Dear Member Federations, Coaches and Athletes

Following UIPM Joint Meeting, including Athletes-, Coaches- and Technical Committees, we would like to give some updates and important information on certain topics and respective rules.
**1**

**New Safety Regulations for Fencing Masks**

As announced UIPM adopted new safety regulations for fencing masks as of 1 January 2019. The new system, where the mask must contain two different safety systems at the rear of the mask, with two ends of the straps of the system firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask. The fencing equipment providers can upgrade existing masks, please contact them in your country before the start of the 2019 season.

After successful first tests during 2018 WCH in Mexico-City, it was decided to continue testing recent technical improvements during the 2019 season at selected major UIPM events for the outdoors fencing bonus round.

**Continuation of Wireless Fencing Testing**

**2**

**Riding ability of athletes**

During the 2018 season UIPM Technical Delegates have stopped athletes with non-satisfying riding abilities or those who put themselves and/or their horse in dangerous situations. As a result, UIPM issued warning letters and temporary suspension if reoccurring. UIPM Technical Delegates will strictly apply the rules and stop athletes in question at any time during the warm up or during the course.

For further improvements of the started process, UIPM will continue – in collaboration with experts - to address main concerns, such as:

- Riding ability of certain athletes not being good enough
- Level/suitability of provided and selected horses
- Increase level of course design to test riders
- Public perception of MP Riding regarding animal welfare

National Federations and coaches are reminded to take their responsibility serious. It is necessary to invest sufficiently in athletes riding education and training. Further it is important that nations only have athletes competing at higher level competitions with the necessary riding ability and not to put their athletes at risk at any point.

**3**

**Laser-Run**

Reminders for the following rules in place:

**Starting too early**

Starting the running leg before the shooting time has expired without having successfully completed the shooting series (“5 green lights”) will be penalised as following (Rule 5.6.2 and 5.6.3):

- 4 green lights ➔ **Elimination** (amendment to current rule, UIPM TC decision)
- 3 (or less) green lights ➔ **Disqualification** (considered as blatant attempt to start too early)

**Touching the table**

Athletes must touch the shooting table between each shot (Rule 5.6.1 v). Before applying a penalty (with TD approval) a warning is issued. It was decided that for better communication a yellow card will be used (e.g. placed on the shooting table at the respective position). With the exception of the last shooting series, where a penalty is directly applied, without a warning.
Athletes and teams are reminded of the following rules:

i. Pentathletes must wear clothing and equipment as specified in the Rules for each event.
ii. Officials must be dressed properly, at a minimum by the National Federation’s tracksuit.
iii. No pentathlete is allowed to compete with dirty clothing or with a mark, flag, emblem, country or city name that belongs to a NF other than the NF of the pentathlete.
iv. Pentathletes or officials dressed incorrectly are liable to a penalty or disciplinary measures.
v. NFs shall submit details, including a picture, of their kit (National Uniform) for the forthcoming year to the UIPM before the first World Cup in each year and commit to use their team uniform (for athletes and coaches) accordingly throughout the FOP and in any Zone for Coaches.

A pentathlete must wear athletic clothing. In category A competitions, pentathletes from the same country must wear matching uniform. This means, the clothing must be of same brand, type and color. Running shorts/ tights must be of same color but can differ slightly in style (e.g. women’s/ men’s).

Also, UIPM would like to highlight the importance of correct dressing (NF uniform) of athletes for the podium and victory ceremonies.

It has been decided to hold 2019 UIPM WCH U19 & U17 as a joint event, with the following categories and formats:

**U19 WCH: INDIVIDUAL, TEAM and RELAYS**
- with qualifications (unless less than 36 athletes per gender)
- Tetrathlon (Fencing, Swimming, Laser Run)

**U17 WCH: INDIVIDUAL, TEAM and RELAYS**
- with qualifications (unless less than 36 athletes per gender)
- Swimming and Laser Run (no fencing)

UIPM encourages competition organizers to offer fencing in addition to swimming and laser run for their U17 competitions, collecting valuable experience with the new format for U17 in the future.
After successful introduction of the new Judges Certification Program (JCP), a series of seminars have been carried out to certify new judges. In addition, existing International Judges were given the opportunity to re-qualify through a new online e-learning platform. Currently UIPM has around 450 International Judges of all levels. Updated information is available on the UIPM website http://education.uipmworld.org/dashboard/judges.

UIPM would like to highlight the importance of the introduced coaching zone and counts on ongoing collaboration.

i. The Organising Committee may set up a ZFC or ZFCs, clearly marked as such, for any discipline adjacent to the FOP, and in the tribune.

ii. All coaches in the ZFC must wear national uniform according to Article 1.22.2:

iii. The number of coaches from any NF within a ZFC must not exceed the number pentathletes from that NF competing in the discipline in question.

With the start of 2019 season, the first Olympic qualification events for Tokyo 2020 will take place. The 12-month qualification period for the Olympic World Ranking (OPWR) will start on June 1, 2019.

The official qualification system and explanations about the process were circulated to all NFs and can be accessed on UIPM website http://www.uipmworld.org/olympic-games

Any updates will be circulated and published.

UIPM is in contact and consultation with the IOC Sports Department regarding a new event format for YOG 2022. During the Joint Meeting in January 2019 a proposal for a new tetrathlon format to be used for the Dakar YOG 2022 was presented. A discussion involving Athletes-, Coaches and Technical Committees took place. A working group has been formed and tests will be carried out at several places during the next few months.
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.”