Men’s senior champion Tobias Hierl (GER) gets to grips with Obstacle Discipline during the historic 1st New Pentathlon Discipline Test Event in Ankara (TUR)
Test Event I: Historic day of discovery in Ankara (TUR)

Obstacle Discipline has arrived – and already some of the barriers in Modern Pentathlon have been removed.

New Pentathlon Discipline Test Event I was hailed as a success by a global group of senior and junior pentathletes and Obstacle specialists who had gathered in Ankara (TUR) to make history. The two athlete communities – representing five continents – mingled naturally on a day of smooth competition, discovery and mutual learning.

Almost 100 athletes from 19 countries registered to race, across six categories – four for pentathletes and two for Obstacle athletes. No injuries were reported except blistered hands for pentathletes unfamiliar with the demands of Obstacle racing.

Apart from learning more about the physical demands of Obstacle Discipline and sharing in the joy of exploration, the participating pentathletes performed with competitive fire and amazing adaptability.

One pentathlete, Tobias Hierl of Germany, achieved a best time of 34sec that was faster than many of his Obstacle counterparts and less than 7sec slower than the day’s best time of 27.42sec set by 2019 world champion Dimitri Houles of France.

PENTATHLETE REACTION

Selen Gulel (TUR), women’s junior champion

“I’m so happy to win a medal for my country in the first New 5th Discipline Test Event – especially the gold medal. It was hard and harsh and we tried our best.

“It was good competing alongside my friends, and it was so much fun for me and so exciting. I was a little anxious at first but it was great, and I’m so happy and so grateful to UIPM for the opportunity.”

Cedric Chatellier (FRA), men’s junior champion

“I really thought the Obstacle Discipline was cool with a lot of diverse obstacles – it was very interesting. I liked it and I was quite successful. Sure, it’s quite tough on the hands and arms but with a little adaptation time, it will be fine.

“I think it’s a good move to have the Obstacle Discipline as the New 5th Discipline. I hope the IOC will see it’s a good initiative.”

OBSTACLE ATHLETE REACTION

Olivia Vivian (AUS), women’s champion

“The pentathletes I saw on the obstacle course today were incredible. To see the joy on their face, there is nothing like conquering an obstacle for the first time. And the improvement from the training session to the competition was already huge.

“What I see for the future with the Obstacle Discipline added is a lot more interest. Not just from the viewership, because it’s so exciting to watch side-by-side racing, but also a lot more interest from obstacle athletes.

“It’s a discipline that anyone can try. It’s a lot cheaper than equestrian to try and to train, and it’s also a lot of fun. I think we’re going to get a lot of obstacle athletes wanting to try Modern Pentathlon as well.”

Dimitri Houles (FRA), men’s champion

“I’m very happy to be here and that our fellow pentathletes can try out the Obstacle Discipline and I’m very impressed by them taking on the obstacles.

“I think the Obstacle Discipline is a very good fit for the New 5th Discipline because it is dynamic, fast-paced and can increase the media interest. It is to be enjoyed by spectators and athletes alike.

“The Obstacle Discipline is going to create new skills for the pentathletes, especially to develop upper body strength.”

HOW IT WORKED

After a practice day (June 27) that gave many other athletes the chance to try
The men’s final was won by the unstoppable Houles (FRA) and he was joined on the podium by silver medallist Steve Trachsel of Switzerland and James Burton (GBR), who claimed bronze.

PRESIDENT’S REACTION
UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “Today we had the historic first Test Event for the integration of a New 5th Discipline in Modern Pentathlon – a new dawn for our sport.

“The course set-up was dynamic and challenging, and it tested the unique versatility and skills of pentathletes.

“The athletes really enjoyed the competition -- you could see and feel the excitement in their faces and in their interviews afterwards. It was a great first step towards a youthful, urban and highly accessible future for our sport.

“It’s not just a simple replacement of one discipline for another. Obstacle Discipline will transform Modern Pentathlon into a TV-friendly multi-sport with proven appeal to younger fans and commercial partners around the world.

“The UIPM Athletes Committee have been central to the process and several members led by example on the Obstacle course over the past two days.

“We are grateful to everyone involved – the judges, the observers, the members of the New 5th Discipline Working Group and the Turkish Modern Pentathlon Federation for all their assistance – not only this week but during UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Cup Ankara and the World Cup Final.”

The junior pentathlon races were won by Cedric Chatellier (FRA, below) and Selen Gulel (TUR, bottom)

The junior pentathlon races were won by Cedric Chatellier (FRA, below) and Selen Gulel (TUR, bottom)

Test Event II launched as participants give seal of approval

Obstacle specialist Olivia Vivian (AUS) praised pentathletes for their ‘incredible’ adaptation

Athletes from Asia and around the world will have an opportunity to sample Obstacle Discipline when the second official test of the concept takes place in Manila, Philippines, next month. New Pentathlon Discipline Test Event II will be held at Bridgetowne Central Park on August 6-7 in parallel with the Asian leg of the Ninja World Cup, run by
Other insights included:

- 88% of pentathletes were satisfied or very satisfied with the enjoyment of the competition.
- 84% of pentathletes were satisfied or very satisfied with the design of obstacles (look and feel).
- 71% of pentathletes and 92% of observers were satisfied or very satisfied with the level of technical difficulty.
- 68% of pentathletes were satisfied or very satisfied with the physical demands of the course (only 8% were unsatisfied).
- 72% of pentathletes and 74% of observers were satisfied or very satisfied with the excitement of the head-to-head format.
- 84% of pentathletes and 82% of observers were satisfied or very satisfied with the attractiveness of Obstacle design to global audiences and youth.

One question posed to obstacle athletes asked if they would consider starting to practise the other disciplines of Modern Pentathlon following the Test Event. More than half (56%) of respondents said they were likely or extremely likely to do that.

ATHLETE COMMENTS

Two aspiring pentathletes from Thailand, who will make their first trip overseas when they travel to Manila (PHI) for Test Event II, described how they felt when they heard the news.

Sasitorn Kunlitt (THA) said: “It’s amazing news that the New Pentathlon Discipline is coming to Asia. I’m so excited to meet athletes from other countries during the Test Event in Manila.

‘If Obstacle Discipline replaces Riding in Modern Pentathlon, it means we can truly dream of competing in the Olympic Games.

‘Right now, we simply can’t compete at the same level because Riding is too difficult to organise here. We actually have good opportunities to train for Obstacle Discipline because we can use a special gym here where Navy Seals from the US also train.’

Poranat Charoenying (THA) said: ‘I’m really excited to take part in the Test Event in August. I think it will be very interesting as a pentathlete to test my skills on the obstacle course and learn how the obstacle athletes train and race.

‘I’ve seen obstacle racing shows like Ninja Warrior on TV and it’s such a buzz. It’s amazing to think we might be able to compete in this kind of racing in the future.’

Obstacle athlete Louise Ferriman of Great Britain, speaking in a recent edition of the Obstacle Racing Media podcast, said: ‘I think the event in Ankara was really successful in so far as there was a lot of young blood out there. The young pentathletes transferred their athletic prowess on to our rigs amazingly, and they were so keen to listen and learn and be part of it, and it was just a really good vibe.

‘It was really important that we went out there and showed our sport and our community ethos, and how accessible it can be to everybody.’

Yasser Hefry of Egypt, UIPM Athletes Committee Chair, said: ‘The feedback among athletes who took part in the first Test Event of Obstacle Discipline – not only in the competition day, but also in the free training day – has been overwhelmingly positive.

‘Some athletes have been understandably cautious about embracing the new discipline, which is a fundamental change to Modern Pentathlon and the way we train and compete. It is good to see that some who opposed Obstacle Discipline initially are now more open to the idea, and feedback has been especially positive from junior and youth athletes who participated in Ankara. All pentathletes who took part demonstrated their versatility in adapting to this new opportunity.

‘We continue to communicate very closely with our global Obstacle community to make sure everyone fully understands the context behind the change and has the opportunity to express their feelings and be heard.’

COACH COMMENTS

Christian Roudaut of France, UIPM Coaches Committee Chair, said: ‘Conditions in Ankara were excellent and we are grateful to the obstacle athletes for their advice and expertise. It’s important to note that Obstacle Discipline is in a testing phase and there are many points to work on, especially around organisational format and rules.

‘I think all coaches present in Ankara could be very proud of the capacity of pentathletes to adapt and acquire the first technical elements of this new discipline. Members of the Coaches Committee are sharing information and working in partnership with our counterparts from FISO to understand more about training and preparation methods.

‘The participation of coaches from the entire Pentathlon family will be essential to arrive at the final format. This new direction for Modern Pentathlon can give us opportunities for development all around the world.’

UIPM COMMENTS

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: ‘On behalf of the UIPM Executive Board, I am pleased to say that the first Test Event of the Obstacle Discipline can be declared a success.

‘We already have a second Test Event...’
in the pipeline and can look forward to seeing more athletes from different communities coming together to try this exciting new concept, which promises to transform Modern Pentathlon into one of the most popular, dynamic and accessible sports in the Olympic Games.

“I encourage athletes to take all possible opportunities to learn more about Obstacle Discipline and play a part in shaping the future of Modern Pentathlon. By doing so they can help to make our sport and the Olympic Games more appealing to younger fans around the world, more sustainable and more commercially attractive.”

UIPM Operations Director Dr Alexandre Francia said: “The responses to the three surveys distributed to athletes and observers in Ankara will be fully evaluated and will inform preparations for Test Event II and future Obstacle Discipline tests.

“While we are preparing for Test Event II, and that remains this year’s priority, we encouraged everyone to look forward to the possibility of more appealing sports on the Olympic programme. As well as rating their level of satisfaction with various aspects of the event, respondents identified areas for improvement and we are already looking closely at the balance of obstacles between the physical demands of upper body and legs, contingencies for rain, measures to prevent skin injuries and the height of obstacles.”

FISO COMMENTS

FISO President Ian Adamson said: “The responses to the three surveys distributed to athletes and observers in Ankara will be fully evaluated and will inform preparations for Test Event II and future Obstacle Discipline tests.

“While we are preparing for Test Event II, and that remains this year’s priority, we encouraged everyone to look forward to the possibility of more appealing sports on the Olympic programme. As well as rating their level of satisfaction with various aspects of the event, respondents identified areas for improvement and we are already looking closely at the balance of obstacles between the physical demands of upper body and legs, contingencies for rain, measures to prevent skin injuries and the height of obstacles.”

UIPM President and Secretary General visit IOC President in Lausanne (SUI)

UIPM leaders briefed Dr Thomas Bach, President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), on UIPM’s New 5th Discipline reforms during a meeting in Olympic House, Lausanne (SUI).

UIPM President, Dr Klaus Schormann, and Secretary General, Shiny Fang, gave a detailed presentation to President Dr Bach and Kit McConnell, IOC Sport Director on June 7.

They also answered questions about the two variations of Obstacle Discipline selected for testing, and how UIPM proposes to transform Modern Pentathlon into one of the most popular, accessible and exciting sports on the Olympic programme.

Three days later, the UIPM leaders and members of the UIPM Athletes Committee sat on the panel for an Open Athletes Meeting in Ankara (TUR), enabling athletes to have an open dialogue on the proposed reforms.

President Dr Schormann said: “We were delighted to meet with the IOC President and Sport Director in Olympic House and provide them with a comprehensive update on the New 5th Discipline as we enter the testing phase. The meeting went well and we are very excited about the possibilities for the future of Modern Pentathlon in the Olympic Games.”

The IOC announced in December 2021 that Modern Pentathlon would not be on the programme for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games unless UIPM could provide a compelling case for inclusion, and President Dr Bach described the New 5th Discipline consultation as a “critical reform”.

In November 2021, UIPM had launched a consultation aimed at identifying a suitable replacement for Riding in Modern Pentathlon, and UIPM 2021 Congress voted overwhelmingly in favour (83.96%) of the removal of Riding from Modern Pentathlon after the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

A New 5th Discipline Working Group was created, with 21 members combining internal and external expertise, including three members of the UIPM Athletes Committee elected by their peers in June 2021.

The working group considered and debated more than 60 proposals before selecting two variations of Obstacle Discipline for testing in May. 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 IOC.

“I feel like I’m going to make friends with it: Hungarian athletes enjoy first Obstacle Discipline practice

Hungary became the first nation to give its athletes an opportunity to train for Obstacle Discipline ahead of the first official Test Event in Ankara (TUR).

A group of Hungarian pentathletes practised on an obstacle rig on the outskirts of Budapest (HUN) – and according to a report in Nemzet Sport the feedback was very positive.

Gergo Bruckmann, 26, said: “This obstacle course is an exciting approach to the pentathlon. You can feel right away which muscle groups we haven’t used before, but we need them there.”

“To be honest, I really liked it. My favourite may be the ring pack, but there wasn’t much of a barrier type that I didn’t like. As a child, I climbed trees and jumped through everything, so I enjoyed it too.

“In terms of idealism, it can’t replace Riding in any way, but it’s going to fall into place, and so at first I feel like I’m going to be able to make friends with it.”

Gergo Salga, 23, said: “Honestly, I really felt like a monkey a little bit, but it was good, interesting and enjoyable. I tried exercises where I thought, ‘ah, I’m going to catch this easily’, and then it didn’t work the way I imagined it to.

“Our forearm muscles are not as developed as they would need to be, and it is completely different to catch a static element, such as a wooden rod, than, say, to catch the rope and glide on it from a stroke.

“I’ve been thinking a lot about whether I’m going to continue my pentathlon after changing the ride, I can’t answer that yet, which is why I’d like to go to a test race to see if I like it at all.”

Peter Barany, 21, said: “I hope you achieve your goal of obstacle running and ensure that your Pentathlon stays in the Olympic programme.

“I feel that it requires similar skills to the ones we already have, I think it will be possible to fit it into the preparation. Somehow I expected that my palms might blister when, for example, we exercised, my skin reacted similarly – and even when riding. I had injuries of this kind. I think we will be able to cope with this.”

The session was observed by coaches Akos Kallai and Janos Martinek (winner of two gold medals at the Seoul 1988 Olympic Games), Sandor Kammar, competition manager of the Hungarian Modern Pentathlon Association (HMPA), and Zsolt Stepan, president of the Hungarian Obstacle Sports Federation.

President Stepan said: “It does not matter what part of the body they go into the obstacle with, because even though they work with their arms in the first place, the hips and feet are also important. And if the part of the body with which they should work most is tired, we also need to know what can be helped – this requires complex thinking. ‘In obstacle racing, decision-making is made without a horse, but you have to make a decision very quickly, from one moment to the next.’

Sandor Kammar admitted he had held major reservations about the concept but was encouraged by what he saw during the practice session.

He said: “I was in a race of a similar nature on Saturday where it was worrying what I saw. I didn’t feel that it was possible to safely set up obstacles in a race, but I am happy to see that there will be a solution (and) it is not as deplorable as I thought it would be.

“Our athletes are good, and the obstacles can be safe. They must be stable so that they are not dangerous to the physical integrity of the athletes and are not at all as dangerous as they seemed to be. Or the pentathletes are too good at it.

“I think we will be able to adapt to that, there will probably be races over the summer where we can show the juniors a little bit what to expect if they want to be pentathletes – or stay.”
Clouvel (FRA) and Jun (KOR) savour joy of gold on Super Saturday

Elodie Clouvel of France and Woongtae Jun of Korea were crowned champions on Super Saturday at the UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Cup Final.

In the Women’s Final, Jessica Varley of Great Britain came within 4sec of earning back-to-back golds after her success in Ankara (GBR) two weeks ago. In the end she was repelled by a stubborn Clouvel (FRA), while Michelle Gulyas of Hungary held off a fierce challenge from Misaki Uchida of Japan to secure bronze.

There was rather less tension in the Men’s Final as Jun (KOR) completed another masterclass to top the podium alongside his team-mate, first-time Pentathlon World Cup medallist Changwan Seo (KOR). Csaba Bohm (HUN) brought his team a second bronze of the day after holding off the finishing speed of Joseph Choong (GBR) and Martin Vlach of Czech Republic.

For the champions, it was a long-awaited success as this gold had eluded them in the years while they were winning Olympic medals. Rio 2016 silver medallist Clouvel (FRA) had never previously won the Pentathlon World Cup Final, and Tokyo 2020 bronze medallist Jun (KOR) last won it in 2014 when he was only 18.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “We had a very exciting Pentathlon World Cup Final here in Ankara. I must say that both World Cup Finals featured the highest level of performances by athletes who earned the right to compete here based on their achievements throughout the season.

“We also saw an excellent level of skill from the athletes in the Mixed Relay, with winners from different countries and continents - we were very happy to see the Japanese team on the podium alongside African and American nations.

“We also had excellent organisation from the best organising committee we have worked with this season, with a super Pentathlon Arena that sets a high standard for all future competitions on the way to Paris 2024.

“I must say a huge thanks to the Turkish Modern Pentathlon Federation and its President, Prof Veız Özan Çakır, whose team have delivered the best possible conditions for our athletes to have an unforgettable World Cup Final.

“Thanks also to the volunteers and sponsors and the Government and National Olympic Committee for the support they have given to the National Federation. And we have to underline that the selection of horses was truly befitting the quality of our sport, which depends on very good horses.

“I wish all athletes the very best for the rest of the season and we are looking forward to the World Championships in the last week of July in Alexandria.”

Women’s Final: Clouvel (FRA) denies Varley (GBR) as Gulyas (HUN) claims bronze

RIDING

For the third competition in succession, like Ozyuksel of Turkey achieved a perfect score of 300 in Riding to the delight of a supportive home crowd.

At the top end of the standings, Gulyas (HUN) and Clouvel (FRA) each scored 293 with only one transgression, while Elena Micheli of Italy dislodged two barriers for 286 and overall leader Amira Kandil of Egypt lost ground with three mistakes.

Four other athletes had an unblemished scorecard, and it was a big moment for Ismail Malik (EGY) and Sunwoo Kim (KOR) also enjoyed a clean round.

There was only one elimination in Riding, but it was a significant development as 5th-placed Salma Abdelmaksoud (EGY) could have been...
With a clear advantage from her excellent Ranking Round (25V/10D), Kandil (EGY) was still in the overall lead at the start of the Bonus Round but she was joined at No.1 by Gulyas (HUN) after a dramatic sequence.

Gulyas (HUN), who had scored 21V/14D in the Ranking Round, added six crucial points by disposing of Green (GBR), Clouvel (FRA) and finally Kandil (EGY) on the show piste.

The other star of the Bonus Round was Elena Potapenko of Kazakhstan, who added six points, and other notable performers in the Ranking Round were Clouvel (FRA, 22V) and Olivia Green (GBR, 20V/15D).

The importance of Swimming as the final discipline before the Laser Run climax was underlined when Clouvel (FRA) lined up alongside Gulyas (HUN) with only a 1sec deficit overall.

A mere 2min 12.36sec later, Clouvel (FRA) was heading into the Laser Run with a crucial 6sec lead having overpowered her rival in the final heat.

Gulyas (HUN) was 4th-fastest in 2:15.74, while there were excellent swims by Micheli (ITA, 2:13.01) and Uchida (JPN, 2:13.39).

LASER RUN
Gulyas (HUN) was the first to make a move with a rapid opening shoot, and she held her advantage throughout the first half of the race with Clouvel (FRA) never far from her shoulder.

It was on the fourth lap of 600m that the experienced Clouvel (FRA) took the lead back from the world No.1, and Varley (GBR) also passed Gulyas (HUN) having cut through the pack from 11th in typical style.

Now the race was fraught with tension, but the advantage of Varley (GBR) going into her shooting berth first didn’t deter the other two, and all three left the range for the final lap in very close proximity.

First Clouvel (FRA) advanced, and then Varley (GBR) appeared and briefly edged in front, before a 33-year-old doyenne of Modern Pentathlon proved that form is temporary and class is permanent.

Clouvel (FRA) flew up the hill and into the cross-country section with her teeth bared, powering away from Varley (GBR) through the woodland and holding her pace on the last stretch, winning finally by 4sec with Gulyas (HUN) a further 7sec behind and the impressive Uchida (JPN) only 2sec away from what would have been a highly unexpected medal.

Behind them, Potapenko (KAZ) and Serapinaite (LTU) finished strongly to confirm their podium places, while local hero Ozyuksel (TUR) ended a fortnight of strong performances on home soil in 11th.

MEDALLISTS’ REACTION
Gold medallist Clouvel (FRA) said: “I’m very happy. Thank you to my new team, because at the start of the season there was a transition after the Olympic Games and my coach said to take it step by step, and finally in the World Cup Final I had the perfect day.

“Thank you so much to my family, my friends, my new team and coach and my boyfriend, Valentin Belaud, who had a difficult day yesterday. Today I was able to win and it’s very great for France, because the work is going well, step by step.”

“After Swimming, I was a little bit tired because of the new format, it’s very fast, but I really concentrated and was calm in my shooting, and in the last 600m I said ‘Ok, Elodie, this is your chance’. I wanted to win and it’s my first time winning the World Cup Final, so I’m very happy.”

Silver medallist Varley (GBR) said: “I’m absolutely delighted to come back to Ankara and put in another really good performance. If you’d told me at the beginning of the season I was going to finish the World Cups with gold and silver in the final, I wouldn’t have believed you.

“I’m exhausted but delighted. I’ve worked really hard on my running and I really enjoy it. This season my shooting has improved and that’s what has really helped me make the next step up. I didn’t shoot quite as well today as I did last week, but I’m really happy.

“I try to go into my own lane on the shooting range and just be with me and the target and block everything else out. Obviously it’s difficult to do, but because I was on target I was quite far from the others, which I think helps me because I can’t see them. It’s just practice, practice, practice.

“I’m really excited for the World Championships now.”
Bronze medallist Gulyas (HUN) said: “I was really happy that I could take home bronze today. My physical disciplines were not the best but I’m really happy with my technical disciplines because my shooting was incredible.

“I don’t even know how I managed my shooting so well in such big tension, but I’m very happy. I think my shooting is my strongest discipline. I close out everything around me and I don’t even see anyone else on the shooting range, and I think this is an advantage for sure.

“I saw Varley already coming on the first lap and I thought ‘oh my God, how does she do it?’ She’s amazing and Elodie was also running well, so it was a really tough race but enjoyable too.”

Men’s Final: Jun (KOR) leads 1-2 with Seo (KOR) ahead of Bohm (HUN)

RIDING
A superb series of controlled performances on horseback saw most of the leading medal contenders remain fully in contention.

Seven of the 18 riders enjoyed perfect scores of 300, among them Woongtae (KOR), Bohm (HUN), Choong (GBR), Vlach (CZE) and his team-mate Marek Grycz (CZE), Valentin Prades (FRA) and Giuseppe Parisi (ITA).

Seo (KOR) and Jinhwa Jung (KOR) scored 293 to apply pressure, along with world champion Adam Marosi (HUN) and Maksym Aharushev of Ukraine.

FENCING
After another standout performance in the Ranking Round by Jun (KOR, 23V/12D), all contenders wanted to give themselves a boost in the Bonus Round but all of the last five bouts were won by Bohm (HUN) in a remarkable sequence that brought him 10 valuable points.

The other top performers in the Ranking Round were Duilio Carrillo of Mexico (21V/14D) and Seo (KOR, 20V/15D).

SWIMMING
As if to reassert his authority after losing the final Fencing bout, Jun (KOR) achieved the fastest Swimming time of 2.02.72, albeit there was little to separate him from Jung (KOR, 2:03.76) and Bohm (HUN, 2:03.96).

It all meant that Jun (KOR) would start the Laser Run with a 12sec lead over Bohm (HUN), 21sec over Choong (GBR) and 28sec over Seo (KOR).

LASER RUN
Vlach (CZE) made an early move into 5th on the opening lap, but more significant was the sight of Seo (KOR) appearing on the shoulder of Choong (GBR) and joining the medal race. Indeed, Seo (KOR) overtook the Olympic champion on the first visit to the shooting range and never had cause to look back.

At the front, Jun (KOR) was displaying his usual nerves of steel but Seo (KOR) was shooting even better, which was a good thing as Vlach (CZE) was in 4th place by the third run.

However, the third shoot was a game changer as both Bohm (HUN) and Vlach (CZE) took more than 20sec to achieve their five hits, loosening the pressure on the Koreans who were now running away with it. Before long Jun (KOR) and Seo (KOR) were celebrating with a big hug on the finish line, to be joined soon by 9th-placed Jung (KOR).

To his credit, Bohm (HUN) kept his composure and ran strongly, despite knowing there were some very fast athletes behind him, to cap a terrific Pentathlon World Cup season with a hard-earned bronze medal.

Behind Choong (GBR) and Vlach (CZE) there was a satisfying 6th place for Prades (FRA), three-time winner and defending champion.

MEDALLISTS’ REACTION
Men’s gold medallist Jun (KOR) said: “I always do my best to win a medal and I’m very happy. Myself and Changwan both succeeded because of our coaches and team members.

“In Korea, Modern Pentathlon is getting better and better and I want to say thank you for all of the support.”
Silver medallist Seo (KOR) said: “I was running hard and it’s all thanks to my coaches and my team members. I knew I had to do better today.”

Bronze medallist Bohm (HUN) said: “I’m very tired and I need to take a really long recovery after this race. I had some struggles with my third shooting, with five or six mistakes, but all day it was quite perfect for me, especially the Riding, which is the most difficult part of Modern Pentathlon. I’m satisfied with my result.”

Hungary storm back to win Mixed Relay

Michelle Gulyas and Balazs Szep of Hungary wiped out a 35sec deficit to steal Mixed Relay gold on the last day of the UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Cup Final.

Japan had led all day thanks to a strong all-round performance, but although Misaki Uchida held on to top spot during her Laser Run leg, Gulyas (HUN) made up enough ground for Szep (HUN) to launch a calculated assault on Taishu Sato and clinch the lead after two stunning shoots, before cruising home.

Behind the top two, Natalia Dominiak and Daniel Lawrynowicz of Poland won a hard-earned bronze ahead of 4th-placed Mexico (Mariana Arceo & Duilio Carrillo), host nation Turkey (Ilke Ozyukssel & Bugra Unal) and Egypt (Salma Abdelmaksoud & Eslam Hamadi).

Hungary topped the Pentathlon World Cup Final medal table with one gold and two bronze, ahead of Korea (one gold, one silver) and France (one gold).

A highly successful showpiece competition served as the perfect prelude to the two-day New Pentathlon Discipline Test Event (June 27-28), where the proposed Obstacle Discipline will be tested by Modern Pentathlon and Obstacle athletes for the first time.

Riding

Immediately Japan (Uchida/Sato) served a statement of intent by scoring highest on horseback, only incurring five time penalties after a double clear.

Poland (Dominiak/Lawrynowicz) were only two points behind after picking up just one obstacle penalty, while Brazil (Isabela Abreu & Danilo Fagundes) scored a very competitive 290. There was only one elimination but...
it was a very significant one as Korea (Changwan Seo & Sunwoo Kim) saw their medal hopes fade.

**FENCING**
The top performers on the piste were Mexico (Arceo/Carrillo), with 26V/10D, but two nations were only one victory behind – Japan (Uchida/Sato) and Egypt (Abdelmaksoud/Hamad).

Hungary (Gulyas/Szep) added six much-needed points in the Bonus Round before Mexico (Arceo/Carrillo) took out the final bout for a helpful four-point top-up.

**SWIMMING**
Once again Japan (Uchida/Sato) stood out, unleashing the only sub-2min swim of the day. Their time of 1:58.90 gave them a three-point uplift over next-fastest Egypt (Abdelmaksoud/ Hamad; 2:00.21), with Hungary (Gulyas/Szep; 2:01.49) keeping distant pressure on the leaders, knowing their Laser Run prowess could keep them in the hunt for gold.

**LASER RUN**
Starting in 2nd place but 20sec adrift, Arceo (MEX) made an early gain on leader Uchida (JPN), who had caught out, unleashing the only sub-2min world-class effort in the Laser Run.

**MEDALLISTS’ REACTION**
Gold medallist Gulyas (HUN) said: “We are very happy, we are a very good team and we helped each other out. We train together back home, so it’s nice to win a medal together.

“We were tired because we were doing Semi-finals, Finals and then today without a rest day, but I think we are in good shape and we saw good competition with others, so it was good.”

Silver medallists Uchida (JPN) and Sato (JPN) said they were “very happy” before delivering a message to their fans in Japanese.

Bronze medallist Dominiak (POL) said: “We are in shock, but our performance was really good and our shooting was incredible. Today we had a lucky day, we were lucky with horses and we only had seven penalties, and in Laser Run we rocked!”

“It’s our first senior World Cup medal and this is my World Cup Final debut, so we are very happy and proud.”

Lawrynowicz (POL) who asked about his dramatic collapse at the finish line, said: “It was a very strong race, and I said ‘come on, come on, come on, finish!’”

**UIDM 2022 Pentathlon World Cup Ankara**

Jessica Varley and Joseph Choong doubled up to make it a truly Super Saturday for Great Britain at UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Cup Ankara.

In the Women’s Final, first-time medallist Kamila Reti of Hungary was the only athlete standing between Great Britain and a clean sweep, as she forced Olympic champion Kate French (GBR) to settle for bronze ahead of 4th-placed Charlie Folloti (GBR).

In the Men’s Final, it was Tokyo gold medallist Choong (GBR) whose class eventually told as finalists made light of testing weather conditions in an absolutely thrilling Laser Run. Csaba Bohm of Hungary was a very close second in a sprint finish with Giorgio Malan of Italy claiming the first medal of his World Cup career as he took bronze.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “For the first time we have organized a World Cup in Turkey, here in Ankara. What we saw in the two individual finals was unbelievable, exciting finishes in both of the Laser Runs.

“We have to say a big thanks to our organizing committee, the Turkish National Federation of Modern Pentathlon. The competition was perfectly organised here in Ankara, in a Pentathlon Arena with a temporary pool exactly as planned.

“We also saw a very exciting Mixed Relay, and I hope we will see nations continuing to train harder in Riding to be at the level that is absolutely needed in the coming years where we still have Riding at Junior level and also in the Olympic format for Paris 2024.”

“[At the centre of our sport are the athletes, and they have given their best after a lot of physical stress in these past days. They have to go through qualification, Semi-finals and Finals and that requires a lot of preparation from them with their coaches.

“I have to say thank you to the coaches, to the National Federations who are investing in the athletes, and to the athletes for what they are achieving in every competition to increase their level.”

Women’s Final: First-time winner Varley (GBR) and French (GBR) split on podium by Reti (HUN)

Riding
Local hero Ozyuksel (TUR) achieved a perfect score of 300 in Riding and her clean round was applauded loudly by an excited crowd.

Six other athletes had an unblemished scorecard, and it was Francesca Tognotti of Italy who moved into the overall lead after Rebecca Langrehr of Germany dropped 24 points with two knockdowns and a refusal.
The other 300 scorers were teammates Varley and Follett (GBR), Blanka Guzi (HUN), Elena Potapenko of Kazakhstan and Salma Abdelmaksoud of Egypt.

FENCING
Langrehr (GER), ended up top of the standings in the Ranking Round with an impressive 25V/10D, and she added four points in the Bonus Round by beating Marlena Jawaid of Sweden in the final bout.

Tognetti (ITA) and Jawaid (SWE) were only one victory off the lead in the Ranking Round, while French (GBR) was the top British fencer with 21V/14D.

The star of the Bonus Round was Ozyuksel (TUR), who propelled herself into 6th place overall with five victories for an extra 10 points.

SWIMMING
Abdelmaksoud (EGY) comfortably recorded the fastest time of the day with a swim of 2:14.95, with Sunwoo Kim of Korea and Joanna Muir (GBR) tied on 2:17.94 and Follett (GBR) only a fraction of a second slower.

LASER RUN
Tognetti (ITA) started as the athlete to catch, with Follett (GBR) and Langrehr (GER) next in the standings – but none of them were in the medal equation 12 minutes later after a dramatic sequence of changes.

Initially it was Follett (GBR) and Abdelmaksoud (EGY) who made the gains at the front, with Ozyuksel (TUR) and French (GBR) lurking threateningly. Behind them, the moves were even more significant as Reti (HUN) and Varley (GBR) began to overtake athletes for fun.

Having started in 13th, a truly exceptional Laser Run time of 11:08.86 allowed Varley (GBR) to sample her first taste of Pentathlon World Cup gold, as the tall, formidable runner stunned the leading pack at the last shoot to take a lead she was never going to relinquish.

French (GBR) was now in the familiar position of a podium place, but Reti (HUN) did extremely well to outpace the Olympic champion on the last lap.

Behind the medallists, Follett (GBR) and Abdelmaksoud (EGY) stayed in front of 6th-placed Ozyuksel (TUR), who didn’t manage to find her usual electric pace in front of the home crowd.

MEDALLISTS’ REACTION
Women’s gold medalist Varley (GBR) said: "I honestly can’t believe it. I was just planning on running as fast as I could and trying to focus on shooting well. I came out of the range in first after the last shoot and I didn’t know what to do!

"I was aware of Kamilla being near me and she definitely pushed me on all the runs, and I was just fortunate to get a slightly better shoot at the end.

"I feel like I’ve been working at this for so long, and I’ve always known it’s possible but just to finally do it, I’m just ecstatic and I can’t believe it."

Silver medalist Reti (HUN) said: “It was amazing, I can’t believe it. The run was perfect for me and I did it! Thank you God, and my team and my family.”

Bronze medallist French (GBR) added: “I’m quite surprised, to be honest. This is my first competition since Tokyo and my first time with the new format, so I didn’t know exactly what to expect. I’m very happy to be on the podium.

"I didn’t expect it at all. It’s quite hard, to be honest. I felt better with the run in the Final than the Semi-final because I was really tired after that, but I seemed to find a bit extra,
“I’ll go back and look back over everything and see what improvements I can make because I made some mistakes, but for my first competition back I couldn’t be happier.”

Men’s Final: Choong (GBR) stands apart as Bohm (HUN) and Malan (ITA) make podium

RIDING
The destination of the men’s medals was thrown firmly up in the air when Tokyo 2020 Olympic bronze medallist Woongtae Jun of Korea was one of five finalists who were eliminated in a hugely eventful Riding discipline. Jun (KOR) dropped down from first place to second last in the process.

The deteriorating conditions were undoubtedly having an effect but there were some remarkable poise amid the storms as Danilo Fagundes of Brazil led a group of seven who achieved a perfect score of 300.

Choong (GBR) was among those to claim the maximum as well as the Italian pairing of Mattia Parisi and Malan, Vladislav Sukharev of Kazakhstan, Hungary’s Bence Demeter and Filip Houska of the Czech Republic.

FENCING
Valentin Prades of France made light of conditions underfoot on a slightly soggy piste to dominate the Fencing Bonus Round, adding an extra eight points to move up to fifth overall.

Changwan Seo of Korea was just as prolific as he also added eight points to his tally while compatriot Jinhwa Jung added two points and the third of their team, Jun (KOR) tried to shake off his Riding misfortune by adding four points to his supreme Fencing Ranking Round score of 26V, which had led the field.

SWIMMING
There was a fresh delay of over 10 minutes as the rains sheeted down and athletes huddled under the stands near the outdoor pool but when competition resumed Bohm (HUN) didn’t hang around, recording the fastest time in the pool, 2:02.38. Seo (KOR) was less than 10 split seconds back while Malan (ITA) and Demeter (HUN) were the other two swimmers to dip below 2:04.00.

LASER RUN
Sukharev (KAZ) set out ahead of the rest with a nine-second lead in the Laser Run but it was Choong (GBR) who of course loomed large, setting off in second followed by Malan (ITA) and Jung (KOR) with a wave of talent behind him.

Changwan Seo (KOR) was holding his own out in front with a steady first shooting round, Choong (GBR) a little slower by his own sky high standards. Some dead-eyed shooting from Seo (KOR) helped him move up a couple of places and by the time they left the range for a second time it was he and Choong...
But in the wet conditions Malan (ITA) looked to inject some pace to proceedings as he moved to the front of the field. The third visit to the range was the moment when Bohm (HUN) made his own move, a blistering seven-second shoot putting him into second behind Choong and setting up a mouth-watering final shoot with five frontrunners arriving at the range at almost identical times.

What followed was an electrifying shoot as Choong (GBR), Bohm (HUN), Malan (ITA) and Seo (KOR) all fired five rapid green lights and set off for a thrilling sprint finish.

The tight confines meant overtaking opportunities were at a premium and Choong (GBR) refused to give an inch, crossing the line in 10:51.76 just ahead of Bohm (HUN) with Malan (ITA) taking bronze. Seo (KOR) had to make do with fourth followed by Sukhaev (KAZ) and Prades (FRA).

MEDALLISTS’ REACTION

Men’s gold medallist Choong (GBR) said: “It was a great race. Csaba and Giorgio pushed me harder than I have been rushed in a very long time. It’s great to be back on the top of the podium. In qualifying I got one more point than my brother so that was a nice rivalry to have.’”

Silver medallist Bohm (HUN) said: “It was a really great team behind me who help through everything. I wouldn’t have time to mention all the people surrounding me but I am thankful for them.”

Bronze medallist Malan (ITA) said: “This past three months was very hard for me with injuries. This is my comeback and it feels very, very good. For me the last run was a good sport and I can make up the difference but in my condition right now it was difficult to run very fast.

“I was a little bit worried for my shooting but the last series was very good. I hoped when I saw I was third after the last series I thought I could maybe do a better result than third but third is very good now.”

Korea seal Mixed Relay thriller

Korea finished UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Cup Ankara on a high as Seungmin Seong and Jihun Lee won a thrilling Mixed Relay.

Lee, the reigning Asian champion, and 20-year-old partner Seong briefly lost the lead they had held all day after a brilliant Laser Run split by individual champion Jessica Varley of Great Britain, but in the end Lee (KOR) reclaimed the top spot to finish in style.

Janine Kohlmann and Marvin Dogue of Germany bounced back well to claim silver, while Amira Kandil and Mohanad Shaban of Egypt dramatically denied Great Britain a medal in a sprint finish to claim their third Mixed Relay medal of the season.

RIDING

Clear rounds and perfect scores of 300 propelled Czech Republic (Novotna/Tuma) and Great Britain (Varley/Choong) into contention. Italy (Frezza/Micheli) also performed well with only one 7pt penalty.

Stormy weather conditions throughout the weekend made it tough going underfoot and several Mixed Relay pairs saw their medal hopes dashed on the course. Even two-time world
champion Valentin Belaud of France was unable to persuade his horse to clear the first jump, resulting in his elimination along with partner Elodie Clouvel.

**FENCING**

As in Riding, two pairs stood out in Fencing, with Korea (Seong/Lee) and France (Clouvel/Belaud) each managing an impressive 21V/7D, and Korea (Seong/Lee) added the four extra points in the Bonus Round. Germany (Kohlmann/Dogue) and Egypt (Kandil/Shaban) were next-best on the piste with 18V/10D, while Italy (Frezza/Micheli) starred in the Bonus Round with four victories topping up their overall points score by eight. Sophia Hernandez and Juan Ochoa of Guatemala added six points too.

**SWIMMING**

Great Britain (Varley/Choong) and Egypt (Kandil/Shaban) demonstrated their prowess in the pool with times of 1:58.61 and 1:58.77 respectively. Dara Almeida and Andres Torres of Ecuador also dipped under the 2min mark.

**LASER RUN**

She started with a 22sec cushion but Seong (KOR) knew she would have to be at her best to hold off Women’s Final winner Varley (GBR), and she ran well in the first lap but struggled at the first visit to the shooting range.

A 22sec shoot for Seong (KOR) compared to 11sec by Varley (GBR) opened up the race for gold and Varley (GBR) took the lead halfway through the second lap, and handed over to Choong (GBR) with a 9sec advantage.

Lee (KOR) soon made up ground on the leader and by the time they reached the range, the 2019 Asian champion knew his inexperienced rival might be vulnerable. Not only did Choong (GBR) lose the lead during a 32sec shoot but he was also overtaken by Dogue (GER), who had made a huge advance on the first 600m.

That was the way it stayed at the business end, with Lee (KOR) delivering a second 13sec shoot to give Dogue (GER) no hope of topping the podium. Behind the top two, Choong (GBR) got stuck in the range for a second time and Shaban (EGY) narrowly overtook him, and then won a sprint finish between the two for bronze.

Although they couldn’t feature in the medal equation, France (Clouvel/Belaud) underlined their class with the fastest Laser Run of the day (12:47.61), with Germany (Kohlmann/Dogue) timing 12:49.54.

**MEDALLISTS’ REACTION**

Gold medallist Lee (KOR) said: ‘Today we performed well in all five disciplines and I’m very happy. My partner is very young and this was her first time competing internationally, which is good experience and we had very good teamwork, so we are so happy.’

Seong (KOR) added: ‘It was my first time at an international competition and in the individual qualification, I was nervous and made many mistakes, but today my partner and I helped each other well – we always have great teamwork in Team Korea.’

Silver medallist Dogue (GER) said: ‘I’m very happy. I had to work hard for 10th and 11th positions recently, which was quite good, but I just came here to test myself for the World Championships and felt good so I’m very happy.’

Kohlmann (GER) added: ‘We are very happy, it was fun today. Jessica is amazing in Laser Run and she went so fast, but Marvin did a good job in the background and we saved 2nd place.’

Bronze medallist Kandil (EGY) said: ‘Before the Laser Run I didn’t think I could get the medal, so I’m so happy and I’m so impressed with Mohanad because it was such a good finish.’

Shaban (EGY) added: ‘It was a very good finish with Henry Choong and the competition was very hard for us. Riding was not very good. But the Laser Run was a good finish.’
The return of global competition across UIPM Sports in 2022 has galvanised the Biathle and Triathle communities. Recent editions of the UIPM Biathle-Triathle National Tour have taken place across Egypt, France, Portugal and South Africa, with athletes of all ages aiming to get into the best possible competitive shape for the UIPM 2022 Biathle-Triathle World Championships in Machico (POR) from October 26-30.

The surge of activity has given National Federations a platform to select teams and continue the ongoing promotion of Biathle and Triathle as crucial development vehicles for Modern Pentathlon and for all ages of athlete to enjoy the benefits of multi-sport.

Other countries lining up to host National Tours in July and August are Armenia, Burkina Faso, Georgia and Ivory Coast along with first-time hosts Croatia, Greece, Moldova and Thailand.

The Biathle-Triathle season also features Asian and European Continental Championships in Burabay (KAZ) and Athens (GRE) respectively. For more details visit the Biathle-Triathle calendar at uipmworld.org.

**George (RSA)**
- **Saturday/Sunday April 16-17**
- Glenwood House
- 94 athletes in Biathle and 76 athletes in Triathle aged 7-69

Eden Modern Pentathlon Association representative: “Athletes from all over the country entered for the race. There were athletes from Gauteng, Free State, Eastern Cape and Western Cape as well as Eden. A few athletes competed in the sport for the first time, and Eden club provided the necessary guidance for them to enjoy the sport as much as the club members do.

“Eden hosted this tour also as the Western Cape provincial championship in Biathle and Triathle. The official competition distances were used in the National Tour as well as the championships.”

**Pretoria (RSA)**
- **Wednesday 18 May**
- Montana High School and outdoor municipal swimming pool
- 58 participants in Biathle and 29 participants in Triathle aged 8-74

Graham Burnett, Chairperson of the Organizing Committee of UIPM BTNT in Pretoria Committee, and Secretary for Gauteng Modern Pentathlon: “With many school sporting events over the May period we were competing against three of the biggest school sports, namely rugby, hockey, netball and club cross-country over that weekend. Although the entry numbers were less than expected, the competitions were successful.

“There were individual and mixed relay events in both Biathle and Triathle. We also had athletes who initially only entered for Biathle and then participated in the Triathle Relay as well.

“The highlight for many of the athletes were the relays, where racing was fierce as distances were shorter than what the athletes were used to. The overall feedback from athletes, parents, spectators and officials was overwhelmingly positive and the interest shown from new athletes is welcome.”

**Rivesaltes (FRA)**
- **Thursday June 23**
- ‘Les Domes’ aquatics centre
- 274 participants aged 7-16

LOC representative: “The Salanque modern pentathlon club organised competitions in collaboration with...”
USEP66 and UNSS. The goal of the event was to introduce Modern Pentathlon sub-sports to the youth of the region.

"Registrations for the Biathle-Triathle National Tour were reserved for children from the schools. In total, about 15 classes from the schools of Rivesaltes, Saint-Laurent-de-la-Salanque and Pia participated in this UIPM competition. There were more than 70 triathletes and 160 biathletes during one day."

**Hurghada (EGY)**
- Thursday-Friday June 23-24
- Red Sea resort
- 200 athletes

LOC representative: “We started the first day with Biathle and during the second there were competitions in Triathle.

“The competition place is a resort on a lake beside the seashore. The competitions were fantastic and everybody enjoyed the sea and the sand. All participants achieved strong results and showed a spirit of healthy rivalry.

“The Egyptian athletes are looking forward to compete at the UIPM World Championships in October in Portugal.”

**Machico (POR)**
- Saturday June 25
- Machico Bay, Madeira
- Almost 200 athletes from U9 to Masters 60+

Manuel Barroso, President of the Portuguese Modern Pentathlon Federation (FPPM): “Enthusiasm and healthy competition have returned to Machico after the pandemic long break.

“Machico hosted the Biathle National Tour which was at the same time Portuguese National Championships. This is also the venue of the UIPM 2022 Biathle-Triathle World Championships which will take place in late October.

“The competition was open and athletes from Great Britain, Germany, Romania and South Africa came to ‘feel’ already a piece of the atmosphere of the beautiful Machico Bay, and its excellent conditions for such competitions.

“All athletes had a great competition journey. For the Portuguese athletes it was also trials to qualify to the Relay teams for the World Championships while the World Championships LOC took this opportunity to test the main aspects of the organising event and train the local staff team.”
Since several decades, international sports federations (IFs) have been under the spotlight of public and media scrutiny. Sports news is no longer confined to sporting events and it leans into sports politics and governance, where it seems there might be bigger holes to dig.

The pressure is high, and in parallel, the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) performs a continuous evaluation of IF governance related to transparency, integrity, democracy, development and control. A lot of traditional Olympic IFs are still struggling to innovate their sports, compete with new industry trends and make themselves financially sustainable. UIPM is one such IF.

There is more and more demand for the organisation to be professionally driven. The leadership is required to act with enterprising spirit, otherwise the federation could easily lose its position in the international sports market. Everything is commercial and business-oriented, while the soul of the sport still needs to be clean and pure.

Although UIPM is still listed in Group B by ASOIF, I must admit it is a decent result in the context of limited resources; a huge combined team effort. Meanwhile, we see the potential for future improvement.

The good news is that UIPM achieved five top-10 ratings out of 33 indicators, and was identified as an example of good practice in areas such as:

- Social responsibility activity
- Open tendering
- Sustainability program
- Legacy program
- Risk management
- Increasing gender balance in more Committees and Commissions
- Term limit
- Providing support to help enhance the governance of National Federations (NFs)
- Actively monitoring continental confederations and NF governance compliance
- Summary of meeting decisions
- Election campaigning rules
- Eligibility rules
- Term limit
- Providing support to help enhance the governance of National Federations (NFs)
- Actively monitoring continental confederations and NF governance compliance

Right now, we face a big challenge as Modern Pentathlon’s future in the Olympic Games is uncertain, although we have the faith to overcome it just as we have done before.

The New Pentathlon Discipline has enabled us to map out a vision but, at the same time, it underlines the threat we face. Hard decisions are often accompanied by big opportunities, potential and chances for future generations to thrive. It is a worthy fight to fight, creating possibilities for improvement and opening new doors for our athletes. More and more are on board, and we welcome and thank each member of the UIPM community who contributes and works together to secure our future.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann and International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Dr Thomas Bach pictured at Olympic House after their meeting with UIPM Secretary General Shiny Fang and IOC Sport Director Kit McConnell in Lausanne (SUI)

07.06.2022: Lausanne, SUI

UIPM President Dr. Klaus Schormann and Secretary General Shiny Fang met together with International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Dr Thomas Bach and Sport Director Kit McConnell in Olympic House, the IOC Headquarters.

The meeting was mainly about the New 5th Discipline that will replace Riding after the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

Furthermore, they discussed how Modern Pentathlon can become more interesting to achieve the criteria agreed with IOC guidance at the start of the consultation. UIPM needs to embrace change and a new discipline is a good start.

After their meeting with the IOC President, Dr Schormann and Mrs Fang attended the General Assembly of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF).

08.06. – 13.06.2022: Ankara, TUR

President Dr Schormann visited Turkey for the country’s first Category A Modern Pentathlon competition in many years – UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Cup Ankara.

Dr Schormann and the Turkish Modern Pentathlon Federation President, Prof Dr Veli Ozan Cakir, expressed their delight about a new partnership that enables World Cups and World Championships to be held in Turkey according to high
standards of organisation and world-class facilities.

The UIPM President also expressed his thanks to Murat Kocakaya, the Deputy Director of the Sports Department of Turkey’s Youth and Sports Ministry, for his support of Modern Pentathlon.

On the eve of the Finals, on June 10, President Dr Schormann was joined by Secretary General Shiny Fang and two members of the UIPM Athletes Committee, Yasser Hefny OLY (Chair) and James Cooke OLY, on the panel for an Open Athletes Meeting.

The meeting, attended by athletes competing in Ankara (TUR) and others who joined online, was arranged to clarify the position of UIPM, steps taken since the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 in 2021 and what UIPM is trying to do for the future of Modern Pentathlon in the Olympic Games.

The special meeting was also designed to give athletes an opportunity for open dialogue about the New 5th Discipline proposed for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.

On June 11, the UIPM leadership followed up with an Open Coaches Meeting, where Dr Schormann and Mrs Fang were joined by UIPM Sport Director Janusz Peciak OLY.

The meeting was arranged by Christian Roudaut, Chair of the UIPM Coaches Committee, and like the Open Athletes Meeting it served to give key stakeholders in the UIPM Sports movement additional context behind the New 5th Discipline process.

The Treasurer of the City Government Darmstadt, Andre Schellenberg, visited the President’s Office in Darmstadt and discussed with Dr Schormann the long traditional partnership between the City Government and Modern Pentathlon, which started as far back as 1963.

On June 15, Dr Schormann also met with two UIPM sponsors, Dr Wolfgang Dietz (owner of Dietz AG) and Armin Kohler (owner of Rechner Sensors).

Dietz AG is involved in real estate assets and development, property management and planning projects across Europe.

The meeting was arranged by Christian Roudaut, Chair of the UIPM Coaches Committee, and like the Open Athletes Meeting it served to give key stakeholders in the UIPM Sports movement additional context behind the New 5th Discipline process.

15.06.2022: Darmstadt, GER

Dr Klaus Schormann (UIPM President) is greeted in Ankara (TUR) by TMPF President Prof Dr Veli Ozan Cakir. Below, Presidents Schormann and Cakir with TMPF Vice President Ercan Tacioglu (right) and Murat Kocakaya, Deputy Director of Sports Department of Youth and Sports Ministry of Turkey.
and Rechner Sensors is an international measurement technology company. They discussed the ongoing partnership and the future presentation of Modern Pentathlon after 2024 Olympic Games Paris and the possibilities UIPM has to offer sponsors in the future.

17.06. – 19.06.2022: Budapest, HUN

During a visit to the FINA World Aquatics Championships, President Dr Schormann met with the Vice President of the Hungary Modern Pentathlon Association (HMPA), Dr Beata Simoka, and Competition Manager Sandor Karman to recap on UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Cup Budapest as well as ongoing changes within the sport.

Mr. Karman was happy to report on the obstacle training session provided for Hungarian athletes and confirmed that Hungary would take part in New Pentathlon Discipline Test Event I in Ankara (TUR).

Dr. Schormann also raised the UIPM 2024 Pentathlon and Laser Run World Championships in 2024, which Hungary has shown a huge interest in hosting, and mentioned the importance of this competition in the history of Modern Pentathlon as it will be the last before the Olympic Games Paris 2024 where Riding will be officially included.

20.06.2022: Media and marketing meeting

The meeting was mainly about the New 5th Discipline that will replace Riding after the Olympic Games Paris 2024. Furthermore, they discussed how Modern Pentathlon can become more interesting to achieve the criteria agreed with IOC guidance at the start of the consultation. UIPM needs to embrace change and a new discipline is a good start.

The UIPM President held an online meeting with three of the media and marketing experts who are members of the New 5th Discipline Working Group – Michael Payne, Terrence Burns and David Hill.

UIPM Secretary General Shiny Fang and Vice President Joel Bouzou OLY – the Working Group coordinator – also joined the call and the group discussed further steps in communications strategy and implementation around the testing phase of Obstacle Discipline.

23.06. – 28.06.2022: Ankara, TUR

Back in Turkey for the UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Cup Final, UIPM President Dr Schormann met with UIPM Executive Board Member for Development, Dr Viacheslav Malishev, in a meeting with the newly-elected Interim President of the South Africa Modern Pentathlon Association (SAMPA), Frans van Niekerk.

President van Niekerk underlined that Africa in general is very happy about the future direction of Modern Pentathlon because it gives more countries a real chance to participate at Category A competition level and not only in development sports like Biathle-Triathle and Laser Run.

The UIPM President plans to visit Africa after UIPM 2022 Congress to get a better overview of the actual situation and to show solidarity with and support for the developing countries.

During the opening ceremony of the FINA World Championships, Dr Schormann was welcomed by FINA President Husain Al-Musallam and met ASOIF President Francesco Ricci Bitti, as well as European Olympic Committees (EOC) President Spyros Caprasos, with whom he spoke about the future direction of Modern Pentathlon and the Obstacle Discipline testing phase.

During the World Cup Final Dr Schormann took the opportunity to hand over one of the last historic plaques of Modern Pentathlon to TMPF President Cakir. This plaque was established for
every host of a Pentathlon World Cup, World Cup Final or World Championship. Since this plaque includes the five disciplines including Riding it will become a historical artefact after Paris 2024 and special to all hosting countries who organised a competition before the change in the sport.

On June 26, after the World Cup Final Mixed Relay, Dr Schormann addressed the first Technical Meeting for New Pentathlon Discipline Test Event I, taking place in the same Pentathlon Arena in Ankara (TUR) on June 27-28.

The UIPM President called for teamwork and open-minded visions for everyone to realise the dream of a new future for Modern Pentathlon.

At the end of the Test Event, Dr Klaus Schormann thanked Ian Adamson, President of World Obstacle (FISO), for the great team work and support from his team that enabled the successful Test Event to become a special moment in Modern Pentathlon history.

The President also thanked the whole UIPM team, Executive Board, Technical Delegates and International Judges for their efforts not only on the UIPM 2022 Pentathlon World Cup Final and Test Event but also all previous World Cups.

On June 28, President Schormann planted an oak tree in the company of Prof Dr Veli Ozan Cakir, TMPF President, joined by athletes including members of the UIPM Athletes Committee, as well as UIPM Executive Board colleagues.

President Dr Schormann said: “The oak tree symbolises the special environment that Modern Pentathlon is creating. It is a symbol of Modern Pentathlon and grows with deep roots to stand firm in the face of storms.”
Pentathlon World Rankings

The PWR is updated live at www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at 2 July 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.”

UIPM HEADQUARTERS
Stade Louis II – Entrée C
19 avenue des Castelans, MC-98000 Monaco
Tel. +377 97 77 85 55 | Fax +377 97 77 85 50
E-mail: uipm@pentathlon.org

WEB
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