off...

**A century later, a world of changes are evident and yet Paris 1924 still impacts the Games of today**

In this breathless era of breakneck change and an always-on digital world, going back a century feels like an indulgence. But it's a pertinent time to do so.

As July dawns we are now officially just 12 months away from the Paris 2024 Games. But one of the most compelling reasons the greatest show on earth is returning to the French capital is to mark the centenary of its last time hosting an Olympics.

The 1924 Games are widely seen as a coming-of-age moment for the Modern Olympics with the scale and the reach of the event surpassing anything that had come before. There were significant

firsts and there was also something of a swansong for the mastermind behind it all.

Baron Pierre de Coubertin would step down as IOC President the following year but first he saw his home city put on one hell of a show. While the official opening ceremony at Stade de Colombes took place on July 5, competition had actually started as far back as May 4, meaning events stretched for almost three months to the closing ceremony on July 27.

Paris 1924 was the first Games to feature an Olympic Village and also the first to be broadcast on radio with more than 1000 journalists covering the Games.

But what of Coubertin's beloved creation? Modern Pentathlon too was coming of age, Paris marking its third Olympic Games. The competition attracted 38 pentathletes from 11 nations with the United States breaking a European monopoly.

The five disciplines took place over seven days at venues across and far afield from Paris. First up was Shooting which was held in Versailles, where Pentathlon will return 100 years later next summer. Official capacity at Le Stand de Tir de Versailles was listed at just 82!

Next was Swimming where normal order took hold as Sweden, the country that utterly dominated the early era of Olympic Modern Pentathlon, took charge. Bo Lindman was fastest in the pool and would race all the way to gold after a third in Fencing, fourth in the Riding and winning the cross-country Running. Compatriots Gustaf Dyrssen and Bertil Uggla ensured another Swedish clean sweep. Within a decade, though, their absolute dominance would begin to fade.

The success of Paris 1924 ensured that more athletes and more nations wanted to be a part of the action. Almost a century on, that legacy remains strongly intact today.

## > Paris Pointer

**Heredia (ESP) makes a little bit of history as Dallenbach (SUI) bridges a 20-year gap**

In the flash of an eye we have reached the stage of Olympic qualification that has observers putting down form books and instead reaching for history books.

The 3rd edition of the European Games in Krakow (POL) had a whopping 16 direct qualification quota places on the line, eight for female and eight for male athletes. And there were a lot of the faces you would expect to be there snapping up the golden tickets - we're talking about the likes of defending Mens Olympic champion Joseph Choong of Great Britain or Hungary's prolific Michelle Gulyas.

But sprinkled in among this sweet 16 were many amazing human stories — and a little bit of history. While her brilliant form in 2023 had led Laura Heredia to the brink of cracking the top 10 in the world rankings, the Spaniard was still going up against an entire Olympic history in her qualification quest.

No Spanish woman has ever competed in Modern Pentathlon at the Olympic Games, and all that looks set to change in Versailles next summer after Heredia earned a stunning silver medal in Krakow last week. That podium is in keeping with an upward curve that has seen the 23-year-old from Barcelona notch up three top-10 finishes at UIPM Pentathlon World Cups over the past year.

Heredia, who finished 6th in the Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games, will now follow in the footsteps of elder brother and Tokyo 2020 Olympian Aleix.

Alexandre Dallenbach isn't quite at the opposite end of the career spectrum to Heredia, but the Swiss could be labelled a veteran. He is nine years older than his Spanish counterpart for a start!

And while he might not be making the kind of groundbreaking history in Paris



Laura Heredia gets emotional as she celebrates silver in Krakow (POL) and a Paris 2024 berth

that Heredia will, Dallenbach (SUI) will nonetheless be bridging a hell of a gap.

Switzerland hasn't had an individual male Olympian in Pentathlon for 20 years (since Niklaus Brunischolz at Athens 2004). But after grabbing the 8th and final men's quota spot on offer in Krakow, Dallenbach's remarkable sporting life will now take him to an Olympic pinnacle. More incredible stories are sure to follow both he and Heredia (ESP) to Paris.

## Numbers game

4 Winning one Olympic medal is hard enough, often the culmination of a lifetime's work. It's what makes them so precious. But the medals designed for Paris 2024 give winners a little more to hang on to. Each gold, silver and bronze handed out next summer will be able to be split into four, thanks to the design by

French master Philippe Starck. "Today, more than ever, the truth is that you're not winning alone, so I wanted this medal to reflect that," Starck has explained.

## 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](http://uipmworld.org/olympic-games)



New Pentathlon Discipline



The poll of 1,500 US citizens found that nearly half of young people are more likely to watch the Olympics with Obstacle introduced to Modern Pentathlon

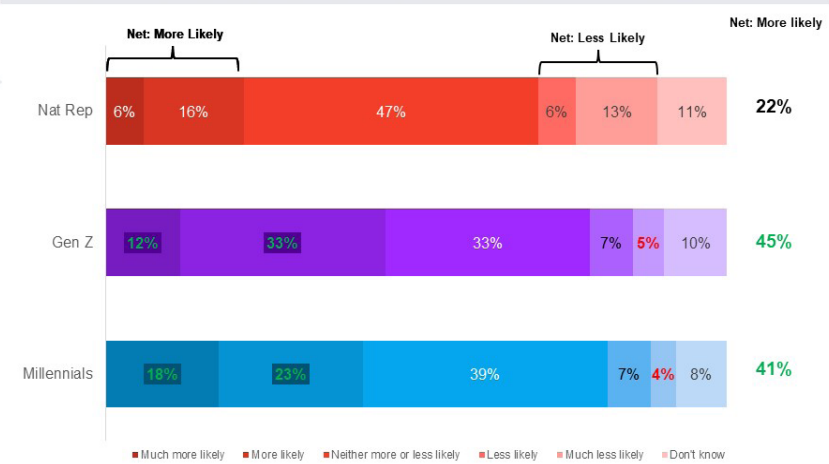
Modern Pentathlon with Obstacle will boost popularity of Olympic Games, according to US public survey

Nearly half of young people in the United States are more likely to watch and follow the Olympic Games once Modern Pentathlon has introduced Obstacle to the programme, a new survey has found.

A poll of 1,500 US citizens undertaken by YouGov, the global public opinion and data company, found that 45% of Generation Z (born in 2000 and later) and 41% of Millennials (born between 1982 and 1999) were more likely to watch the Olympic Games on TV if it featured a Ninja-style Obstacle race. Taken as a percentage of the US population this would equate to nearly 45 million more people watching the Games.

The survey also found that 42% of Gen Z and 41% of Millennials were more

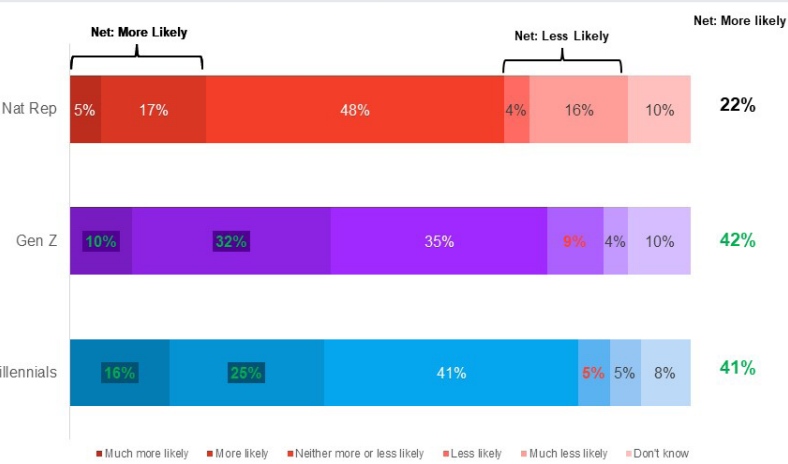
Likelihood to follow the Summer Olympic Games via TV/online stream as a result of including an obstacle race



Question: How much would the addition of a Ninja-style obstacle race make you more or less likely to watch the Summer Olympic Games via TV or online stream?  
Base: Nat Rep n=300, Gen Z n=300, Millennials n=300  
Green text = significantly higher than Nat Rep, at 95%  
Red text = significantly lower than Nat Rep, at 95%

likely to follow the Olympic Games on social media if it featured a Ninja-style Obstacle race, with one in two Gen Z and Millennials surveyed stating that they watch Obstacle racing shows. As displayed in the above graphic, when asked 'How much would the addition of a Ninja-style Obstacle race make you more or less likely to watch the Olympic Games on TV or online stream?', 12% of Gen Z respondents said they would be 'much more likely' to do so and 33% said they would be

Likelihood to follow the Summer Olympic Games via Social media as a result of including an obstacle race



Question: How much would the addition of a Ninja-style obstacle race make you more or less likely to follow the Summer Olympic Games via social media?  
Base: Nat Rep n=300, Gen Z n=300, Millennials n=300  
Green text = significantly higher than Nat Rep, at 95%  
Red text = significantly lower than Nat Rep, at 95%

'more likely'. A higher proportion of Millennials (18%) answered 'much more likely' with 23% saying 'more likely'.

When asked above 'How much would the addition of a Ninja-style Obstacle race make you more or less likely to follow the Olympic Games via social media?', 10% of Gen Z respondents said they would be 'much more likely' to do so and 32% said they would be 'more likely', while 16% answered 'much more likely' and 25% 'more likely'.

A new Obstacle discipline is currently being integrated into Modern Pentathlon at junior and youth levels, and senior athletes will fully adopt the change after the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. More than two-thirds (37%) of

survey respondents said they would be more likely to watch the new-look Modern Pentathlon at the Olympic Games, and 46% of those cited enjoying Ninja-style Obstacle races as the reason, with 34% describing the reason for their answer: 'I think the Modern Pentathlon needs to embrace change'.

Obstacle shows were also considered highly entertaining, engaging and challenging by survey respondents – outscoring both the Olympic Games and Modern Pentathlon on these keywords.

UIPM has proposed a transformative Modern Pentathlon comprising Fencing, Obstacle, Swimming and

Laser Run for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games, following a request from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to demonstrate how the sport can be more compatible with the criteria for inclusion in LA28.

The YouGov survey was commissioned by UIPM as a first formal step in assessing the new sport against two of those criteria in particular:

- Recognising global appeal to fans across the world, and host country interest.
- Prioritising gender equality and youth relevance to engage new fans and athletes.

Ahead of the IOC Session in Mumbai (IND) where the composition of the LA28 sporting programme will be decided, further public research will be undertaken by UIPM and analysed alongside the views of athletes and other participants in the upcoming UIPM 2023 Pentathlon U17, U19 and Junior World Championships, as well as feedback from organisers and participants in national and continental competitions.

You can also read the UIPM brochure, A Perfect Match: The New Modern Pentathlon and LA28 on the UIPM website or contact [uipm@pentathlon.org](mailto:uipm@pentathlon.org) to request a copy.



A new Obstacle discipline is currently being integrated into Modern Pentathlon at junior and youth levels with seniors to follow after Paris 2024.





Lithuania became the first organiser to deliver a continental competition with the new Modern Pentathlon discipline of Obstacle included.

Obstacle integration takes major step forward at European Youth Championships in Lithuania

In a season of historic firsts, Lithuania is playing a lead role.

By hosting the 2023 European Youth Championships (U17 and U19) in Druskininkai in May and June, the Baltic nation became the first organiser to deliver a continental competition with the new Modern Pentathlon sequence of Fencing, Obstacle, Swimming and Laser Run.

In September, the same venue will play host to the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon Junior World Championships, bringing together a new world order with many nations expected to send athletes to compete in a full Pentathlon for the first time.

This was an important step, building on the experience of 12 nations that already organised competitions in 2023 with the new-look Modern Pentathlon. So how did it go? We interviewed the following people for an in-depth update:

- Justinas Kinderis (JK), Secretary General of the Lithuania Modern Pentathlon Federation (LMPF), 2013 world champion

- Andrea Dell’Amore (AD), UIPM Technical Delegate
- Alexandre Franca (AF), UIPM Operations Director

THE ORGANISER  
Doing something for the first time can be challenging. How was your experience of hosting the first continental competition with Obstacle?

JK: Well, the preparation was really challenging, because nobody knew how it would work and where we should get the obstacles, and this is still a challenge for other federations. But we had good support from UIPM, and the mat providers and obstacle providers did a really good job. Everything came on time. A few days before the competition we had the course fully set up with UIPM branding.

Did participating athletes get a chance to test the Obstacle course before the competition?

JK: One day before the start, we opened up the course for free training. We had really good facilities for the other disciplines too – 10am-7pm. This was really good for athletes. As a former athlete, I know it’s good to have flexible time for training before a competition.

What kind of post-event feedback did

you get from participants and where do you see room for improvement ahead of the World Juniors?

JK: From our side, we had so much good feedback from federations, athletes and coaches and international competitions. We invested a lot in this competition because we are looking to the future, and it won’t be the last one. We want our National Federation to be associated not only with good athletes but as a good competition organiser, too. And it all starts with youth. In September we are planning to have an even better quality competition in collaboration with UIPM. The competition part will be small improvements, can change facilities like branding, TV broadcasting, we had normal levels for Youth but not enough for World Junior. For sure, more people will watch and we have to show that more people should join this sport..

THE TECHNICAL DELEGATE  
As the person with technical oversight of the competition in Druskininkai, can you please comment on the success of this first integration of Obstacle into Modern Pentathlon at continental level?

AD: Indeed it was my first official competition with Obstacle and on my personal side, everything was almost perfect, very good quality of the course and also everything fine in terms of



In September the host city Druskininkai (LTU) will stage the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon Junior World Championships, where more history will be made

safety. The level of our athletes is already very good, pentathletes can adapt themselves to any kind of sport, we had only very few eliminations due only to a lack of training. Another crucial point was also the perfect integration of Obstacle into the new format. Almost all the athletes and the coaches were really satisfied, I had very good feedback.”

What was your personal feeling, experiencing the Obstacle discipline on the field of play for the first time?

AD: In my personal opinion, the Obstacle competition was really exciting. During the Men’s Individual Final I felt like I was in a stadium with the cheering of the audience, and I hope this is only the first step in making our beloved sport known to the whole world.

THE VIEW FROM HEADQUARTERS  
Obstacle has been integrated into Modern Pentathlon in national competitions in more than 20 countries worldwide and now at European level.



There was widespread positive feedback among athletes to the competition in Lithuania

Can you comment on the successes and learnings of the process so far?

AF: The event in Lithuania was very well managed by the LMPF, setting up the first UIPM Obstacle Competition Kit provided via the tender conducted by the Union earlier this year. The athletes enjoyed correct preparation, the quality of obstacles and safety mattresses was guaranteed, and the event passed without injuries. Feedback forms were distributed to athletes and coaches and all collected

info will be analysed for presentation to internal stakeholders aiming at the improvement of the new discipline quality standards. We are grateful to all of the nations that organised competitions with the newly-integrated Obstacle discipline so far in 2023. Countries like Lithuania are leading the way for others to follow and we look forward to returning to Druskininkai for the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon Junior World Championships in September.



LASER RUN  
SPOTLIGHT

Around the world in  
16 amazing days



Athletes of all ages had the chance to sample Laser Run during the GLRCT in Eco Park in Tashkent (UZB)

**Kuwait marks a moment of history and Lithuania goes from strength to strength**

A hectic three months at the elite level of Modern Pentathlon has been mirrored all the way down the development pipeline, with the Global Laser Run City Tour continuing to expand into new territories and communities across the world.

Kuwait became the latest nation to host its first event while Lithuania, a year after embracing GLRCT for the first time, played host to three successful tours already in 2023. Here’s the lowdown on 16 of those amazing days ...

**MARCH**  
**Kuwait City (KUW)**

- **Thursday March 9**
- **Kuwaiti Olympic Committee Stadium**

- **270 participants**

Local Organizing Committee representative: “The Kuwaiti Modern Pentathlon Committee has hosted its first Global Laser Run City Tour thanks to great co-operation from UIPM. The 270 athletes ranged in 10 different age groups from Under 9 all the way up to Masters 50+).

“After the competition, Kuwaiti Olympic Committee Executive Director Mr. Mohammad Saeed Al-Khelfan and KMPC President Mr. Fawaz Aljassar crowned the winners on the Olympic Committee stage.”

**Alexandria (EGY)**

- **Saturday March 18**
- **Fleet Sporting Club**
- **More than 400 participants**

Head of local competitions committee, Mr. Shady said: “The Fleet Club is a well-known sport club within the Egyptian Armed Forces. The best thing in this club is that the swimming pool is very close to the running course which is very good for the watching audience.

“The club’s mission is community participation and giving all young people the opportunity to practice sports. Over 15 clubs from across the country gathered more than 400 male and female athletes from Under 9 to Masters 60+ to show off their Laser Run prowess.

“One of the most important features of this competition is that it was filmed and broadcast live on the federation Facebook page, With more than 4 cameras placed in a different place all over the stadium! We received very positive feedback from all of the sponsors and followers.”

**Tashkent (UZB)**

- **Wednesday March 22**
- **Eco Park**
- **300 participants**

LOC spokesperson: “Competitions were held in the most natural place in the city - Eco Park. The age of the 300 participants ranged from 7 to 60 years old. After the race, a lunch was organized at which everyone was given pizza, water and drinks.

“At the event, many people got to know our sport and began to show interest. What was also important for the popularization of the Modern Pentathlon in Uzbekistan was the coverage of events on local television and media.”

**APRIL**  
**Tbilisi (GEO)**

- **Saturday April 22**
- **Tbilisi Olympic Village Stadium**
- **Around 100 participants**

LOC official Gaga Khijakadze: “Up to 100 young athletes from across the country participated in the event coming from cities including Sachkhere, Tchiatura, Gori, Rustavi and Tbilisi.

“It’s always a pleasure to see how young athletes are competing with each other to achieve their goals — standing on the podium. I’m glad that Georgia is part of these memorable events since 2017.”

**Siauliai (LTU)**

- **Sunday April 23**
- **Siauliai Stadium**
- **190 participants**

First-time Laser Runner: “It was great. I didn’t expect such adrenaline. I may have underestimated the competition, but now I will know how to prepare for it next time!”

Men’s Under 17 winner Danielius Jodokas: “This time I knew I would win, that was my goal. I am very happy that I was able to implement my plan. Today I



There was huge excitement for Kuwait’s first ever Global Laser Run City Tour event in Kuwait City



The Global Laser Run City Tour in the Georgian capital city of Tbilisi in April



Alexandria (EGY) played host to one of the year’s early Global Laser Run City Tours in March





Over 320 participants joined in the action at the Global Laser Run City Tour event in Banha City (EGY) in late April

can be proud of myself.”

Men’s 60+ winner Jevgenijus Kaunietis: “I have been doing sports all my life, I love running. Therefore, I decided to accept the challenge and try it in my competition. I will definitely participate in the next stages as well.”

**Banha City (EGY)**

- **Wednesday April 28**
- **Banha City Club Stadium**
- **Over 320 participants**

LOC spokesperson: “City Clubs are the first smart sports, social and entertainment clubs in 15 Egyptian cities. City Club seeks to develop the talents of their children in Modern Pentathlon sports, for preparing athletes for the Egyptian team, and achieving championships and medals.

“Over 27 clubs from across the country gathered in Banha City Club and over 320 male and female athletes From 9 years to +60 years old to show off their Laser Run prowess with competitions.

“Para athletes joined the competition

as they are considered one of the most important parts of our sports community and we are looking forward to introducing some talented Para-athletes into the Modern Pentathlon community.”

**George (RSA)**

- **Thursday April 29**
- **Glenwood House School**
- **105 participants**

Mr Johan Haasbroek, the Chairman of Eden Modern Pentathlon Association: “Glenwood House School in George, in the Western Cape Province of South Africa, lies about 4 hours to the east of Cape Town and immediately inland from the Indian Ocean.

“The participating athletes came together from all over the Western Cape with excitement. This world class event featured athletes such as the 2022 U13 Laser Run World Champion Tatiana Thomatos, wagainst local favourite Dune Haasbroek in the U15 race, with Tatiana talking gold. Other featured athletes who also won were Pieter Schoeman (U13), Japie Grové

(Masters 40+), Johan Windt (Masters 70+) and Wanru Haasbroek (U11).

“Our aim here in Eden is to produce world class athletes and to be competitive in every age category at the World Championships.”

**MAY  
Kaunas (LTU)**

- **Saturday May 6**
- **Kaunas Stadium**
- **208 participants**

Women’s winner Ieva Zelvyte, national OCR champion: “It’s fun! Modern Pentathlon has given away my youth, and now, I think, is the best time to return. So I’m happy to be here again.”

Men’s U19 winner Linas Lardongas: “Today was definitely not easy. And the weather conditions were debilitating. Such a hot day and such a hard run. However, I managed to be the fastest today. I am very happy.”

**Nelspruit (RSA)**

- **Sunday May 7**



Amid beautiful surroundings in Nelspruit (RSA) over 80 competitors from U9 to Masters took part in the Global Laser Run City Tour competition

- **Mankele outdoor adventure facility**
- **About 80 participants**

Johan Matthysen, the chair of the Mpumalanga Modern Pentathlon Association: “The Mpumalanga Modern Pentathlon Association hosted its first GLRCT in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga. The event was hosted at Mankele, an outdoor adventure facility at the foot of the Drakensberg escarpment, with beautiful surroundings.

“With a total of 81 entries from U9 to Masters, it was an exciting event for

the whole family. A highlight of the day was seeing Megan Kleynhans, who was part of the South African U13 team that achieved two team silver medals at the UIPM 2022 Biathle-Triathle World Championships held in Madeira, Portugal.

“We are proud to have hosted a very successful event and thankful for the opportunity to do so., “I strongly believe the event has promoted Laser Run in our province and created awareness, which helped us gain many new athletes.”



Competitors look to hit the target during comeptition at Global Laser Run City Tour Gijon (ESP)

**Telsiai (LTU)**

- **Saturday May 13**
- **Telsiai Stadium**
- **171 participants**

Men’s winner, Hungary OCR champion Dainius Liutkus: “I know my mistakes, I know what needs to be improved. I was pleased with the result today. But I will definitely be stronger in the next round.”

Women’s U17 winner Neda Dorosevaite: “The competition is growing. It’s gratifying. I was lucky today. I was the fastest. This is a great motivation to move forward.”

**Gijon (ESP)**

- **Saturday May 13**
- **City Center, San Lorenzo Beach**
- **169 participants**

LOC official: “The first Spanish GLRCT of the year was held in Gijón city center, next to San Lorenzo beach with some outstanding Masters athletes taking part: Roberto Sánchez, Antonio Sánchez, Javier Carnero, Natalia Sánchez, Conchita Vallina, María Carnero and María De Pablo. All are prolific medal winners in UIPM Laser Run and Biathle-Triathle World Championships.



“The event was held in friendly and festive atmosphere and Modern Pentathlon Federation of the Principality of Asturias President Ángel Fernández López said he looked forward to it being repeated in the coming years.”

Riga (LAT)

- **Saturday May 20**
- **Stadium of Rigas 72 Vidusskola**
- **75 participants**

LOC spokesperson: “Some hot weather doesn’t disturb the competition with all participants healthy and competing with a smile. Athletes from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Ukraine competed in categories from U11 till Masters 60+. The next Latvian GLRCT will be in Salaspils in August 2023.”

Gori (GEO)

- **Saturday, May 20**
- **Gori**
- **Around 100 participants**

LOC member Marika Kakhiashvili: “It’s an honour to hold a Laser Run event in Gori, to see how young athletes are competing with each other to achieve their goals and standing on the podium. I’m glad that athletes came to Gori from Sachkhere, Tchiatura, Gori, Rustavi, and Tbilisi.”

Participant Davit Donadze: “It is the second year that this event has been held in Gori. I am very happy and glad to see so many kids competing together at Laser Run event. It gives big



The energy and excitement was palpable at the Global Laser Run City Tour event in Maracay (VEN)

motivation.”

Maracay (VEN)

- **Saturday May 26**
- **Sports Center of Aragua**
- **Over 180 participants**

LOC official: “The Venezuelan Modern

Pentathlon was full of party on May 26, with the first Laser Run event of 2023, in which more than 180 boys and girls of different ages from various educational institutions and athletics clubs participated.

“Our thanks to the collaboration of the physical education and classroom



Athletes came from across Georgia to be put through their paces at the Global Laser Run City Tour in Gori (GEO) where around 100 participants joined in



Ouhigouya (BFA) is a city in the north of Burkina Faso and around 370 participants came out to enjoy the Global Laser Run City Tour event there in May

teachers and coaches, without whom would have been impossible to carry out this great day.

“This was the first of three GLRCT events this year as we look forward to the expansion of the Modern Pentathlon in Venezuela. The Board of Directors of our Modern Pentathlon Federation and Technical are committed to hosting these successful events.”

Kiev (UKR)

- **Sunday May 27**
- **National Ukrainian Center “Sport for All” Stadium**
- **More than 250 participants**

LOC spokesperson: “More than 250 athletes participated in the competition despite the fact that May was a very difficult month for Ukraine and Kyiv residents due to the ongoing war.

“The atmosphere was touching, festive and, as always, the joy of victories and the intensity of the struggle were felt at the competition. It is interesting to note that the volunteers on the ground were active athletes, members of the

Ukrainian national team, who helped, cheered and supported all participants.

“With a lot of fans and incredible support from every athlete, we were able to organize an amazing celebration of sport.”

Bloemfontein (RSA)

- **Sunday May 27**
- **University of the Free State in Bloemfontein**
- **67 participants**

Vice chair of the Free State Modern Pentathlon Association Leana Esterhuizen: “This was such a positive experience with the new UIPM Laser Run branding and music creating an exciting atmosphere. We are excited about the number of athletes who were exposed to Laser Run through the Global City Tour and hope many of them start the sport when our new season in October.

“The crowd was involved from the first race, encouraging all the athletes. There were eight current registered Free State Modern Pentathlon Association Laser

Run athletes, thus excitingly most of the people were new to the sport. The highlight of the day was when Hanru Krause, U17 silver medallist and U17 mixed relay gold medallist at the 2022 LRWCH in Lisbon, Portugal, sprinting away from the pack of athletes.”

Ouahigouya (BFA)

- **Sunday May 27**
- **Ouahigouya Stadium**
- **370 participants**

LOC spokesperson: “Ouahigouya, a city in northern Burkina Faso is part of the red zone, where terrorist groups are rampant. Despite this very difficult context, we were able to organize a very successful GLRCT.

“The vision of development is to favor younger categories in order to identify emerging talents. Organizers targeted young categories without abandoning the more senior ones and ensured a good atmosphere. About 370 children were able to take part in the competition to the satisfaction of the municipal authorities who were able to attend this activity.”



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



The University of Bath will be the venue for the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships from August 19-28

### Historic city of Bath (GBR) getting ready to welcome the world for the first time in 14 years

With the world's best pentathletes already beginning their final preparations, the venue and host city is doing likewise as the highlight of the season rapidly approaches.

With just six weeks to go, prep work has stepped up a notch at the University of Bath for the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships taking place from 19-28 August 2023.

Whilst Bath University (the University of Bath (The Times & Sunday Times University of the Year 2023) has hosted

the European Championships several times, most recently in 2015 and 2019, it's the first time Bath will play host to the World Championships.

Not only is it more than 14 years since the World Championships were last held in the UK but 2023 also marks the centenary year of Pentathlon GB's foundation and the Local Organising Committee are working hard to ensure an unforgettable and exciting event for everyone to help celebrate the association's special anniversary.

The World Championships will be held at the University of Bath's Sports Training Village (STV) which is also the training headquarters for Pentathlon

GB. Situated on the edge of the city, the STV boasts world-class training facilities, including a fully equipped gymnasium, indoor and outdoor tracks, swimming pools, and sports-specific training areas.

The complex also offers a sports science laboratory and physiotherapy services, enabling athletes to optimize their performance and maintain peak physical condition.

Spectators attending the World Championships will watch the athletes show-jump, fence, laser shoot and run live from their seats in the outdoor arena and the swimming – taking place in the University's Olympic-sized pool



An overhead view of the University of Bath campus where Kate French and her Great Britain teammates tasted glory at the 2019 Modern Pentathlon European Championships, right.

– will be broadcast via a large video screen in the stadium.

UK Olympic Champion Kate French said; "It is so exciting that the World Championships will be taking place right here in the beautiful city we call home. I have very fond memories of competing here for the European Championships in 2015 and 2019."

To coincide with the Championships, Pentathlon GB are planning an outdoor exhibition in the city centre that tells the 100-year story of the association and the pentathlon family of sport, as well as a city-based treasure hunt and activity trail for children.

Bath itself is a stunning city with a rich history, beautiful architecture, a vibrant cultural scene, elegant squares and lush green spaces.

It is the only city in the UK to be designated as a UNESCO World



Heritage Site, and its well-preserved Roman baths, featuring hot springs dating back to ancient times, provides an immersive glimpse into the city's past whilst Bath Abbey, with its awe-inspiring Gothic architecture, stands as a testament to the city's spiritual heritage.

The World Championships are being hosted by Pentathlon GB, in partnership with UK Sport, the University of Bath and Bath and North East Somerset Council. For more about tickets, planning your visit and other event details, visit [www.wch2023.org](http://www.wch2023.org)



# UIPM PARA SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Classifier training  
with Paul Baudet



Training consisted of a 4-hour workshop followed by a full day of athlete classification ahead of the UIPM 2023 World Para Laser Run World Championships

### First UIPM Para Classification Trainer event is completed in Bath (GBR)

June marked a significant milestone event in UIPM's continued focus and efforts to further the inclusion and openness of Modern Pentathlon.

On the weekend of June 17-18, PentathlonGB together with researchers from Liverpool John Moores University (GBR) hosted the first UIPM Classifier Training which was led by Head of Classification Dr Paul Baudet.

The training consisted of a four-hour classroom-based workshop followed by a full day of athlete classification and observations ahead of the UIPM 2023 World Para Laser Run Championships taking place in Bath (GBR) in August.

The classifier training was attended by Italian and British classifiers who will be supporting the development of the Para

Pentathlon movement. The candidates' backgrounds ranged from medical doctors, physiotherapists and sports rehabilitation specialists in the area of para sports.

Dr Nic Robinson, who is leading the UK Para Pentathlon Research Project through Liverpool John Moores University, said the training weekend was a key moment in the ongoing efforts.

"The event is an important milestone in the UIPM Para Commission's progression to expanding the sport of pentathlon to become more inclusive across a wide range of impairments making the sport both fair, safe and fun for all," Dr Robinson said.

"The more classifiers we have across the National Federations, the more accessible the process will be to get more para athletes into the sports of

pentathlon."

More than 60 para-athletes across the six classifications will be competing in this exciting three-circuit combination of a shoot-run/push event on Monday August 21 in the UIPM 2023 World Para Laser Run event in Bath (GBR).

The six classifications include physical impairment athletes (LR1-LR3), wheelchair athletes (LR4), visually impaired athletes (LR5) and intellectual impairment athletes (LR6). PentathlonGB are looking forward to welcoming all the para athletes to Bath this summer to help raise the profile of the sport.

For more information around classification and the Para Pentathlon movement please contact UIPM Medical & Anti-Doping Manager Radka Zapletalova at [radka.zapletalova@pentathlon.org](mailto:radka.zapletalova@pentathlon.org).

## News from around the world



The first ever IOC Olympic Esports Week took place in Singapore with UIPM's E-Laser Run Game having a significant presence at the event

### E-Laser Run proves to be a huge success during IOC's first ever Olympic Esports Week in Singapore

The International Olympic Committee's first-ever Olympic Esports Week had Singapore (SGP) abuzz last week with UIPM's E-Laser Run Game proving to be a big hit with participants across the three exhilarating days of action.

With live finals in the Olympic Esports Series taking place as well as a host of esports exhibitions at the Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre, the inaugural event linked the physical and virtual sporting worlds like never before, promoting esports across the Olympic movement.

Modern Pentathlon was present and active in the thrilling proceedings with UIPM's innovative E-Laser Run Game winning hordes of new fans in Singapore. UIPM set up a free-to-play booth that was open to the general public throughout Olympic Esports Week from June 23-25

where approximately 1000 visitors, particularly younger participants and gaming enthusiasts, tried their hand at E-Laser Run.

The game's unique fusion of a replication of actual Laser Run and virtual competition received an overwhelmingly positive response with visitors taking the opportunity to try the physical Laser target shooting. The immersive gameplay and innovative concept were praised by participants.

There were also distinguished visitors to the UIPM booth throughout the week including IOC Vice President Mr. Ng Ser Miang, Senior Minister of Singapore Mr. Teo Chee Huan, Sport Singapore CEO Mr. Alan Goh and a host of IOC Members.

The week also offered UIPM staff the opportunity to actively engage with the gaming community, developers and publishers and gather fruitful insights and feedback.

The IOC's assertion that the week was



Attendees praised the UIPM E-Laser Run Game

a historic milestone which marked "the next step in the promotion of virtual sport within the Olympic Movement, further connecting with the gaming community" was all too clear from the three days where competitors were cheered on by a sold-out crowd of fans and all events streamed online.

President of the Singapore Modern





E-Laser Run proved to be a popular attraction among the thousands of attendees at the IOC's first Esports Week in Singapore

Pentathlon Association Cassandra Choh said: "The inaugural Olympic Esports Week will be remembered for some time as a major moment for the Olympic Movement and indeed for Modern Pentathlon.

"It was so exciting to see so many visitors here in Singapore flocking to the UIPM booth during the week, with young gaming enthusiasts appearing to particularly enjoy the E-Laser Run Game. Seeing the sports and esports communities come together like this to share passions and ideas was very inspiring."

UIPM President, Dr. Klaus Schormann



said: "I am so happy to hear of the success of UIPM's E-Laser Run Game at the Olympic Esports Week. The major success of this inaugural event, with

Modern Pentathlon playing its part, is another positive sign of innovation in our movement.



Attendees are put through their paces at the pool during the week-long course in Hangzhou (CHN).

"UIPM has been vocal and adamant that innovation and making our sports appeal to younger generations is a vital aim for us.

"Innovation has been a cornerstone of our movement ever since Modern Pentathlon was founded by Baron Pierre de Coubertin and introduced to the Olympic Games in Stockholm in 1912. Over a century on, our sport product and strategy is helping to continue that innovation."

**UIPM JCP: Preparations for 2023 Asian Games kick-up a notch for judges in Hangzhou (CHN)**

As China gears up to host the Asian Games for the first time in over a dozen years, the country's pentathlon preparedness has kicked up a notch. Over 30 judges continued their progress during a productive week-long UIPM Judges Certification Programme in the eastern city of Hangzhou last month.

Having been delayed a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 19th edition of the Asian Games will be taking place in Hangzhou later this year,

the continent's biggest multi-sport event running from September 23 to October 8.

The Modern Pentathlon competition will take place at the Fuyang Yinhu Sports Centre Stadium, which will be the scene of high-stakes action with 10 qualification quota places for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games on the line, five each for men and women.

With all of this very much in mind the Chinese Modern Pentathlon Association organised a timely JCP course which took place in Hangzhou

from June 11-15 under the expert eye of UIPM JCP Educator and Technical Committee member Andrea Dell'Amore (ITA).

The course ran in conjunction with the Chinese National Pentathlon Championships, itself a test event for the 2023 Asian Games. In total 31 participants including eight women and 23 men took a step up the judging ladder with both Level 2 and Level 3 certification at stake.

UIPM JCP Educator Andrea Dell'Amore (ITA) said: "This was a particularly



UIPM JCP educator Andrea Dell'Amore (ITA) led the week-long course in Hangzhou (CHN), the city that will host the 2023 Asian Games in September.





## PROUD SUPPORTING PARTNER OF UNAOC #ONEHUMANITY CAMPAIGN

Building peaceful and inclusive societies through sport

*UIPM and UNAOC are hoping to harness the universal appeal of pentathlon multi-sports to promote the values of the One Humanity campaign*

productive course for all involved because it was attached to a key test event for the Asian Games and also took place in the same venues as we will see used later this year.

"The standards were impressively high and I'm delighted to say that all participants passed. With such a key event rapidly approaching, myself and UIPM are delighted to have been able to help China be fully prepared."

Chinese Modern Pentathlon Association Secretary General Mr. Bin Zhang said: "China is looking forward to hosting its first Asian Games since 2010 and it will be a big moment for pentathlon too with Olympic qualification at stake. It gives me great pleasure to see our judges preparing so well for this event."

"My thanks to all of the women and men who took part and worked so hard on achieving their certification and my thanks also to UIPM and its educators"

### UN and UNAOC join forces for One Humanity campaign

The Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne (UIPM) and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) are pleased to announce their collaboration for the One Humanity campaign. This partnership aims to promote diversity, inclusivity, and intercultural dialogue through the power of sports.

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations is an initiative that works towards bridging cultural divides and fostering mutual understanding among

diverse communities. UNAOC's mission aligns perfectly with the core values and objectives of UIPM, which seeks to promote peace, friendship, and fair play through Modern Pentathlon and a range of other multi-sports.

By joining forces, the UIPM and UNAOC aim to harness the universal appeal of pentathlon multi-sports to promote the values of the One Humanity campaign. This collaboration seeks to create a more inclusive and peaceful world, where people from different cultures and backgrounds come together, celebrate their diversity, and work towards common goals.

The campaign will also work towards increasing access to pentathlon training and education for marginalized groups and will focus on several initiatives,



Santiago (CHI) will host the Pan Am Games for the first time in its history later this year and saw 57 participants in the recent UIPM JCP course there.

including joint programs, events, and social media campaigns to promote the initiative and its goals. It will also include the exchange of expertise, knowledge, and best practices between the UIPM and UNAOC to develop innovative strategies to leverage the power of karate for social change.

"We are thrilled to collaborate with UNAOC for the One Humanity campaign," said Dr Klaus Schormann, UIPM President. "Our shared values of promoting diversity, inclusivity, and peace through pentathlon sports will enable us to make a significant impact on the global stage. We look forward to working together towards a more united and harmonious world."

"Sport is a powerful tool for building bridges between communities and promoting social inclusion," said Miguel Ángel Moratinos, the High Representative for UNAOC. "We are delighted to collaborate with the Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne to promote the 'One Humanity' campaign and use modern pentathlon to foster mutual understanding and respect."

For more information about the Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne, please visit [www.uipmworld.org](http://www.uipmworld.org). To learn more about UNAOC and the One Humanity campaign, please visit [www.onehumanity.sport](http://www.onehumanity.sport).

### Judges Certification Programme: Over 50 judges ramp up Pan Am preparations in Santiago (CHI)

Organizers of the 2023 Pan American Games are leaving nothing to chance and understandably so — for the first time in its 72-year history the Pan Ams will this year be hosted by Chile when the capital city Santiago plays host to the best of North, South and Central America.

With Modern Pentathlon a fixture of the multi-sport event of the Americas, there will be so much at stake in Santiago with five men and five women



Former elite pentathlete Pamela Zapata (ARG) receives her Level 3 Judges Certification from UIPM Technical Delegate Ana Ruth Orellana after the week-long course in Santiago (CHI)

clinching quota qualification places for the Paris 2024 Olympics.

The 2023 local organising committee are as busy as the athletes preparing for festivities and they helped organise a key UIPM Judges Certification Programme course in the host city last month with almost 60 students either taking their first steps as judges or moving up a rung on the ladder.

UIPM Technical Delegate Ana Ruth Orellana (GUA) led the week-long

course from June 7-11 helping oversee a group of 57 participants with 55 coming from Chile and one each from Brazil and Argentina with 26 women and 31 men taking part.

The sole Argentine participant was a noteworthy one — former elite pentathlete Pamela Zapata continued her diligent judging journey as she achieved her JCP Level 3 Certification ahead of the 2023 Pan Am Games, which will take place from October 20 to November 5.





It was all smiles for Mexico as they dominated the Women's Individual Final, above, the Men's Team Relay, right, and every other event at the 2023 Central American and Caribbean Games in Santo Domingo (DOM)

UIPM Technical Delegate Ana Ruth Orellana said: "This was a really enjoyable JCP course to instruct on with so many eager and energetic participants. With nearly 60 people taking part, it was one of the biggest groups I've helped oversee. I want to say a big thanks to all who took part and to the local organisers."

President of the South American Modern Pentathlon Confederation Jorge Salas OLY said: "The Pan Am Games will be rolling around very quickly and it's exciting to see how hard organisers and the city of Santiago are working to prepare for the excitement and drama to come."

"I extend my congratulations to all of the participants who achieved first-time or new certifications and a special word for Pamela Zapata who achieved her Level 3 in Santiago. We look



forward to all of these judges helping to pull off a wonderful Pan Am Games later this year.

### Dominant Mexico complete a clean sweep of gold at 2023 Central American and Caribbean Games

Having made themselves very much at home on UIPM World Cup Relay podiums all season long, Mexico's leading pentathletes showed their individual prowess as they emphatically dominated the 2023 Central American

and Caribbean Games in Santo Domingo (DOM) this week.

While the bulk of the 2023 Central American and Caribbean Games are taking place in the El Salvador capital of San Salvador, Modern Pentathlon is among the sports taking place in Santo Domingo with competition being held in the Centro Olímpico Juan Pablo Duarte.

And there was Mexican gold in the capital of the Dominican Republic in



The Oliver sisters, Mayan and Catherine, celebrate their victory for Mexico in the Women's Team competition in Santo Domingo (DOM)

both the Women's and Men's Finals on Sunday with Mayan Oliver (MEX) and Emiliano Hernandez (MEX), respectively, coming out on top with impressive performances that were in keeping with what we have seen from the country's front-line stars throughout 2023 so far.

Oliver's compatriot Mariana Arceo (MEX) took silver in the Women's Final while Duilio Carrillo (MEX) did likewise, finishing in second place behind Hernandez in the Men's Final with Cuba's Lester Ders Del Rosario taking Men's bronze.

Third place in the Women's final was actually claimed by Mayan's sibling Catherine Oliver (MEX) however CACG rules state that a maximum of two athletes from one nation can make the podium so bronze went to Sophia Hernandez, competing under the Centro Caribe Sport flag. (With the Guatemalan NOC currently suspended by the International Olympic Committee, athletes from Guatemala compete under the neutral CCS flag.)

There was little surprise when the Mexicans completed a clean sweep of gold on Wednesday afternoon winning both the Men's and Women's Relays, a

day after Arceo and Carrillo teamed up to win the Mixed Relay.

Mexico created history by winning four-straight silver medals in the Mixed Relay events during this year's UIPM World Cup season, a combination of teams finding themselves on podiums in Cairo (EGY), Budapest (HUN), Sofia (BUL) and Ankara (TUR). Arceo (MEX) added an individual bronze in the fourth leg of the season in the Turkish capital before Padilla (MEX) claimed Men's individual bronze in the World Cup Final in Ankara (TUR) earlier this month.

That relentless form was all too evident as Mexican prowess was clear early and often in Santo Domingo. The earlier individual glory was underlined on Tuesday and Wednesday as the Relay competitions went the Mexicans' way too.

The Oliver sisters (MEX) were in scintillating form to see off the challenge of Hernandez and Sofia Cabrera (CCS) with Diana Leyva Dinza and Delmis Perez of Cuba taking bronze in the Women's Relay.

"Competing with my sister and winning will be something I will never

forget," said Catherine, the younger of the Oliver sisters. "Without Mayan's support and experience we would not win this medal."

Mexico's Hernandez and Padilla, both ranked inside the world top 30, came out on top in the Men's Relay with silver claimed by Léster del Rosario and Marcos Rojas from Cuba and bronze going to Jose Miguel Molina and Andres Fernandez, competing under the CCS flag.

President of the NORCECA Confederation and UIPM Executive Board member Robert Stull (USA) said: "The 2023 Central American and Caribbean Games will be remembered for many reasons and Mexico's performances in Santo Domingo is one of the primary reasons. We have seen some truly top-class athletes delivering their best here. My congratulations to the gold medal winners from Mexico but to all of the competitors who took part in five thrilling finals this week."

"I'd like to extend a sincere thank you and well done to the organisers in Santo Domingo who helped to run a really excellent competition over the past few days. The recent UIPM Judges Certification Programme (JCP) course





Central Asia has been the scene of much development lately and that continued with a recent UIPM Judges Certification Programme course in Bishkek (KGZ)

that took place here in May really helped to prepare for a smooth and successful event. Now we will begin to turn our thoughts and look forward to the Pan Am Games in Chile later this year.”

**UIPM JCP: Central Asian development continues apace with course in Bishkek (KGZ)**

The continued development of Modern Pentathlon in Central Asia took another significant step forward in recent weeks with a brand new group of international judges put through their paces and moving ahead in their judging careers.

The UIPM Judges Certification Programme course held in Bishkek, the capital city of Kyrgyzstan, was planned alongside the Open Cup of Central Asia/Open Kyrgyzstan Championships from Jun 12-15 with almost 40 participants.

With one eye on the upcoming 2023 UIPM Pentathlon Challenger competition, an Olympic Games ranking event which will also take place in Bishkek this October, 39 students including 28 from Kyrgyzstan, 6 from

Kazakhstan and 5 from Uzbekistan undertook the week-long course which offered certification at Level 1, 2 and 3

The course was overseen by educator Dmitry Menshikov (RUS) with 13 women and 26 men taking part and earning new certifications.

Asian Modern Pentathlon Confederation (AMPC) Secretary General Sangkeong Yeo said: “I have been having many discussions lately about continuing our great progress in the Central Asian region and courses like this are a key part of that strategy.

“It is very exciting to have so many judges in Kyrgyzstan and neighbouring nations continue their development. My thanks to UIPM for their support in these efforts.”

UIPM Executive Board Member for Sport and UIPM Technical Committee Chair, Janusz Peciak OLY, said: “I have often said that our UIPM Judges and Coaches Certifications Programmes are a bedrock of growth and in helping to build a strong pentathlon community. Seeing developing nations invest time and effort in JCP courses

like the recent one in Bishkek is a great sign. I congratulate all of the participants and express sincere thanks again to the educators and organisers.”

**Fun, family and competitive spirit at 2023 European Biathle/Triathle Championships in Erding (GER)**

For four days at the end of June and the beginning of July the picturesque Bavarian town of Erding and its iconic Kronthaler Weiher lake was abuzz with competitive action and sporting community.

The 2023 European Biathle/Triathle and Laser Run Championships took over the town from June 28 to July 2 with the mixture of top-class and development athletes giving a feeling of family togetherness.

The organiser of the 2021 UIPM Biathle Triathle World Championships had the strings in his hand. Pierre Jander from Team Oberpfalz and board member of the German Federation took up the challenge of organising this international event and was quickly flooded with registrations.

Around 640 participants from 25



The atmosphere around the Kronthaler Weiher in Erding (GER) was family-friendly and community-focused throughout four days of competition

Nations had registered — the largest group (188) coming from Great Britain. Germany entered the race with 130 athletes, followed by Hungary with 70 athletes.

In total there were more than 1600 starts during the 4 days of competition, which lasted some days from 7am to 8pm.

Erding is a city in Bavaria only a few kilometers away from Munich airport. Beside sports, Erding had also something to offer this weekend - the athletes and especially the coaches were happy that the Old Town Festival was taking place at the same time as the championships.

The competition site was compact and very spectator-friendly, but also workable for the competitions that UIPM Technical Delegate Karman Sandor had in mind.

Sports commentator was again Andreas Groß known in Germany as “the voice of Biathle/Triathle/Laser Run”. He energised the spectators and gave the athletes goosebumps with his commentary.

Gregan Clarkson, winner of the gold medal in the 40+ Biathle said about Kronthaler Weiher “It is still one of the most beautiful, cleanest and warmest lakes I have ever swum in.”



Great Britain had the highest number of competitors among the total of 640 participants.



Twenty-five countries were represented during the 2023 European Biathle/Triathle Championships



## Inside UIPM

### Secretary General Shiny Fang's message



#### Our 2023 half-time highlights, in the words of UIPM Staff

The past six months has been another challenging period for our movement, but I do believe that we can find our most productive selves in the face of adversity.

I'm very proud of what the UIPM Staff team has achieved in the first half of 2023, so much so that I decided to let them do all the talking in this month's message. Here is a list of highlights that the staff pulled together this week, covering a recap of Q1 and Q2 and a look forward to Q3 and Q4, culminating in the all-important IOC Session in October.

We are lucky to have a dedicated team of hard-working professionals working 24/7 for the furtherment of UIPM Sports. I hope you will agree that these highlights demonstrate the great teamwork that has existed in fulfilment of shared goals ever since January 1.

#### First half of 2023 – highlights

- Already delivered seven Judges Certification Programme (JCP) courses based on excellent cooperation with relevant National Federations (NFs) and Local Organising Committees (LOCs)
- After the publication of numerous Obstacle publications and resources, we launched the online JCP Obstacle Module with videos as educational materials
- Already finished five Coaches Certification Programme (CCP) courses to help coaches across the world continue their personal development
- In the wider area of sports development, editions of the powerhouse Global Laser Run City Tour have taken place in 14 countries and 20 cities, with more than 4,000 participants
- Racing to catch up with the GLRCT, four Biathlon-Triathlon National Tours have been run in different countries, with 850 participants
- Two scholarships were awarded for elite pentathletes to study online for their postgraduate qualification in Sports Management with the World Academy of Sports
- Elite pentathlete Paolo Singh (FRA) was selected for the IOC Athletes 365 mentoring program (one of 16 selected athletes from all sports)
- Two pentathletes represented our movement at the UIPM European Youth and Sports Platform in Stockholm (SWE)
- The integration of Obstacle as a Modern Pentathlon discipline was smoothly executed at continental level in recent European Junior and Youth Championships, providing us with more confidence that young athletes change are embracing the change
- We all enjoyed the first successful continental direct qualification event for the Paris 2024 Olympics – Modern Pentathlon's debut appearance in the European

Games was a huge success with high standards across the board in Krakow (POL)

- E-Laser Run featured in the IOC's first Olympic eSports Week, enabling gamers in the Philippines to experience the latest iteration of UIPM's esports product. This is a journey we are excited to be on!
- In Para Laser Run we have seen a 100% increase of registered athletes on the portal, building for a future with Para Triathlon and Obstacle Laser Run making UIPM Sports more and more accessible
- Phased promotion of the 'Voyage to Paris' from end of 2022 until now, growing in intensity and creating excitement towards the Olympic Games which is now just over a year away.

#### Second half of 2023 – so much still to come

- Six UIPM 2023 World Championships to go, covering all six disciplines of Modern Pentathlon as well as Laser Run, Biathlon and Triathlon. The upcoming U17, U19 and Junior championships will further demonstrate the exciting potential
- We are saying a big hello to the Obstacle Sports community by adding the UIPM brand to two existing World Obstacle competitions, Ninja World Cup USA and the OCR World Championships
- UIPM will continuously support NFs' needs across all levels of



of our new-look Olympic sport ahead of its full rollout at senior level in 2025

- Olympic qualification is a fierce battle which is about to go global! By November we will have seen athletes qualify through continental and global competitions in Chile, China, Egypt and Great Britain
- We are saying a big hello to the Obstacle Sports community by adding the UIPM brand to two existing World Obstacle competitions, Ninja World Cup USA and the OCR World Championships
- UIPM will continuously support NFs' needs across all levels of

sport development

- The reimagined UIPM Central App will be launching in July
- Enhanced strong storytelling around elite athletes
- Building stronger involvement around the world from athletes and NFs, as we continue to grow our NF membership family with Obstacle making the Pentathlon dream become a reality for thousands more athletes
- And it all leads to the IOC Session in Mumbai (IND) from October 15-17, when we are confident that all of our combined efforts and shared goals will be validated by the IOC's decision on the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic programme.





Inside UIPM  
President Dr Klaus Schormann's activities



UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann meets with Prince Fahd bin Jalawi bin Abdul Aziz, Vice-President of the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee (SAOC)

06.06. – 09.06.2023: Riyadh, KSA

Immediately after the UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Final in Ankara (TUR), UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann visited the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for a site visit and series of meetings with key stakeholders as UIPM Sports continues to develop in the Middle East Asia region.

President Dr Schormann had a productive meeting with Prince Fahd bin Jalawi bin Abdul Aziz, Vice-

President of the Saudi Arabian Olympic Committee (SAOC).

They discussed the future of Modern Pentathlon in Saudi Arabia and explored avenues for collaboration between the SAOC and the Saudi Modern Pentathlon Federation (SMPF).

Prince Fahd, also a member of the executive office and chairman of the education committee of the Olympic Council of Asia, expressed his full support for the development of UIPM

Sports and praised the progress of the Saudi team. They also discussed the possibility of hosting international events in Saudi Arabia in the near future.

President Dr Schormann said: "My visit to Saudi Arabia from June 6-8 was highly successful in furthering the growth and development of Modern Pentathlon in Saudi Arabia.

"The discussions and meetings with key stakeholders demonstrated a



President Dr with Arwa Alnajrani, a Saudi athlete who competed at the UIPM Southeast Asian Championships, and SMPF President Nasser Al Dughether

shared commitment to advancing the sport and creating opportunities for Saudi athletes to compete at the highest level.

"We hope that with the support of partners

including the NOC Vice President, Prince Fahd bin Jalawi bin Abdul Aziz, the KSA Modern Pentathlon Team will become more and more motivated to continue achieving remarkable results in both regional and international competitions."

President Dr Schormann's visit included extensive meetings with SMPF officials, led by President Nasser Mohammed Aldughether and Secretary General Badr Balobaid.



Left to right: Badr Balobaid (SMPF Secretary General); Marian Gheorghe (SMPF Head Coach); Zuhair El Shammasi (SMPF Executive Director); Razan Alayed (SMPF Board Member); Dr Klaus Schormann (UIPM President); Sultan Hussain Alauazi (Director of Sport Academy MAHD); Tamer Samy (UIPM Senior IT Manager); Alsied Mohameed (Sports Academy MAHD employee)





Left to right: Ali Almesly (Security Manager of venues at MAHD Sports Academy); Badr Balobaid (SMPF Secretary General); Naif Al Zamal (Administration Manager of green hall venues at MAHD Sports Academy); Tamer Samy (UIPM Senior IT Manager); Rasant Al-Ayed (SMPF Board Member); Dr Klaus Schormann (UIPM President); Zuhair Al Shammasi (SMPF Executive Director)

Again, the focal point was the future of UIPM Sports in Saudi Arabia, including infrastructure development, talent identification and training programs, promoting the sport at grassroots level and increasing participation in competitions.

Besides meeting key members of the federation, the UIPM President visited training venues and met with Marian Gheorghe, UIPM Instructor and Head

Coach of the KSA Modern Pentathlon team. President Dr Schormann congratulated the athletes on their remarkable results in their inaugural participation in the UIPM Southeast Asia Championships in Pattaya (THA), encouraging them to continue their hard work and dedication.

President Dr Schormann's site

visit included an inspection of the training venues used by the KSA Modern Pentathlon Team, where a tour was provided by Sultan Hussain Alauazi, Director of the MAHD Sports Academy.

They had deep discussions about new training strategies for young talent across various sports.

21.06. – 02.07.2023: Krakow, POL

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann visited the 3rd European Games in Krakow (POL) – a very successful multi-sports event organised by the City of Krakow and the Malopolska Region with support of the European Olympic Committees (EOC) and the Polish Olympic Committee.

During his stay in Krakow, UIPM President attended various sport competitions where he met their representatives to discuss matters of sporting politics during this challenging time of military conflict in Ukraine and post-pandemic recovery. He discussed with EOC President Spyros Capralos the importance of the Games in a member nation of the European Union. The Games connected people, generations and whole nations in Europe.

The UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann, together with Executive Assistant Lena Nussbaumer, had meetings with numerous National Olympic Committees (NOCs) to discuss the advantages of the new Modern Pentathlon that will be fully integrated after Paris 2024, underlining that already in 2023 all Youth and Junior competitions are integrating Obstacle as a replacement discipline for Riding.



Left to right: Janusz Peciak OLY (UIPM Executive Board Member and Polish Modern Pentathlon Federation President, Spyros Capralos (EOC President), Dr Klaus Schormann (UIPM President)

Intense discussions took place with President Ismet Krasniqi and Secretary General Besim Aliti of the Kosovo NOC, and Macedonia NOC President Daniel Dimevski.

In Kosovo, the NOC wants to extend the partnership with the Kosovo Modern Pentathlon Federation based on the integration of obstacle

racing, which gives them much more opportunities to train and compete in future UIPM international events. Furthermore, North Macedonia NOC President Dimevski was very interested to accelerate the development of Modern Pentathlon in his country.

With the new NOC President of Poland Radoslaw Piesiewicz and Janusz Peciak



Left to right: Daniel Dimevski (North Macedonia NOC President); Lena Nussbaumer (UIPM Executive Assistant); Dr Klaus Schormann (UIPM President); Karin Schormann; Besim Aliti (Kosovo NOC Secretary General); Suzanna Dimevska; Ismet Krasniqi (Kosovo NOC President)





Left to right: Janusz Peciak OLY, Lena Nussbaumer (UIPM Executive Assistant); Radoslaw Piesiewicz (Poland NOC President); Dr Klaus Schormann (UIPM President)



President Dr Schormann with Dorota Idzi, former world champion and Sydney 2000 Olympian, and her husband Jaroslaw, also a former pentathlete

OLY (UIPM EB Member & Polish Modern Pentathlon Federation President), UIPM President Dr Schormann led a briefing about new strategies of sport development in Poland linked to Modern Pentathlon as well as general matters of the Olympic Movement and how niche sports can be supported in the future.

2000 Olympian, Dorota Idzi, visited the Modern Pentathlon Semi-finals and Finals with her husband Jaroslaw Idzi, also a former pentathlete. Both were excited at the speed of the sport's development and growth.

All Members of the European Modern Pentathlon Confederation (EMPC) who attended the European Games joined UIPM President Dr Schormann

to discuss their responsibilities around the potential neutral status of athletes with Russia or Belarus passports. Dr Schormann briefed the Board Members about the ongoing discussions between the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and International Federations (IFs).

All were very thankful to the EMPC under the leadership of President



UIPM President Schormann and EOC President Spyros Capralos (centre) with UIPM Executive Board Members and the European Modern Pentathlon Confederation (EMPC) Members who were present in Krakow (POL)



UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann, Vice President Joel Bouzou OLY and other guests attend a reception held by the Polish Modern Pentathlon Federation, hosted by President Janusz Peciak OLY, Anna Bajan (EMPC Vice President), European Games President Marcin Nowak and Secretary General Marek Palus

Tatiana Ardabieva and Vice President Anna Bajan, as well as Janusz Peciak, for their strong support to LOC President Marcin Nowak and his team of staff and volunteers.

President Dr Schormann also had a meeting with Spanish NOC President Alejandro Blanco Bravo, Secretary General Victoria Cabezas and the Spanish Modern Pentathlon Federation President and Secretary General, Carlos Jimenez del Castillo and Jaime

Gonzalez Almaraz.

In their meeting, they discussed the potential of Spanish youth projects and their strong partnership with UIPM based on the new format of Modern Pentathlon. During the Games, Laura Heredia became the first female pentathlete from Spain to qualify for an Olympic Games.

During a reception held by the PMPF President Peciak and EMPC

Vice President Bajan, Dr Schormann thanked Krakow 2023 President Nowak and Secretary General Marek Palus for the high-class organization, stating that the Games had been a strong pillar for all NOCs and the whole continental sporting movement to unite European society in pursuit of a freer and more peaceful future.

May, which have been a huge success. They also focused on the SEA Games 2025 which will be in Thailand.



Left to right: Lena Nussbaumer (UIPM Executive Assistant); Victoria Cabezas (Spain NOC Secretary General); Dr Klaus Schormann (UIPM President); Alejandro Blanco Bravo (Spain NOC President); Jaime Gonzalez Almaraz (FEPM Secretary General); Carlos Jimenez del Castillo (FEPM President).



## Pentathlon World Rankings

The PWR is updated live at [www.pentathlon.org](http://www.pentathlon.org) after each competition. PWR as at July 4, 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	150
12	CZE	Martin VLACH	150
13	GER	Marvin DOGUE	149
14	HUN	Richard BERECKZI	144
15	FRA	Christopher PATTE	141
16	ITA	Giorgio MALAN	142
17	HUN	Bence DEMETER	129
18	CZE	Marek GRYZ	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 ABDELMAKSUD	162
9	GER	Rebecca LANGREHR	161
10	FRA	Marie OTEIZA	160
11	ESP	Laura HEREDIA	157
12	LTU	Ieva 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](http://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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