

UIPM Executive Board Meeting

Convening in person for the first time in 2022, the UIPM Executive Board (EB) met to discuss a wide variety of matters with a special focus on the New Pentathlon Discipline, as the EB meeting came immediately after a two-day meeting of the working group dedicated to the transformative process.

After a comprehensive update by Secretary General Shiny Fang and working group coordinator and Vice President Joel Bouzou OLY, and a three-hour discussion, the EB voted on the working group's recommendation that two versions of Obstacle Discipline – as proposed by World Obstacle (FISO) – should be selected for testing as the potential New 5th Discipline in Modern Pentathlon for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games. The EB voted in favour (with one abstention, Rob Stull OLY). Obstacle Discipline had been the clear winner of a three-stage scoring process by the working group, which had started with 61 options for the new discipline.

Following an update from 1st VP Juan Antonio Samaranch (also IOC VP), the EB voted unanimously in favour of UIPM continuing to follow the IOC policy on Ukraine and the suspension of athletes and coaches from Russia and Belarus, and also to issue a letter confirming that the decision was made by the entire EB and not only the UIPM President.

After Finland wrote to UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann with a request to step back as hosts of the UIPM 2022 Masters World Championships, the EB accepted proposals that 1) the 2022 competition be cancelled (but not as a force majeure event); 2) no fine or penalty be issued relating to the cancellation; 3) UIPM open a bid for the UIPM 2024 World Championships; 4) the UIPM Masters Committee elections be postponed due to the cancellation; 5) a working group be appointed by the EB later to work on Masters issues. The EB also gave the UIPM HQ and Legal team the authority to handle the situation.

Discussions turned to the 2022 European Youth Championships in Krakow (POL), which had been categorised as a test event for the European Games 2023 – which will be the main qualifier for European athletes to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. The competition had already been arranged according to the previous MP format, which did not reflect the new format that will be in place for Krakow 2023. The EB agreed that the competition be run according to the previous format, but not as an official test event for the European Games. It was also agreed that the event would have the status of a world-ranking competition for youth athletes.

Following the departure of the Oceania representative from the UIPM Coaches Committee, the EB accepted a recommendation from President Dr Schormann that the place be left vacant until UIPM 2022 Congress, with a coach to be nominated by the President for an interim observer role.

Also, the EB accepted a transfer request from a Ukrainian national – who had been resident in Germany for many years and had a pending application for a German passport – to transfer nationality, and the EB allowed them to compete under the UIPM flag.