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UIPM 2017 WORLD CUP FINAL:
UNFORGETTABLE SCENES IN VILNIUS

Champion Tamara Alekszejew (HUN) is joined on the podium by Laura Asadauskaite (LTU) and her daughter Adriana and bronze medallist Gulnaz Gubaydullina (RUS)
UIPM 2017 World Cup Final

Valentin Prades of France marked Olympic Day by winning his second UIPM World Cup Men’s Final in front of a healthy crowd in the Lithuanian capital city of Vilnius.

Fans attended Vingis Park in great numbers to see the most versatile athletes in the world compete for prizes and they were treated to a fantastic Laser-Run battle between Prades (FRA) and Pavlo Tymoshchenko (UKR).

Tymoshchenko, the Rio 2016 Olympic silver medallist, was the most consistent performer in the 2017 World Cup, finishing in each of the top four positions. This time he had to settle for silver but only after a brave chase.

Prades (FRA) dominated from the start of the Laser-Run, which he had started one second behind Sherif Rashad (EGY) in 2nd place. But Tymoshchenko (UKR) caught up with him on the final shoot, where Prades (FRA) became stuck for the first time.

The pair left the range together, to roars of excitement from the tribune at Vingis Park, but Prades (FRA) refused to be denied and he immediately stretched away from his rival and eventually won by 4 seconds. It was his second victory in this competition after a breakthrough gold medal in 2013 in Nizhniy Novgorod (RUS).

Seven nations - all European - shared the nine medals on offer as France, Hungary and Ireland took home the golds. But the biggest cheers of the weekend were undoubtedly reserved for the 2012 Olympic champion, Laura Asadauskaite, who made a dramatic bid for Women’s Individual gold and ended up winning an excellent silver.

The 2017 UIPM World Cup Final will be beamed out to millions of sports fans around the world this weekend thanks to a new set of agreements with TV networks covering 163 countries.

The new partnership between UIPM and Eurosport, covering the 2017 World Cup Final and the 2017 World Championships in Cairo (EGY), meant viewers across Europe were able to see the world’s most versatile athletes in action on each of the three days via Eurosport 2.

CCTV, M4 Sports, OSN Sports and Fox were among the TV networks who also transmitted the live coverage of the Men’s, Women’s and Mixed Relay Finals while several others broadcast the highlights. The action went out across the continents of Europe, Asia and Africa as well as Australia and New Zealand.
Behind the leading duo, Jaroslaw Swiderski (POL) enjoyed his best-ever result with a fine bronze medal. Jun Woongtae (KOR) finished 4th ahead of 2016 world champion Valentin Belaud (FRA) in 5th and the 2016 Olympic champion Alexander Lesun (RUS) in 6th.

“I had a good first shoot and I knew that Tymoshchenko was close behind me, but I knew I had the power in me,” said Prades (FRA), who finished 4th at the 2016 Olympic Games and narrowly missed out on a medal in a sprint finish with Ismael Hernandez Uscanga (MEX).

“My last shoot was not good, but I won the competition and that was my primary objective. My Fencing was not great, and it gives me a good base to work from ahead of the World Championships. It’s a good day for me because four years ago I won my first senior title at the World Cup Final in Russia, and today I won again.”

Earlier in the day, Jun (KOR) gave notice of his intentions with the fastest Swimming performance. He won the final heat in 2:01.07 ahead of compatriot Jung Jinhwa (KOR) in 2:01.37.

Belaud (FRA) was the star of the Fencing Bonus Round, scoring seven victories before Lee Jihun (KOR) claimed the last five bouts. Lesun (RUS) did not add to his score but he was the Fencing winner after scoring 24V/11D in the Ranking Round. Robert Kasza (CZE) managed the same score but he was eliminated after failing to take part in Swimming.

A large crowd had gathered by the time the Riding began and both Prades (FRA) and Tymoshchenko (UKR) put themselves strongly in contention with clean rounds and a maximum score of 300.

Ilya Palazkov (BLR) and Pavel Ilyashenko (KAZ) also produced a maximum score but Olympic champion Lesun (RUS) lost ground after incurring 35 penalty points. That allowed Prades (FRA) and Tymoshchenko (UKR) to take centre stage, which they did with a thrilling duel.
"Today we saw a very exciting competition with the highest performances of the season and with so many world and Olympic champions participating, and a dramatic finish at the end," said UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann.

“As President of the Union I am very happy that we had such a great day here in Vilnius, where they have organised the perfect World Cup Final with an excellent venue and great horses.

“Many fans from Lithuania and neighbouring countries have come here to support their athletes and there was a very special atmosphere. I congratulate the medallists on all they have achieved.”

**Women’s Individual: Alekszejev (HUN) wins glorious gold**

Sometimes it takes a special performance to defeat Laura Asadauskaite (LTU) and that is exactly what Tamara Alekszejev (HUN) produced to win a World Cup Final Women’s Individual gold.

Alekszejev (HUN) had never previously finished on the podium at a major individual UIPM competition but her gold medal was fully deserved after a flawless performance. At the end she described it as the “perfect” day.

It was very nearly a perfect day for Asadauskaite (LTU) and the loyal, passionate crowd who braved wet weather at Vingis Park to support their national hero, the London 2012 Olympic champion.

They created an incredible atmosphere as the 33-year-old Asadauskaite set off in the Laser-Run with a deficit of 77 seconds to make up on Alekszejev (HUN), who started with a 23-second lead over Kim Sunwoo (KOR).

Asadauskaite (LTU) is renowned for her exceptional Laser-Run and the crowd knew they were in for a treat as she started advancing through the field. When she left the range for the final time after a flawless set there seemed a real possibility that she could create a fairytale finish. As it was, Alekszejev (HUN) kept her composure under real pressure to seal a career-defining success.

“I feel perfect. I can’t believe I’m World Cup champion. I’m very happy,” said Alekszejev (HUN), whose compatriot Sarolta Kovacs (HUN) finished 7th.

“I didn’t look behind me, I just focused on my shooting. After the first two runs I realised that Laura was coming, but I’m strong.”

At the end Asadauskaite (LTU) was the centre of attention as locals flocked to congratulate her – and she was joined on the podium by her daughter Adriana, 7, before they posed for photographs together.

“Today is a very happy day,” said Asadauskaite (LTU). “My Fencing was not so good but my Riding and Laser-Run today were perfect, and I’m happy to get the silver medal.”

Behind the leading duo there was a dramatic sprint for bronze and it was Gulnaz Gubaydullina (RUS) who held off the challenge of Anastasiya...
Prokopenko (BLR) to secure the medal. Prokopenko (BLR) timed 11:41 in the Laser-Run, almost as quick as Asadauskaite (LTU, 11:35).

Kim Sunwoo (KOR) took 5th after a consistent performance and Gloria Tocchi (ITA) was the final prize winner in 6th.

Earlier, Gubaydullina (RUS) was typically slick in the pool with her best Swimming time of 2017. She easily won the final heat in 2:07.76, ahead of Kovacs (HUN, 2:10.45) and Ieva Serapinaite (LTU, 2:12.84).

The Fencing Bonus Round at Vingis Park featured three exceptional performances. First Kate Coleman-Lenehan (IRL) climbed up from the bottom of the ladder with six victories, before Volha Silkina (BLR) added five of her own. The best was reserved for Tocchi (ITA) who won nine bouts in a row.

The rain had come in torrents and showers for much of the day and the wet grass cut up under the hooves of the horses but performances from both horse and athlete were excellent in the circumstances, and there were seven scores of 300.

Akekszejew and Kovacs (HUN), Tocchi (ITA) and Lina Batuleviciute (LTU) were
among those with a flawless score
while Asadauskaite (LTU) dropped just
seven points, a penalty that would not
prove crucial in the end.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann
said: “Today we were treated to a
very exciting finish, especially with
Laura coming from behind with such
incredible support from her public and
her fans.

“The atmosphere was really special
and I have to say that all the athletes
performed so well in conditions that
were difficult for Riding. We can’t
control the weather but the athletes
showed that they didn’t care and they
didn’t let it affect their performances.”

**Mixed Relay: Ice-cool Ireland retain title**

Ireland’s Natalya Coyle and Arthur Lanigan-O’Keeffe created a special
double by winning gold in the Mixed
Relay on the final day in Vilnius.

The Irish duo retained the title they won
in 2016 in Sarasota (USA) and proved
that they are the world’s leading Mixed
Relay specialists with a commanding
performance.

“We were strong from start to finish
and it was one of those days that you
don’t get very often in pentathlon,” said
Lanigan-O’Keeffe (IRL).

“It was a seriously good field and we
performed well in all events so we’re
delighted.”

Coyle (IRL) added: “We had a great
Swim and then won the Fencing and
the Riding and Laser-Run went well so
it was a perfect day – fantastic.

“It’s a great feeling to be able to stand
on top of the podium and hear the
national anthem of Ireland.”

Behind them, Valentin Prades added a
silver medal to his individual gold as he
teamied up with Julie Belhamri to win
silver for France.

Gulnaz Gubaydullina was another
athlete celebrating a second medal
as she added relay bronze to her
individual bronze for Russia with
Alexander Savkin.

Ireland (Coyle/Lanigan-O’Keeffe)
started the Laser-Run with a lead of 23
seconds over France (Belhamri/Prades)
and 39 seconds over 3rd-placed
Lithuania (Ieva Serapinaite & Justinas
Kinderis).

Coyle (IRL) protected their advantage
but when Lanigan-O’Keeffe (IRL)
came under pressure from one of the
best Laser-Runners in the world, their
special double came under threat.

The athletic Prades (FRA) closed the
gap on Lanigan-O’Keeffe (IRL) in the
first 800m lap but the Irishman held his
nerve superbly at the final shoot and
set off at pace, leaving Prades (FRA)
with no option but to settle for silver.

The day began with Swimming and it
was Hungary (Sarolta Kovacs & Gergely
Demeter) who completed their 200m
fastest (1:56.08) ahead of Russia
(Gulnaz Gubaydullina and Alexander
Savkin), Ireland (Coyle/Lanigan-
O’Keeffe) and Lithuania (Serapinaite/
Kinderis), all of whom went under 1:57.
Ireland (Coyle/Lanigan-O’Keeffe) continued to make a strong defence of their title in the all-important Fencing Ranking Round, where they scored 19V/7D ahead of France (Belhamri/Prades) 17V/9D and Egypt (Morsy/Hefny) 16V/10D.

The Fencing Bonus Round at Vingis Park featured good performances by Czech Republic (Natalie Dianova & Jan Kuf) and Egypt (Morsy/Hefny), who knocked Ireland (Coyle/Lanigan-O’Keeffe) off the top of the elimination ladder. However, that defeat was only a momentary setback for the Irish and they resumed control of the competition on the Riding course. In fact there were four clear rounds before the Irish took to the course, from Poland, Russia, Egypt and France. But the pressure did not deter Coyle and Lanigan-O’Keeffe and they made sure they would go into the Laser-Run with a strong lead.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “Today we enjoyed another excellent Mixed Relay and it was again a very impressive performance from the Irish who have really embraced this event.

“The organisation of this World Cup Final has been excellent and the crowd have been very respectful, giving great support to the Lithuanian athletes but also those from other countries.”
The 2017 Laser-Run City Tour continued to spread a positive message about UIPM Sports throughout the urban population of the world with another series of competitions in the month of June.

Countries including Spain, Ivory Coast, India, Egypt and the UK took turns to fly the LRCT flag, giving aspiring pentathletes of all ages exposure to Laser-Run in their own city environment.

Portugal staged two rounds this month, in Covilhã on June 4 and Carregado on June 25.

This double-header proved to be a successful return for Laser-Run to Portugal after the great success of the 2016 Laser-Run World Championship in Lisbon, and marked a positive start to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic cycle for the hosting federation (PMPF).

The local municipality of Covilhã held a celebration of sport with Laser-Run City Tour topping the bill among other open-air activities at Pavilhão da Associação Nacional dos Industriais dos Lanifícios.

The culmination of the LRCT was a Mixed Relay for all ages and genders: a total of 23 teams took part and brought excitement and emotion to the crowd following the competition.

In Carregado, more than 200 athletes competed for medals in a competition hosted by the local club Associação Desportiva do Carregado and the Town Hall of Alenquer.

Competitors came from clubs all over Portugal - from north to south and from the continental territory to the Madeira Islands.
The next stop for LRCT in Portugal will be the city of Amadora on September 24.

Sri Lanka held its first City Tour on June 25 in the country’s official capital city, Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte.

The event took place in a city location popular for leisure runners, cyclists and others who take part in physical activities, and the entry list comprised more than 200.

Participants took part in all age categories with more than 45 racing at Elite level across three heats and a final. Many spectators watched the action in heavy rain.

The event was organised by the Modern Pentathlon Federation of Sri Lanka in conjunction with Pedro Petruschinski from the UIPM Laser-Run Experts Panel. More than 40 volunteers also took part, helping to ensure the success of the first Laser-Run City Tour on this beautiful island in the Indian Ocean.

Sri Lanka will host two more Laser-Run City Tours in 2017, in Colombo (July 30) and Galle (November 25).
Olympic Day celebrations

Olympic Day 2017 took place on June 23 and while many eyes were on the UIPM World Cup Final in Vilnius (LTU) where Valentin Prades (FRA) won gold, other members of the UIPM community marked the day in their own way.

The Malaysia Modern Pentathlon Federation took the opportunity to celebrate Olympic Day by hosting a Laser-Run promotional event.

The MMPF invited aspiring Laser-Runners of all ages to try their hand at the youngest UIPM Sport, and Secretary General Vivien Chen said: "We hope to spread the word about Laser-Run and Modern Pentathlon and garner a larger following in Malaysia."

The Afghanistan Modern Pentathlon Federation also celebrated Olympic Day with a flag parade aimed at spreading positive messages about Olympic sport in the country.

On June 3, Modern Pentathlon, Laser-Run and Triathlon were among more than 20 sports presented during the Belarus Olympic Committee’s own International Olympic Day.
The UIPM Anti-Doping Panel has confirmed that modern pentathlete Maksim Kustov of Russia will serve a four-year suspension from UIPM Sports as a result of a doping offence relating to the athlete’s biological passport.

This follows the provision of evidence to UIPM by the Russian Anti-Doping Agency (RUSADA), which recently announced a four-year suspension for Maksim Kustov as a result of its findings. UIPM recognizes and supports this action by RUSADA and Mr Kustov will be ineligible to compete for a period of four years starting on October 4, 2016. The sanction includes the disqualification of results achieved by Mr Kustov during the period June 15, 2015 to October 4, 2016.

**Maksim Kustov (RUS) suspended for four years**

The Women’s Final demonstrated again the extraordinary Laser-Run skills of Ilke Ozyuksel (TUR) and Xenia Fralcova (RUS), both of whom beat the record of 11:48, but it was 20-year-old Irene Prampolini (ITA) whose all-round consistency enabled her to claim gold. The Men’s Final was also very impressive with an outstanding performance by 19-year-old Marek Grycz (CZE), one of the emerging stars of Modern Pentathlon, who fended off the challenge of silver medallist Serge Baranov (RUS) who impressed with his Laser-Run. Martin Vlach (CZE) picked up bronze.

The final day of the Championships brought a fitting reward for the hosts as Spain won silver in the Mixed Relay behind champions France. Russia won both team golds and the Men’s Relay while the Women’s Relay was claimed by Germany.

The Spanish Federation showed outstanding hospitality, treating the Junior athletes like their family and ensuring the 2017 Junior European Championships would be a memorable occasion for all involved. UIPM First Vice-President Juan Antonio Samaranch (ESP) was present at the Men’s Final and commended the standard of the competition.
The 3rd Youth Olympic Games will take place in Buenos Aires (ARG) from October 6-18, 2018 with Modern Pentathlon featuring on October 12-14 and 16.

As in Singapore in 2010 and Nanjing (CHN) in 2014, there will be medals at stake in three Modern Pentathlon events: the Men’s and Women’s Individual and the Mixed Relay.

That means 48 of the best youth pentathletes in the world, 24 males and 24 females each forming a duo to represent their country, will have the opportunity to challenge for one or even two Youth Olympic medals in Buenos Aires.

Athletes must have been born between 2000 and 2003 to be eligible, and they will pursue qualification at a series of qualifying events between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018.

Each continent will stage a direct qualifying tournament which will provide athletes with an early opportunity to secure places in YOG 2018. The European qualifier is scheduled for August 10-13 in Portugal, with a Pan American qualifier set to take place in Merida (MEX) from August 30 to September 3; the Asia/Oceania qualifier will be on September 14 in Gotemba (JAP).

A total of 18 athletes, nine male and nine female, will qualify directly, including six from Europe, four from Asia and two each from Oceania, Africa, NORCECA and South America. Argentina’s involvement is guaranteed with one male and one female place reserved for the host nation.
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.

**COMPETITION INVITATIONS**

UIPM 2017 Under 19
World Championships
Prague, Czech Republic
18–24 July 2017

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**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
02.06.2017, Wiesbaden Biebrich (GER)

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann visited the 82th International Show Jumping Festival where he met with representatives of the horse society to discuss closer cooperation with UIPM.

05.06.-08.06.2017, Tokyo (JAP)

Accompanied by UIPM Secretary General Shiny Fang, the UIPM President visited the Tokyo 2020 office to discuss preparations for the 2020 Summer Olympic Games. Sport Director Koji Murofushi, Modern Pentathlon Manager Noriyuki Nakamura and their team briefed them on the facilities around the Tokyo Stadium and the main field of play.

Together they visited the sporting complex as well as visiting the stadium where there will be an Olympic Test Event in 2019 during the UIPM World Cup Final. All topics relating to the venue and training and competition arrangements for both the Test Event and the Olympic Games were discussed.

On June 7 the Secretary General of the Modern Pentathlon Association of Japan hosted a working meeting/dinner and outlined a series of planned activities in the coming years leading up to the 2019 UIPM World Cup Final and the 2020 Olympic Summer Games.
09.06.-10.06.2017, Balve (GER)

President Schormann met during the German International Show Jumping and Dressage Championships with Breido Earl to Rantzau, President of the German Olympiad Committee for Equestrian (DOKR) and Eleonora Ottaviani, President of the International Jumping Riders Club. They discussed development policy for young riders and future co-operation with UIPM associated with the Riding discipline.

18.06.-19.06.2017, Monte Carlo (MON)

The UIPM President joined the meeting of the Honorary Auditors at UIPM Headquarters. He discussed with Helio Meirelles Cardoso, President of BMPF, and Alexander Peirits, Honorary President of ÖVMF, important parts for the audit of the 2016 Olympic year. He also met with UIPM Treasurer John Helmick and Secretary General Shiny Fang to review the 2017-2020 budget relating to new programmes such as Laser-Run City Tour and development actions for new member federations.

21.06.-26.06.2017, Vilnius (LTU)

During the UIPM World Cup Final President Dr Klaus Schormann had meetings to discuss the development of Modern Pentathlon in Lithuania based on the long tradition of Modern Pentathlon in this country which stretches back to the Soviet era. Laser-Run, Biathle and Triathle competitions will be promoted more extensively and future flagship UIPM Modern Pentathlon events will be held in Lithuania in the coming years.

Vaidas Barakauskas, President of the Lithuanian Modern Pentathlon Federation, Vice-President Vytautas Polujanskas and Andrejus Zadneprovskis, UIPM Executive Board Member for Media, joined the UIPM President at all meetings.

Dr Schormann receives a plaque entitled “Olympic Movement Merit” from Daina Gudzineviciute, President of the National Olympic Committee of Lithuania
While in Vilnius the UIPM President chaired the UIPM Finance Commission meeting at the Ramada Hotel. UIPM Treasurer John Helmick, Vice-President Viacheslav Aminov, Honorary Member Gyula Bretz and Secretary General Shiny Fang were also present. The main issues on the agenda were relevant sporting-political issues and references, a report by the Treasurer and fundraising strategies as well as investment ideas and principles.

29.06.-30.06.2017, London (GBR)

President Dr Schormann met with Anthony Temple, former President of Pentathlon Great Britain, and EB Member of the European Modern Pentathlon Confederation Anthony Temple and the new President of MPAGB Christian Brodie. They discussed intern. sport movement based on the financial and political situation around the world and which role Modern Pentathlon plays in the Olympic Movement.

Together with UIPM Executive Board Member for Marketing Martin Dawe, President Dr Schormann handed over the UIPM Hall of Fame plaque and diploma to officially inaugurate UIPM Patron His Majesty King Constantine (Honorary IOC Member). After the ceremony they discussed historic and current matters of the Olympic Movement underlining the importance of sport for integration, better understanding, respect and human rights in the enduring spirit and philosophy of Baron Pierre de Coubertin.

Left to right: UIPM Patron HM King Constantine, President Dr Klaus Schormann and Executive Board Member for Marketing Martin Dawe
New Balance
World Rankings

The PWR is updated live on www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at 12 July 2017:

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The Full New Balance World Ranking is available on www.pentathlon.org

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>22-26 Feb</td>
<td>World Cup I</td>
<td>Los Angeles, USA</td>
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<td>22-26 Mar</td>
<td>World Cup II</td>
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<td>World Cup III</td>
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<td>World Cup IV</td>
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<td>World Cup Final</td>
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<td>21-27 Aug</td>
<td>World Championships</td>
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GET NEWS EDITS HIGHLIGHTS

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<tr>
<td>10-15 Oct</td>
<td>Laser-Run World Championships</td>
<td>Cape Town, RSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-24 Sept</td>
<td>Biathle/Triathle World Championships</td>
<td>Viveiro, ESP</td>
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HOW TO GET NEWS EDITS AND HIGHLIGHTS?
Contact: media@pentathlon.org
“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.”