

Athletes Committee Meeting Minutes

Frankfurt a. M., 16-18 February 2024



1. **UIPM AC Chairman**
Opening of the AC meeting
2. **Finish the “World Champion Jersey” project**
3. **Continue running number event winners (following on from 2023 World Championships podium rewards – working with UIPM partners + marketing / commercial departments to build)**
 - The concept is to have vests for a better storytelling, identify who has won the swimming, who is the reigning world champion etc ...
 - That's not easy to make it in a 90-min format if you use a machine or only stickers.
 - Different colors attract spectators' curiosity.
 - Also, Martin made some designs to better fit UIPM's identity and it was shown to some athletes last year.
4. **Prize money**
 - AC is asking for a 15% increase which would make a 29000 EUR budget raise.
 - It'd make a good storytelling as the sport has changed a lot these last months within and outside the community.
 - The ideal solution would be to find sponsors that wish to help athletes.
 - That'd make a major change for athletes' life as all costs of life & sports have increased.
 - The increase would go in priority to the increase of top 6 athletes prize money.
5. **Athlete development programme**
 - The idea is to identify 20 athletes from 10 nations (1 boy 1 girl) that could be able to attend UIPM major events
 - They could travel not only for events but also for training & gain experience
 - Athlete's selection would be for both developing nations but also confirmed countries that have financial difficulties
 - After some steps, continental centers could be useful to send athletes to get training, courses, education, maybe a dedicated clothing uniform etc ...
 - UIPM support should have more return on investment to have more flags at events on a long-term basis
 - UIPM should also promote more what is done in development support
 - ADP athletes' selection requires selection criteria (examples: gender, swimming time, time dedicated to MP per week)
 - Then, when UIPM is supporting, it could ask NOCs to double the UIPM support via a tripartite agreement
 - The monitoring of this pool of athletes would require someone fully dedicated to it
6. **Multisport festival structure**
 - The idea would be to have a kind of celebration of UIPM sports where people could give them a try, in a fancy place with the goal to make much more money than UIPM flagship events.

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7. New fencing format testing

- Athletes would prefer a round robin as the fairest solution but if negotiation is impossible with the IOC, a solution with more time per bout during the knockout stage would decrease as much as possible the possibility of luck to see a worse fencer win again a better one.
- Their preferred solution was best of 5 with at least 75 seconds.
- They have identified 2 solutions in common agreement with Coaches Committee to be tested.

8. Future UIPM AC elections

- Could be interesting to have a Junior athlete in the AC.
- Written rules in UIPM RIO are a little tricky (as for example the rule to have been internationally ranked in the last 2 seasons)

9. IOC AC elections

- One of the candidates is Emiliano HERNANDEZ (MEX), what support can be done.
- Rules of publicity are very strict from IOC so must be cautious.

10. OCR role model involvement / engagement

- Idea is to benefit OCR athlete's popularity to find common projects with UIPM athletes such as promotional videos for example.

11. Any other business