



Timing/scoring & TV graphics tender

Seasons 2022-2024

Florent BOAS, UIPM Media Operations Manager
Tamer SAMY, UIPM IT Manager
03/09/2021

Introduction

Modern Pentathlon is the ultimate examination of body and mind in the Olympic Games. It is a demanding test of athleticism, skill, stamina, nerve and speed, combining épée fencing, a 200m freestyle swim, show-jumping riding, running (5*600m) and 4 shooting series (together in the Laser Run).

This unique multi-sport has been a pillar of the Games since it was introduced at Stockholm in 1912 by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympic movement. But the sport has limited exposure and sometimes struggles to capture the wider public imagination outside of the Games and even, in relative terms, during the Games.

In order to change this increase the sport's exposure and make the sport exciting, eye-catching, UIPM put together a new innovative sports format for Modern Pentathlon. Instead of 5 hours of competition, the new format shrinks up the breaks and reduces the competition time to 110 minutes.

A true multisport international federation, UIPM also governs 5 other sports including Tetrathlon (fencing-swimming-laser run), Triathle (swimming-laser run continuous event), Biathle (run-swim continuous event), Laser Run (running-shooting) and World School Biathlon (swimming and running).

Each year UIPM organises World Cups, World Championships and World/National Tours via the help of local organisers and/or its national federations.

Summary

UIPM is looking for a partner to provide the timing and scoring systems and equipment able to supply live data needed for the development and service of TV graphics to complement its TV programmes.

The bidders will need to supply and service all timing/scoring equipment as well as develop and deliver innovative television graphics to complement UIPM's TV programmes and enhance the understandability and attractiveness of UIPM Sports including the New Modern Pentathlon format.

Bidders will have the chance to submit their tenders and be part of the future of UIPM's flagship Olympic sport Modern Pentathlon and its other multi-discipline sports.

The partner will use the existing UIPM TV graphics style and look-and-feel and will need to create new elements that need to be helping the storytelling. The data from the timing/scoring equipment will also be used to feed UIPM's result system (OVR).

This tender concerns upcoming 2022 until 2024 seasons for a total of events up to 8 per year.

The timing/scoring partner will be a key player in building UIPM's storyline for its sports and most especially the new Modern Pentathlon format which was designed as a media-friendly product.

It is crucial that the partner understands its important role in developing UIPM's awareness to the widest number via producing exciting programmes relevant to the targeted audiences.

Sport format

Modern Pentathlon

In 2019, UIPM introduced the future of Modern Pentathlon. The competition which was up until now organised in 5 hours will now take place in 110 minutes. In order to achieve this time reduction, an elimination format as well as a reduction of athletes (18 in the final instead of 36) and of the breaks in between each discipline.

The UIPM produces a live TV broadcast of all Modern Pentathlon events.

The TV programme produced by UIPM consists of ±110 minutes live broken down as:

- Opening titles & introduction (±5 min.)
- **Riding (±25 min.)**
- *Break (5 min.)*
- **Fencing Ranking Round (±15 min.)**
- *Break (10 min.)*
- **Swimming (±10 min.)**
- *Break (15 min.)*
- **Laser Run (±15 min.)**
- Interviews + Award Ceremony + Closing (±15 min.)

The break between each discipline varies between 5 to 15 minutes (as shown above) and will need to be filled with scoreboard and any elements which will help the storytelling.

The introduction in the very beginning will allow a presentation of the sport as well as the key athletes to follow.

The event layout made by the LOC will need to be very compact to allow swift transitions from 1 discipline to the other. The quantity and nature of equipment will need to be tailored based on the specificities of the layout. For example, we might need a separate crew and production unit if the swimming pool is not close to the Laser Run venue.

Biathlon-Triathlon and Laser Run

In comparison with Modern Pentathlon, Biathlon-Triathlon (run-swim and run-shoot-swim) and Laser Run (run-shoot) are fast-paced continuous mass participation sports.

Athletes are seeded in groups based on their age category. Distances of running, shooting and swimming vary according to the age category. It is possible to have 2 age categories or gender in the same race heat.

Contrary to the Modern Pentathlon, there is no break between the disciplines and the swimming (for Biathlon-Triathlon) takes place in open water.

A livestream is produced for the whole event duration including individual and relay races (4 days for Biathlon-Triathlon and 3 days for Laser Run).

List of events

Timing/scoring equipments and TV graphics will need to be provided at the following events:

Modern Pentathlon:

- **UIPM Modern Pentathlon World Cup series** (4 events) – approx. Apr.–June
 - Budapest (HUN)
 - Cairo (EGY)
 - Albena (BUL)
 - Ankara (TUR) – 2022 only
 - Nursultan (KAZ) – 2023-2024
- **UIPM Modern Pentathlon World Cup Final** (1 event) – approx. July
 - TBA
- **UIPM Modern Pentathlon World Championships** (1 event) – approx. September
 - Xiamen (CHN) – TBC

For each event, timing/scoring has to be provided for all semi-final groups and all finals (incl. Mixed Relay).

World Cup Final and World Championships locations change every year.

Biathle-Triathlon & Laser Run

- **UIPM Biathle-Triathlon World Championships** (1 event) – approx. October
 - Machico (POR)
- **UIPM Laser Run World Championships** (1 event) – approx. September
 - Xiamen (CHN) – TBC

For each event, timing/scoring has to be produced for all competition days (Individual & Relays) for all age categories. Same goes for TV graphics.

N.B. It is highly suggested that the provider deals with local distributors in each country to provide the equipment and the manpower in order to reduce the operational costs. This is valid especially in countries outside the EU where customs are known to be complicated.

This measure is based on cost and ecological considerations.

List of disciplines and equipment

Unless mentioned otherwise, the timing/scoring provider has to provide the equipment described below.

TV graphics will be generated using the live data from these timing/scoring systems as well as data from the UIPM results system.

Riding (§4.4.24 UIPM Competition rules)

The riding event consists in a show jumping with 12 obstacles.

Automatic timekeeping system capable of registering time in 1/100 seconds including but not limited to:

- Main timer + backup with ability to be stopped and restarted without the hands returning to zero.
- Photo cells + transmitters/receivers
- Software able to add penalties according to UIPM rules (7 or 10 points penalties) + time penalties

Swimming (§3.5 UIPM Competition rules)

The swimming event consists in a 200m freestyle event taking place in a 25m or 50m pool.

Electrical judging and timing system registering 1/100 seconds approved by FINA including but not limited to:

- Main timer software + backup
- Touchpads
- Starting blocks
- Starting device + loudspeaker
- Scoreboard

Running (§5.4.7 of UIPM Competition Rules)

The running event is combined with the shooting event making Laser Run. The running event consists of 5*600m. Between each lap, the athletes stop at the shooting range.

Fully automatic timing system obtained from a photo finish and a transponder system registering 1/100 seconds including but not limited to:

- Timer software with ability to add penalties
- Set of transponders (min. 36)
- Timing mats (1 at start/finish + 1 at 400m)
- Photofinish camera at the start/finish line

Shooting

The shooting event is part of the Laser Run together with running. Each athlete needs to shoot 10m away from the target and get 5 green lights. When the 5 green lights are obtained, the athletes can start another lap of running.

It is not expected from the timing/scoring provider to supply the targets. However, for the sake of generating the TV graphics, the provider will need to collect the data from the shooting targets.

Only laser precision targets homologated by UIPM can be used on UIPM Category A events. Homologated providers use a standardised protocol and the timing/scoring provider will be responsible to develop an interface to read out the protocol.

UIPM Laser Open Target Protocol will be given upon request to the timing/scoring provider.

Fencing Bonus Round

Fencing is split in 2 phases: the Ranking Round which is happening a day before the final and is a round robin; and the Bonus Round in which the athletes compete for extra points the day of the final. There is no television coverage of the Ranking Round at the moment and we therefore only focus on the Bonus Round.

It is not expected from the timing/scoring provider to supply this apparatus. However, for the sake of generating the TV graphics, the provider will need to collect the data from the fencing apparatus.

UIPM event organisers use a Fencing apparatus provided by Absolute Fencing (see picture below). The protocol will be supplied upon request.



Biathlon-Triathlon and Laser Run considerations

For Biathlon-Triathlon, the transponders provided have to be waterproof and should have the ability to be solidly attached to the athlete either on the start number bib, the shoelace, the ankle etc. The same running timing requirements apply although no photo finish system is required.

For both Laser Run and Biathlon-Triathlon, hit-and-miss or precision targets can be provided by the LOC. In the case that a hit-and-miss system is provided, the timing/scoring provider will need to liaise with the relevant shooting provider to understand the used protocol and develop an interface.

Graphics elements

The timing/scoring provider will need to supply TV graphics to the UIPM television partner. These TV graphics are to be generated based on live data collected from:

- **Timing/scoring systems and apparatuses**
 - Running clock (swimming, fencing bonus round, riding, running)
 - Points and penalties (fencing bonus round, riding, running)
 - Etc.
- **UIPM results system**
 - Startlists
 - Athletes information
 - Official results
 - Etc.

The TV graphics catalogue will need to be worked on together with UIPM, the UIPM television partner and the timing/scoring provider.

A key element of TV graphics will be a scoreboard moving up and down depending on the performance of each athlete during each disciplines This scoreboard is the central element of the TV graphics and would remain on the broadcast almost all the time.

The scoreboard can be reduced or displayed fully based on the discipline. The idea being that the TV viewer and the onsite spectator have to be able to follow the journey of the athlete passing through the disciplines from the beginning until the end.

A TV graphics machine/computer needs to be provided (+ backup) onsite at all events. This machine needs to be directly connected to the OB van or facilities. FILL, KEY, PGM, PREVIEW will be given by the TV partner as well as talkback to the van.

Examples are given in appendix 1~4 but are not limited to these example. The bidding candidate is encouraged to look watch [this VOD clip](#) from a previous UIPM event to get an idea of the current graphics package.

Biathle-Triathle / Laser Run considerations

Some race heats in Biathle-Triathle and Laser Run can be grouping 2 age categories or genders (i.e. one race with U17 and U19 male athletes OR one race with U17 females and U17 males together). This is a challenge in terms of displaying the graphics.

Running and swimming are timed together during the Biathle-Triathle events, there is no need to separate the two disciplines. It is needed to put an intermediate split after swimming and after the transition area.

Stakeholders involved

UIPM

The Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne – UIPM – is the world governing body for the Olympic sport of Modern Pentathlon and its sub-sports.

It sets technical requirements and standards in terms of competition rules as well as media and television production. Each year it issues Television and Livestream Technical Requirements & Guidelines for the event organisers.

Such requirements and guidelines evolve each season and are made in co-operation with the media partner which inputs its expertise.

It also is the rights holder for all international events of the sports it governs. UIPM owns rights of any audio-visual material created or generated during a UIPM international event as defined in the Competition Rules and Media and Advertising Rules. TV graphics designs are owned by UIPM.

Timing/scoring provider

The timing/scoring provider's role is to provide the relevant equipment, systems and apparatuses as described in the "List of disciplines and equipment" section. The provider has to supply the manpower required to operate these systems.

The responsibility of the provider is to ensure its systems are able to provide proper timing and scoring data to the LOC and to UIPM.

It also carries the responsibility to generate the TV graphics which UIPM will use in its programmes.

The provider should handle transportation of its crew and equipment. Road transportation or any other cost-effective solution should be considered.

It is expected from the provider that it is aware of logistical matters whilst making arrangements abroad (e.g. temporary equipment importation, ATA carnets etc.).

Its main point of contact are the UIPM IT Manager (for timing/scoring purposes) and the Media Operations Manager (for TV graphics purposes) which are acting as liaison between the stakeholders. Timely answers and treatment are expected from the provider.

Local Organising Committee (LOC)

The LOC is the party responsible for organising the event. It was appointed by UIPM following a call for bids which is now binding.

Most of the time, the LOC is an organ of the National Federation where the event will take place. Some other times, the LOC is a private entity linked or not linked to the National Federation.

The LOC has to provide a series of information and documents which are crucial in the preparation of the event (e.g. venue map, running/riding courses, time schedule etc.).

It has to facilitate any contact with a local provider which UIPM or the timing/scoring provider will require (e.g. logistics, platforms, internet etc.).

According to the bid document, the LOC is responsible for the infrastructure provided at the event including the internet connection, electricity, offices or workspaces etc.

Timetable

This timetable is provisional and may be subject to changes, but will be adhered to by UIPM as far as reasonably possible:

- Tender process opens: 09 September 2021
- Submission deadline for proposals 18 October 2021 at 23:59 CEST
- Presentation meetings for shortlisted bidders: 01 November 2021
- Notification of unsuccessful/successful bidders: 07 November 2021
- Contract negotiations: until 29 November 2021
- Season planning: until 31 January 2022
- 2022 season starts March/April 2022

If you have any question or need further information, please contact Tamer SAMY, UIPM IT Manager at it@pentathlon.org or Florent BOAS, UIPM Media Operations Manager at media@pentathlon.org or +377 92 00 09 59, and cc to uipm@pentathlon.org.

Instructions and Information on Tendering Process

These instructions are designed to ensure that all tenders are given equal and fair consideration.

It is important therefore that you provide all the information asked for in the format and order specified.

Please contact the UIPM by email (uipm@pentathlon.org) and cc it@pentathlon.org and media@pentathlon.org, if you have any doubts as to what is required or you have difficulty in providing the information requested. Pre-tender negotiations are not allowed.

Bidders should ensure they have read and fully understood the guidance set out in this document before submitting a tender.

Contract Period

The period of this contract is to run from 1 December 2021 – 31 December 2024 with 2022 being a trial year which UIPM reserving the right to terminate the contract. UIPM reserves also the right to terminate the contract at the end of each year.

To ensure all responses are provided in time for bidders to apply to their tenders, the cut-off date for receipt of questions will be 15 October 2021.

Returning Tenders

All tenders received by 15 October 2021 at 23:59 CEST will be only accepted by UIPM.

UIPM will accept only bids received by email to the following email address: uipm@pentathlon.org with cc to it@pentathlon.org and media@pentathlon.org.

The subject line must specify “UIPM timing/scoring and TV graphics tender – XXXXX [insert name of organisation]”.

Acceptance of Tenders

By issuing this invitation UIPM is not bound in any way and does not have to accept any tender. UIPM also reserves the right to accept a portion of any tender, unless the tenderer expressly stipulates otherwise in their bid.

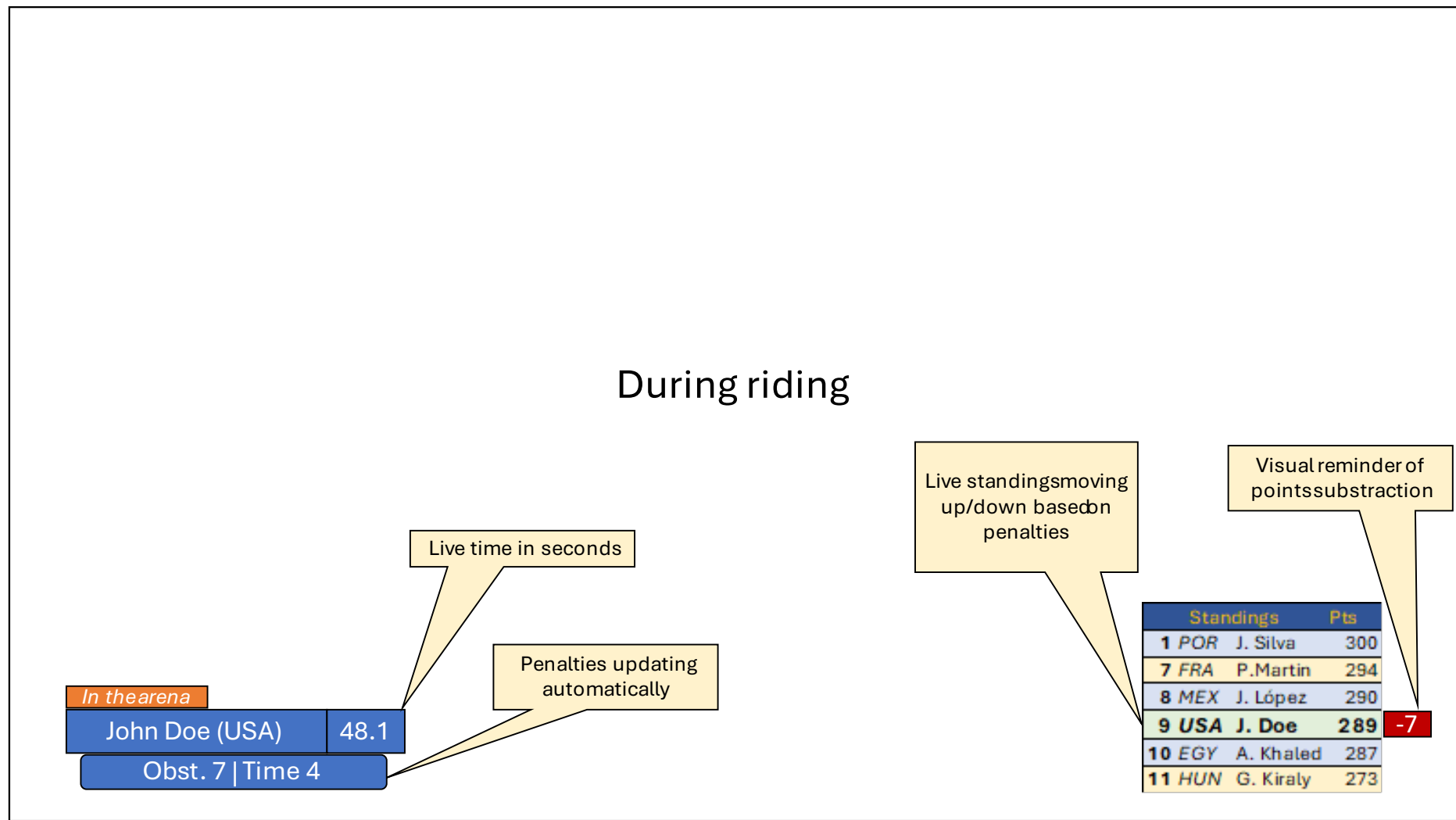
Confidentiality of Tenders

All tenders are considered Confidential and UIPM will ensure the same level of confidentiality; Failure to comply with these conditions may disqualify your tender.

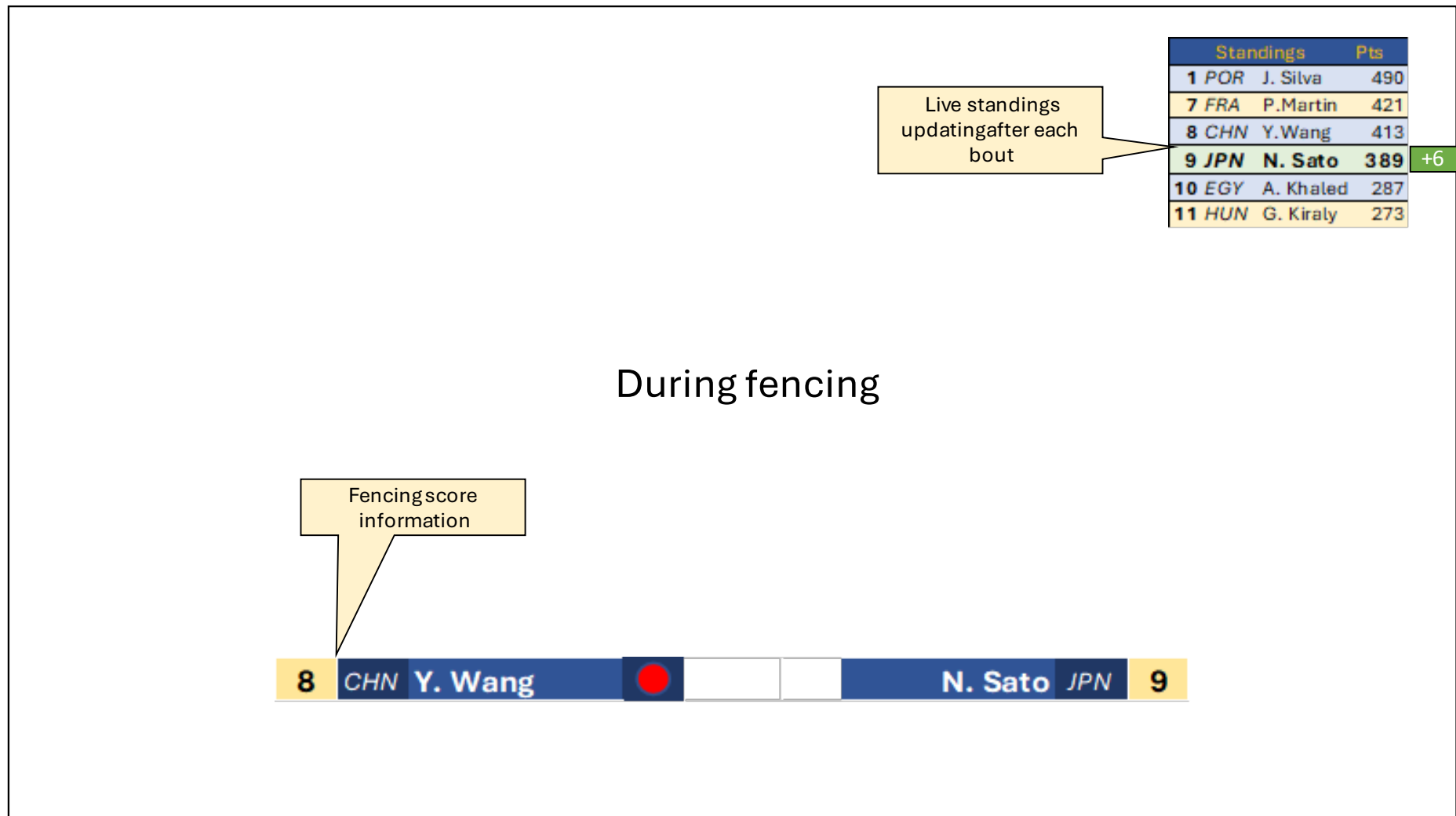
Costs and Expenses

You will not be entitled to claim from UIPM any costs or expenses, which you may incur in preparing your tender or in attending the presentation meetings whether or not the success of the tender.

Appendix 1: Riding graphics example



Appendix 2: Fencing Bonus Round graphics example



Appendix 3: Laser Run graphics example

When athletes are in the range

Timesplit at exit of range to give an immediate idea of the position changes

Running									
1	AUS	W. Smith	0	04:04:23	9	JPN	N. Sato	1	+41,66
7	KOR	K. Woo	2	+32,95	10	RUS	V. Ivanov	1	+42,16
8	CHN	Y. Wang	4	+41,54	11	ITA	P. Rossi	2	+44,90

Only athletes shooting

Shooting									
USA	J. Doe	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
FRA	P. Martin	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
MEX	J. López	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
AUT	H. Liebig	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
EGY	A. Khaled	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
HUN	G. Kiraly	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
SRB	D. Petrović	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
IRL	P. Murphy	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
POL	W. Nowak	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
POR	J. Silva	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Intermediate: 2 columns
Finish: 3 columns

1	AUS	W. Smith	▲7	13:01:46
6	MEX	J. López	●0	+11,18
7	KOR	K. Woo	▼2	+32,95
8	CHN	Y. Wang	▲4	+41,54
9	JPN	N. Sato	▲1	+41,66
10	RUS	V. Ivanov	▼5	+42,16
11	ITA	P. Rossi	▲2	+44,90
12	NDL	P. De Jong	●0	+41,66
13	ARM	H. Manoukian	▲2	+42,16
14	BUL	A. Popov	▼1	+44,90