

UIPM Women's Commission Meeting's Summary

Online, 14 March 2024



Present: Cassandra Choh, Women's Commission Chair (CC)
Aya Medany, OLY, Member of the IOC Athletes' Commission (AM)
Dora Pallis, President of the Greek Modern Pentathlon Federation (DP)
Kseniya Gulyamova, (KG)

UIPM Staff: Alexandra Sumina, Service Manager (AS)

Excused: Dr Klaus Schormann, UIPM President
Shiny Fang, UIPM Secretary General
Yane Marques, OLY, President of Olympic Athletes Commission in Brazil

Agenda:

1. Chair welcomes & briefing.
2. Commission coordinator updates on actions taken in 2023 and in 2024:
 - a) WISH programme for women coaches – programme and activities explanation.
 - b) Safeguarding policy update.
 - c) Women Lead Sports programme 2024.
3. Establishment of commission's goals for 2024.
4. Next steps.
5. Closing remarks by the Chair.

.....

1. Chair welcomes & briefing.

Ms Choh welcomed the commission and opened the meeting. CC presented the latest actions that were made by the Singapore Modern Pentathlon Association that gave women opportunities to be involved in the sport in different roles, for example:

- Team leader in Hangzhou 2022 Asian Games was a woman with a sports background.
- Singapore Modern Pentathlon Association Head of High Performance is also a woman.

CC stressed that the number of women in leadership is growing in Singapore and around Southeast Asia.

CC informed the commission about the number of events she had planned for 2024: March 2024: Laser Run programmes for the visually impaired. The purpose of the event was to have inclusiveness for the athletes, the para-athletes.

- 18 May 2024: outreach programme with an equal number of boys and girls, total of 350 of 13 to 14-year-olds. During this event, 70% of judges, timekeepers, and the people who will be helping with this event will be women and girls.
- June 2024: Spartan trifecta.
- July 2024: UIPM Global Laser Run City Tour with a para category for the first time.
- August 2024: Urban Obstacle Laser Run event. Judging by the marketing research, the participation ratio might be 50% male and 50% female.

CC believed that 2024 would be an interesting year and she wanted to encourage girls to participate in the sport.

2. Commission coordinator updates on actions taken in 2023 and in 2024:

Alexandra Sumina updated the commission on following points:

a) *WISH programme for women coaches – programme and activities explanation.*

Women in Sport High Performance Pathway (for short, the WISH Programme) supported by Olympic Solidarity.

Participants: Maria Elena Panetti (ITA) and Rosario Paz Gajardo Lizama (CAN).

The programme run over 21 months and allows women who were involved or have the potential to be involved in elite coaching, to access leadership training, leadership mentoring and complementary sport-specific training led by the IF and with the engagement of the National Olympic Committees. The coaches will graduate from the programme in April 2024.

b) *Safeguarding policy update.*

Extended definitions of safeguarding, harassment, and abuse; useful resources hyperlinks:

- IOC Female Athlete Health Interactive Learning
- IOC Harassment and abuse in sport: Factsheet
- Athlete 365 Sexual Harassment and Abuse in Sport section
- UN Women: Tackling violence against women and girls in sport.
- Female Athlete Health

c) *Women Lead Sports programme 2024.*

This leadership programme empowers participants to clarify their goals, strengths, and vision, helping them craft a leadership brand. Support provided by ASOIF.

Participant: Mrs Kaewruethai Collings (NZL).

AS informed the commission that the leadership programme's results will be promoted by UIPM in the spring of 2024.

3. Establishment of commission's goals for 2024.

Dora Pallis greeted the commission, mentioning that the sport had now reached another level after the Olympic Games in Los Angeles 2028 had been confirmed. She shared that for Greece, it was very important to have an athlete receive a UIPM Fair Play award. DP asked if a Women's Foundation would be set up soon. AS answered that the project was to be confirmed.

DP agreed with the commission coordinator to promote women in sport and their achievements in leadership programmes.

DP and KG asked for a data presentation of the numbers of women in leadership in UIPM, the ratio of UIPM women coaches, and judges.

Ms Gulyamova strongly believed in the importance of programmes for women coaches and judges in leadership, since it would help to increase their number. KG's feedback on the Women Lead Sports programme was very positive; the programme helped her to reach high positions in leadership. KG requested to organize more programmes like this, while understanding that the budget also played an important role. Therefore, AS proposed using promotion and social media resources that would help to reach a wider audience of women and girls without requiring a high budget.

Ms Aya Medany agreed with the points made by the commission members and the coordinator; she was happy with the 50%-50% ratio of women and men participation in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, stressing that in UIPM, the number of women coaches had a big room to improve and hoped that it was possible to work on this point.

4. Next steps.

The commission decided to send a survey to National Federations to ask for numbers of women and men taking leadership roles, registered as athletes, coaches, and judges.

AS would present to the commission the statistics and data UIPM has now in its possession: UIPM certified judges and coaches, women in leadership.

The UIPM Women's Commission would arrange a meeting when the results of data collection were received.

5. Closing remarks by the Chair.

CC thanked the commission and closed the meeting at 15:40 CET.

Please, refer to the Action Plan document.