ROAD TO TOKYO BEGINS IN LOS ANGELES

Sato Taishu and Saito Ayumu (JAP) on their way to a silver medal in the Mixed Relay at World Cup I at Fairplex, Los Angeles
UIPM 2017 World Cup I: Perfect synergy on show at new USA venue Fairplex

The opening UIPM competition of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic cycle took place on the outskirts of Los Angeles at the Fairplex events complex - where temperatures were surprisingly low.

The competition, however, was typically hot and there were gold medals for Hungary, Germany and Korea. There was also a historic moment as UIPM staged an Laser-Run with obstacles demonstration ahead of the incorporation of the format into the Mixed Relay.

Men’s Individual: Demeter (HUN) pounces to claim gold

Bence Demeter (Hungary) came from behind to claim Men’s Individual gold at the opening event of the 2017 UIPM World Cup season in the 2024 Olympic Games candidate city of Los Angeles.

The 26-year-old, previous winner of two World Cup bronze medals, demonstrated masterful tactics during the Laser-Run that allowed him to outwit silver medallists Pavlo Tymoshchenko (Ukraine) and bronze medallist Alexander Lesun (Russia) and secure his first gold.

Demeter started the Laser-Run in 2nd place behind Lesun (RUS) but it was Tymoshchenko (UKR) who took the initiative in the last three shooting series at Fairplex.

On the final lap, Demeter (HUN) lurked behind the leader and then pounced, timing his sprint to perfection to leave Tymoshchenko (UKR) five seconds behind and Lesun (RUS) a distant third.

“I am very happy, it was a brilliant run-shoot for me,” said Demeter (HUN), who had already begun the season with gold at the Peridot Indoor Competition in Budapest.
“My tactic was to try to follow the first two competitors and then use my sprint in the last 100 metres. Usually I have a good sprint, so I am very happy.”

Earlier, world record-holder Logan Storie (USA) set the pace in Swimming at the Claremont Club. His time of 1:55.85 made him the early leader ahead of James Cooke (GBR, 1:58.79) and Gauthier Romani (FRA, 2:02.33).

It was in the Fencing arena that Lesun (RUS), Tymoshchenko (UKR) and Demeter (HUN) started to take charge of proceedings.

Lesun (RUS) emerged on top in the Ranking Round with 26/8 and he added the extra point by defeating Tymoshchenko (UKR) in the final bout of the Bonus Round, where Danil Kalimullin (RUS) and Nathan Schrimsher (USA) scored three wins apiece.

Only two athletes, Ondrej Polivka (CZE) and Sebastian Stasiak (POL) managed a perfect score of 300 during the Riding, both riding Gracie. But Lesun (RUS) protected his lead with a clean round, allowing him to start the Laser-Run 11 seconds ahead of Demeter (HUN) with Egor Puchkarevskiy (RUS) and Tymoshchenko (UKR) close behind.

After an intriguing Laser-Run, Alexander Nobis (GER) finished 4th ahead of Robert Kasza (HUN) in 5th and Egor Puchkarevskiy (RUS) in 6th.

Women’s Individual: Schoeneborn kicks off Tokyo campaign with gold

Lena Schoeneborn (Germany) shook off her Rio 2016 Olympic Games setback with a stylish victory in the Women’s Individual final at the opening event of the 2017 UIPM World Cup season.

World No.1 Schoeneborn, 30, claimed her 9th individual World Cup victory and set the pace for the season just as she did in 2016 when she won gold at World Cup I in Cairo (EGY).

Here in the 2024 Olympic Games candidate city of Los Angeles (USA), the 2008 Olympic champion delivered a signal of intent to her rivals aiming for Tokyo 2020 glory. Schoeneborn (GER) began the Laser-Run with a 21-second deficit to Natsumi Tomonaga (Japan), but she dropped the leader on the second 800m lap and never looked back.

In cool and windy conditions it was a commanding performance from a modern pentathlete who has been a model of consistency and excellence in recent years, and whose Rio 2016 medal quest ended with an unfortunate Riding experience.

“It was difficult, but I knew I could still make up the time on the Laser-Run and I didn’t have to go all out, and that was nice,” said Schoeneborn (GER).

The 2016 World Cup Final winner was joined on the podium at Fairplex by Kate French (Great Britain) and Ekaterina Khuraskina (Russia), both of whom caught Tomonaga (JAP) on the 3rd lap and engaged in a private duel for silver, won narrowly by French (GBR).

The British athlete was delighted with her first World Cup silver medal, while bronze medallist Khuraskina (RUS) could also be pleased with her first World Cup podium finish since 2013.
"I can’t quite believe it – it was brilliant," said French (GBR), who had begun the Laser-Run in 8th place, 55 seconds off the lead. "I just tried to focus on picking people off and I didn’t realise until the last lap that it was going to be such an exciting race for silver and bronze."

"I am really pleased with my run. I was just praying for the finish line to come. It’s my highest place at a World Cup so I’m very pleased."

Behind the top four, Russia had two other athletes in the top seven as Gulnaz Gubaydullina came in 5th and Alise Fakhrutdinova in 7th. Ilke Ozyuksel of Turkey continued her progress by finishing 6th.

Earlier, Gubaydullina (RUS) set the pace in Swimming at the Claremont Club with a time of 2:08.84.

Khuraskina (RUS) came out on top in the Fencing Ranking Round with 28/7, one victory ahead of Schoeneborn (GER). Khuraskina (RUS) defeated Tomonaga (JAP) in the final bout of the Bonus Round but only after the Japanese athlete had enjoyed three wins.

World champion Sarolta Kovacs (HUN) also made progress in the Bonus Round but her challenge ended in the Riding arena when her horse Dress Rehearsal fell during the warm-up and lost one of its shoes, leading to the rider’s elimination.

Four athletes – Anna Maliszewska (POL), Anna Buriak (RUS), Mayan Oliver (MEX) and Yang Soo Jin (KOR) – managed a perfect score of 300 while Schoeneborn (GER) and French (GBR) lost ground with 11 and 30 penalty points respectively. But they would go on to show their class in the Laser-Run.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "Today’s women’s final was a big challenge for many countries. I want to emphasize the Japanese development on high performance. I was very happy to see that Tomonaga came 4th and was very close to getting a spot on the podium."

"The victory by Lena Schoeneborn showed that she kept focused even though she did not achieve her goal at the Olympic Games."

"A special mention has to go to the the organising committee and the Fairplex staff who have delivered this competition to a high standard of organisation and hospitality to the spectators."
Mixed Relay: Confident Korea make all the smart moves

The experienced duo of Yang Soo Jin and Jung Jinhwa led Korea to a decisive gold medal in the Mixed Relay as UIPM 2017 World Cup I drew to a close.

For the second successive day it was Japan who set off first in the decisive Laser-Run discipline, a demonstration of their determination to become a more competitive force in Modern Pentathlon ahead of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

However, Ayumu Saito and Taishu Sato were unable to match the running pace and shooting composure of Korea (Yang/Jung), who made sure the Japanese duo would have to shift their focus to protecting silver.

Behind them, with the final lap approaching it looked like Great Britain (Jessica Varley & Myles Pillage) might pinch an unexpected bronze out of the grasp of Kazakhstan (Elena Potapenko and Vladislav Sukharev), but a nine-second shoot by Sukharev soon snuffed out that challenge and made sure it would be an all-Asian top three.

Earlier, Kazakhstan (Potapenko/Sukharev) narrowly defeated Great Britain (Varley/Pillage) in Swimming with a time of 1:59.38 at the Claremont Club.

There was no such parity in the Fencing arena, however, as Japan (Saito/Sato) dominated proceedings. They took a firm grip on the overall lead as they achieved an impressive tally of 30 victories and four defeats, and it was only in the Bonus Round where they lost the final series to Poland (Anna Maliszewska & Szymon Staskiewicz) that their dominance was interrupted.

Poland’s momentum did not last long, however, as Staskiewicz endured a messy Riding display that put the two individual Rio 2016 Olympic representatives out of contention.

It was Korea (Yang/Jung) who enjoyed the smoothest experience on horseback, incurring only six penalty points to put serious pressure on Japan (Saito/Sato), whose lead was suddenly looking very slender indeed, and proved to be sufficient only for silver.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “The first Mixed Relay of the season was a success, especially for Asia as Korea won the gold medal, followed by Japan and Kazakhstan. It was such an achievement for the Asian nations.

“We have seen here once more a great demonstration of team spirit and this makes us very confident to include the Mixed Relay in Tokyo 2020.”

Tom Shepard, Chairman of USA Pentathlon, said: “I want to personally thank our international governing body, the UIPM, for the support and leadership, as well as USA Pentathlon..."
UIPM completed a successful first demonstration event of Laser-Run with obstacle, which the federation is planning to incorporate into Modern Pentathlon’s Mixed Relay event, during World Cup I.

Eight specially-designed obstacles of varying shape and difficulty were put to the test by volunteer athletes from UIPM in special race that took place after the Women’s Final at Fairplex on February 25.

Dr Klaus Schormann, UIPM President, said: “The addition of obstacles to our Laser-Run discipline will make the Mixed Relay a more interesting and dramatic spectacle both for our athletes and our audience. We are in the process of refining the type of obstacles so as not to influence the flow and rhythm of athletes when they are running.

“This is a logical step in the evolution of the format of our beloved Olympic sport of Modern Pentathlon, and it forms part of a confident application by UIPM for the Mixed Relay to be added to the programme of the Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo in 2020.”

Janusz Peciak, the UIPM Sports Director and 1976 Olympic champion in Modern Pentathlon, said: “Last night’s successful demonstration event at Fairplex has underlined the added value that Laser-Run with obstacle can bring to the Mixed Relay and to the wider Olympic sporting movement.

“This is a truly innovative discipline which adds to the challenge facing our athletes, requiring stamina, concentration as well as the teamwork that is already the hallmark of the Mixed Relay. Most importantly, it is a perfect format for spectators.”

The UIPM will continue to test and demonstrate Laser-Run with obstacles as an additional feature of the Mixed Relay and another demonstration will be held during World Cup II in Cairo (EGY) in March.
Tokyo 2020 judges benefit from educational programme

As Japan prepares to host the Olympic Games in 2020 in Tokyo, the UIPM is currently developing and delivering specific judging programmes for Modern Pentathlon in Japan to assist the Japanese federation to train more officials at international level.

At the end of 2016, the Japanese International Judges passed an official judges seminar and on the road to Tokyo, the group will attend various World Cup and World Championships in order to learn more about international competition.

The Olympic Modern Pentathlon judges can have an impact on developing and improving the Modern Pentathlon in Japan. Having access to the latest knowledge and understanding of our sport will give it the best opportunity to succeed in the Olympic environment.

More information about the programme: http://education.uipmworld.org

UIPM Statement on Viktoriya Tereshchuk

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) wrote to the Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne (UIPM) on February 27, 2017 to communicate a Disciplinary Commission decision regarding the athlete Viktoriya Tereshchuk (Ukraine), winner of a bronze medal in the Women's Modern Pentathlon at the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing in 2008.

Viktoriya Tereshchuk has been disqualified from the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing in 2008 and instructed to return her bronze medal, diploma and medallist pin.

The Disciplinary Commission found that Viktoriya Tereshchuk had committed an anti-doping rule violation after it was established that she had tested positive for the presence and/or use of a Prohibited Substance in a bodily sample provided on August 22, 2008.

The substance in question was dehydrochlormethyltestosterone (turinabol), an exogenous anabolic steroid.

Viktoriya Tereshchuk has been informed of the decision via the Ukraine National Olympic Committee. She has 21 days in which to appeal to the Court of Arbitration.

The UIPM Anti-Doping Panel has been informed of the decision and will determine in due course the duration of the ineligibility period to be applied to Viktoriya Tereshchuk according to the UIPM Anti-Doping Rules and Procedures.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "The UIPM acknowledges the decision of the IOC Disciplinary Commission in respect of the athlete Viktoriya Tereshchuk.

"This is a highly regrettable and very rare case of a Modern Pentathlete being found to have committed an anti-doping violation, and UIPM is grateful to the IOC for having devised a system of detecting historic transgressions relating to the Olympic Games.

"UIPM is committed to promoting clean sport and protecting clean athletes, and will continue to maintain a robust anti-doping system in order to enshrine the values of respect and fair play as established by our founder, Baron Pierre de Coubertin."
Australian talent blooms in wake of Esposito success

The 2017 Australian Modern Pentathlon Championships in Melbourne attracted a healthy attendance of 27 competitors, demonstrating the effect of Chloe Esposito’s victory at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games as well as Max Esposito’s 7th-placed finish.

Marina Carrier won the Open Female competition with a very strong performance, scoring 1375 points ahead of silver medallist Charley Barrett (1184) and bronze medallist Grace Mahmoud (1089). The Riding event was held on day one, with all other disciplines taking place the following day.

Lachlan Wardell won the Open Male competition, with Ryan Wardell claiming silver and Paul Bridges-Black picking up bronze. There was a Masters competition and youth categories as young as Under-9.

Kitty Chiller, President of the Oceania Confederation and UIPM Executive Board Member, said: “It was a very successful competition with 27 competitors across all age groups. This is the most we have had in a domestic competition for many years. “The most pleasing aspect was the number of females and the number of young athletes. And also the great athleticism of these kids, all of whom have great potential.”

Canada stages a real winter warmer

The Winter Nationals staged by Pentathlon Canada in Calgary, Alberta on February 11 & 12 were hailed as a major success.

Pentathlon Alberta President Connie Olsen said: “Congratulations to all the organisers, parents and athletes. Thanks to you and our generous sponsors this was truly a wonderful event.”

“As both an organiser and competitor, I can attest that the welcoming spirit of Albertans was clearly in evidence.”

The Riding event at the Country Hills Equestrian Centre featured excellent performances at elite level, including a perfect score from 2016 World Masters champion Bob Noble and a third round that was strictly for novice and new riders.

Martin Gajardo (Chile) was one of many pentathletes who impressed in Swimming, with a time of 2:05.45 in the Junior Men’s division.

Some of the top scores in Fencing included Cleo Smith with 304 points in the Youth E Girls division and Gavin Pigott with 304 points in the Youth B Boys division.

In Laser-Run, in the Youth C Girls division, Sydney Lutz posted 11.3 seconds for her first series and followed up with 11.9 for her second - the two fastest Shooting times of the day.

Canada’s Summer Nationals will also be taking place in Calgary in July.

Winterpentathlon Davos 2017 hits the mark

Another successful championships attended by eight nations took place in Switzerland from February 2-4 at Winterpentathlon 2017 Davos.

There were Pentathlon and Tetrathlon competitions combining Fencing, Riding, Cross-Country Skiing, Shooting and Giant Slalom followed by a Skiing for Fun session.

The participating nations were Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Ukraine, Great Britain, Denmark, Estonia and Italy.
Tournament & Training
Camp Invitations

This is an important notice for all Athletes and Competitions organisers to continuously check pentathlon.org for all information related to invitations and visa letters.

Navigate to the National Federations Portal or to http://www.pentathlon.org to stay up to date with all tournament news.

Medical and Anti-Doping Corner

WADA RELEASES FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) ON THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTIONS (TUEs)

Since 13 September 2016, the cyber espionage group “Fancy Bears” have been releasing batches of confidential athlete data on their website, which they illegally obtained from a Rio 2016 Olympic Games account of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)’s Anti-Doping Administration and Management System (ADAMS). Specifically, they are releasing data related to Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs) delivered by Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) – International Federations (IFs), National Anti-Doping Organizations (NADOs), and Major Event Organizers (MEOs).

This situation has led to a lot of media coverage; and, unfortunately, a tremendous amount of misinformation as it relates to TUEs. It is very unfortunate that athletes’ TUEs are being debated publicly on the basis of partial, confidential, medical information. Athletes should not be required to publicly justify their TUEs.

This FAQ has been designed to address the misinformation and uphold the rights of clean athletes as embodied within the World Anti-Doping Code (Code) and the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions (ISTUE).

The TUE program is a rigorous and necessary part of elite sport, which has overwhelming acceptance from athletes, physicians and all anti-doping stakeholders worldwide.

More information at pentathlon.org/medical-and-anti-doping

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COM PETITION INVITATIONS

UIPM 2017 World Cup #2
Cairo, Egypt
22-26 March 2017
Inside UIPM: Monthly activities of President Dr Schormann

04.02.2017 Wiesbaden (GER)

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann took part in the gala of the German Sport Foundation in Wiesbaden, where he met with leaders of German sport, media, business and politics.

The main points of discussion included the Olympic Summer Games 2016 in Rio de Janeiro, the next Olympic Games in Tokyo 2020 and the candidate cities bidding for the 2024 Olympic Games.

09.02.2017, Hangzhou (CHN)

Hangzhou is the organizer of the 2022 Asian Games. The City Government, the Organizing Committee and the Hangzhou Qinglan Primary School invited UIPM President Dr Schormann to speak to 31 City Governors, parents, teachers, leaders of the school and about 250 children from the primary school.

He discussed principles of education to young generations and addressed many important points linked to the education of modern society and different ways to create a platform that makes education available to girls and boys from all backgrounds regardless of financial handicaps.

Dr Schormann used sport as an example in its capacity as a pillar for education, health, environmental awareness, solidarity, integration, team spirit, respect, tolerance and fairness. His speech was broadcast by live stream across China.

The Hangzhou Qinglan Primary School appointed Dr Schormann as International Development Consultant from February 2017.
10.02.2017, Wuxi (CHN)

The UIPM President visited the Senior High School Wuxi Xishan on February 10 and gave a speech about Olympic education and Pierre de Coubertin’s philosophy linked to the modern-day Olympic Movement.

He presented the Principal, Tang Jiangpeng, with the UIPM Gold Pierre de Coubertin Medal in recognition of education through sport and belief in the importance of creating harmony of body, will and mind.

They discussed the establishment of a UIPM Modern Pentathlon Academy in 2017, which will be arranged before October 3, the day of the 110th anniversary of the Senior High School in Wuxi.

14.-15.02.2017 Lausanne (SUI)

Dr Schormann attended the 2nd International Forum for Sports Integrity in the Olympic Museum, which was opened by IOC President Dr Thomas Bach, who also gave the closing remarks. The two main points on the agenda were:

- Future actions for strengthening the prevention of competition manipulation
- Supporting ethical conduct / anti-corruption

The 150 participants were from Governments and national authorities, NOCs, international organisations, sporting organisations, International Federations, betting operators, experts and IOC.

21.02.2017 Frankfurt (GER)

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann met with Prof Dr Hans Michael Ockenfels in Frankfurt to discuss details of his position as newly appointed Chairperson of the UIPM Doping Review Panel and his actions as UIPM Medical Adviser to the UIPM Medical Committee in preparation of the first meeting in few weeks.

23.02-27.02. Pomona-Los Angeles (USA)

The UIPM President gave a speech during the opening ceremony of UIPM 2017 World Cup I on February 23. He spoke of the historical context of the new destination of Fairplex in Pomona, Los Angeles County, in relation to the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. He welcomed more than 20 former Olympic athletes including the IOC Executive Board Member Anita DeFrantz, who represented the USOC. He also welcomed a delegation from the 2024 Los Angeles Olympic Bid campaign team, including Chairman Casey Wasserman and Chief of Sports Games Operations Doug Arndt.

President Dr. Schormann congratulated the new Chairman of the Board of USA Modern Pentathlon Association, Tom Shepard, wishing him a successful leadership for the coming years.

The official ceremony included the handover of a UIPM Hall of Fame diploma and plaque for General George S Patton to US Army Lieutenant
General JJ Love, who represented the Patton family.

During the competition Dr Schormann had various meetings with Secretary General Shiny Fang and Treasurer John Helmick linked to financial strategy and projects for investments associated with the development of Modern Pentathlon and other UIPM Sports. President Schormann had a very detailed discussion with Martin Dawe, Member for Marketing and Andrejus Zadneprovskis, Member for Media, in preparation for the UIPM Business Affairs Committee meeting in London (17-18.03.2017). The agenda included new branding, publications, new media and TV strategies based on the collaborative deal signed with Eurosport.

President Dr Schormann discussed with the Member of the UIPM Pierre de Coubertin Commission Mr Alain Lunzenfichter important issues about the history of Modern Pentathlon in various print media. Together with Member for Marketing Martin Dawe they are reviewing written documents and preparing a comprehensive historical reference book.

Dr Schormann met with USA federation chairman Tom Shepard to discuss future World Cups in Fairplex in 2018/2019 and the World Championships in 2020, knowing that the city of Pomona and the Los Angeles County Fair Association / Fairplex are strong supporters of all these competitions. This major sporting complex will be a future Modern Pentathlon centre for the USAMPA and UIPM.

**Beverly Hills**

The 12th annual Los Angeles Sports Awards took place in Beverly Hilton Hotel organized by the Los Angeles Sports Council Foundation. UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann attended along with Secretary General Shiny Fang, NORCECA President Robert Stull and Alain Lunzenfichter, Honorary President of the Olympic Journalists Association.
New Balance
World Rankings

The PWR is updated live on www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at 03 March 2017:

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<td>Yane MARQUES</td>
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The Full New Balance World Ranking is available on www.pentathlon.org

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“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.”

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