It was a wonderful Pentathlon World Cup for France as Christopher Patte, Elodie Clouvel and Valentin Belaud shared four medals in Cairo.
Women’s Final: Clouvel (FRA) opens season with gold

Elodie Clouvel (France) opened the 2018 season in style with a commanding victory in the Women’s Individual Final at UIPM 2018 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo.

The Rio 2016 Olympic silver medallist performed consistently throughout the day and immediately took control of the Laser-Run after starting 1sec behind the leader, Iryna Khokhlova (Argentina).

In the end, Tamara Alekszejev (Hungary) also overtook Khokhlova (ARG) to claim silver while Ilke Ozyuksel (Turkey) tore through the pack from 14th place to claim bronze in the opening final of the UIPM Modern Pentathlon season.

Gintare Venckauskaite (Lithuania) also had a superb Laser-Run and finished 4th, pushing Khokhlova (ARG) into 5th.

Ekaterina Khuraskina (Russia) crossed the line in 6th and there were notable Laser-Run performances from Rio 2016 Olympic champion Chloe Esposito (Australia), 2017 world champion Gulnaz Gubaydullina (Russia) and Anastasiya Prokopenko (Belarus) in the next three places.

Clouvel (FRA) said: “I am very happy and this feels like my comeback, because last year for me was not very good in training.

“This year I started training very hard with my team, and I am so happy. My best part was the Laser-Run, because in my head I knew I was strong from all the hard training.

“My major goals for the season are European Championships and World Championships so this was a great start. Here in Cairo we have had nice facilities, nice horses – a very good competition.”

SWIMMING

The day began well for the most decorated athletes in the field, as Gubaydullina (RUS) swam fastest in 2:09.16 ahead of Clouvel (FRA) in 2:10.98 and Esposito (AUS), competing in her first major competition since the Rio Olympic Games 18 months ago, in 2:14.21.

FENCING

The Fencing hall was where Khokhlova (ARG) made her mark, with a superb round robin of 27V/8D. Alekszejev (HUN) managed 25V/10D, the same as Janine Kohlmann (Germany) and Ieva Serapinaite (LTU), while Clouvel (FRA) stayed in touch with 22V/13D but Gubaydullina (RUS) and Esposito (AUS) struggled.

In the Bonus Round, Clouvel (FRA) scored a couple of victories but it was Kohlmann (GER) who advanced on the leaderboard by winning the final three bouts.

RIDING

Five athletes managed a clean round for a maximum 300 points, including team-mates Sive Brassil and Eilidh Prise.
(Ireland). The others with a perfect score were Ozyuksel (TUR), Zinayida Batrak (Ukraine) and Manon Barbaza (France).

Clouvel (FRA) maintained her composure once again to score 293, the same as Esposito (AUS), Khokhlova (ARG) and Alekszejev (HUN), but the challenge of Kohlmann (GER) ended as she was eliminated.

**LASER-RUN**

Clouvel (FRA) started on the shoulder of Khokhlova (ARG) and immediately moved past her on the first running lap, while Alekszejev (HUN) and Serapinaite (LTU) protected their positions.

Ozyuksel (TUR) set an incredible pace and moved up to 4th on the second lap, having started 59secs behind the leader, while Esposito (AUS) moved up the field too.

Clouvel (FRA) kept her nerves under control at the range to build a dominant lead, while Venckauskaite (LTU) made huge progress on the third lap and 2017 World Cup Final winner Alekszejev (HUN) moved closer to silver.

On the final lap, Khokhlova (ARG) saw her medal bid fall just short as she was caught by the impressive Ozyuksel (TUR), who even came within 2secs of catching Alekszejev (HUN).

Janusz Peciak (POL), the 1976 Olympic champion and UIPM Executive Board Member for Sport, said: “Today we enjoyed a wonderful start to the UIPM season with fierce competition between athletes from all continents.

“Elodie Clouvel proved her class yet again and there were a number of impressive performances from athletes who have worked hard throughout the winter for this moment.

“The organisers in Cairo have done a wonderful job to prepare a world-class venue for Modern Pentathlon.”
Men’s Final: Patte leads French one-two

A stunning start to the season by France continued as their athletes won gold and silver in an action-packed Men’s Individual Final at the Platinum Club in Cairo.

Christopher Patte stormed to gold and was closely followed by compatriot Valentin Belaud, who advanced rapidly in the Laser-Run to move up to the silver medal position, with Pavel Ilyashenko (Kazakhstan) taking bronze.

The one-two of Patte and Belaud (FRA) followed a dominant victory by Elodie Clouvel (FRA) in the Women’s Individual Final and the result marked a hugely satisfying return for Patte in his first competition for over a year.

The 27-year-old’s steady nerve on the final shoot of the Laser-Run proved crucial as he denied victory to Belaud, the 2016 world champion.

Kirill Belyakov (Russia) had begun the Laser-Run 1st but was quickly overtaken by Ilyashenko (KAZ) and had to settle for 4th place. Yaraslau Radziuk (Belarus) and Pavlo Tymoshchenko (Ukraine) rounded out the top six.

Home competitor Sherif Rashad (Egypt) was not far behind in 7th on a day when his compatriot Eslam Hamad (EGY) dramatically lost his place at the top of the field when he crashed out of the Riding event.

Patte, winner of four previous World Cup medals, was overjoyed to add another gold to the French collection and stand on top of the World Cup podium for the first time.

“It’s my first time to finish first in the world,” he said. “That was my best competition today so I’m very happy. It’s my first competition coming back after one year. Training began in September and I am very ready. “My fencing was very strong and my head was very strong all day. This year I want to go the World Championships with the France team and I want a medal.”

RIDING

The landscape of this Men’s Final dramatically changed when the competition switched to horseback. A total of seven athletes failed to score, with leader Hamad (EGY) suffering a dramatic fall and failing to continue within the time limit.

Only three competitors managed a clean round for the maximum score of 300 with Staskiewicz (POL) the fastest. The others to record perfect scores were Simon Casse (FRA) and Bugra Unal (TUR). Patte (FRA) just missed out on a maximum but his 299 points would prove crucial ahead of the deciding Laser-Run.

LASER-RUN

Belyakov (RUS) began with a very slim lead on the rest of the field but it wasn’t long before Ilyashenko (KAZ) began to reel him in.
In the early laps, the intent of France was evident not through Patte but Belaud, who burst out of the gates, sprinting from the off and moving rapidly through the field from his starting position of 12th. The 2016 world champion had forced his way into the top five by the end of the first lap with Staskiewicz (POL), who had begun the Laser-Run in third place, drifting back.

The France duo looked in amazing shape so early in the season and assumed control at the front of the field ahead of the last lap. However, the sharp eye of Patte (FRA) enabled him to dramatically overtake Belaud (FRA) and move clear of the field for what was ultimately a comfortable run to victory.

“It has been a good day of competition, it was the first event of the season, I have worked a lot for three months and I am proud to have heard Les Marseillaise tonight,” said Belaud (FRA).

“My ambitions for this season are to recover my World Championship title from the Moscow worlds in 2016 that I did not manage to recover during the 2017 edition here in Cairo. With this silver medal today I hope to have defeated the Egyptian curse and regain my title at the next world championships in Mexico in September.”

Janusz Peciak (POL), the 1976 Olympic champion and UIPM Executive Board Member for Sport, said: “Today we saw a Men’s Final of very high quality with a number of athletes clearly very well prepared for the new Modern Pentathlon season.

“I congratulate the French team on another day of success after the gold medal won by Elodie Clouvel yesterday. Christopher Patte and Valentin Belaud are accustomed to being on the podium in UIPM Category A competitions and you could see their confidence during the Laser-Run.”
Mixed Relay: Italy deny France clean sweep

Italy prevented France from winning a clean sweep at UIPM 2018 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo as Gloria Tocchi and Gianluca Micozzi claimed gold in the Mixed Relay.

France (Elodie Clouvel & Valentin Belaud) were aiming to win their third gold in consecutive days but they conceded 44 penalties in Riding and this enabled Italy (Tocchi/Micozzi) to start the Laser-Run with a lead that they protected with great determination.

France (Clouvel/Belaud) could not catch their European rivals but they did manage to overtake Kazakhstan (Elena Potapenko & Vladislav Sukharev) to claim silver. That meant France finished the opening Pentathlon World Cup of the season with an exceptional two gold and two silver medals.

With deep stocks of talent, Italy are always competitive in the Mixed Relay and they put themselves in contention for gold with outstanding Fencing and Riding.

Competing alongside his experienced partner, victory in Cairo was a big senior breakthrough for 21-year-old Micozzi (ITA), who said: “Today was a very difficult day but we still succeeded in the end. Here in Cairo, the event was wonderful, it is a nice place here and the club is great and the organisation was perfect.

“In 2018, I aspire to participate in more international competitions like this one and to have good results in those too.”

Behind the medallists, Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games hosts Japan (Shino Yamanaka & Koji Yamamoto) finished strongly in 4th while Russia (Uliana Batashova & Alexander Savkin) were 5th and Argentina’s husband-and-wife team (Iryna Khokhlova & Emanuel Zapata) 6th.

FENCING

In the Fencing hall, Italy (Tocchi/Micozzi) clearly stood out with an excellent 23V/13D, three victories ahead of Belarus (Tatsiana Khaldoba & Yaraslau Radziuk), Argentina (Khokhlova/Zapata) and France (Clouvel/Belaud).

Belarus (Khaldoba/Radziuk) strengthened their position with the two final victories in the Bonus Round, putting themselves in 3rd place overall.

RIDING

Having entered the arena in a podium position, Belarus (Khaldo/ba/Radziuk) fell out of contention with a series of misadventures that cost them a massive 103 penalty points.

Italy (Tocchi/Micozzi) ensured they would start the Laser-Run in pole position after two excellent rides that brought them within two points of a perfect Mixed Relay round. There were good performances from Japan (Yamanaka/Iwamoto) and Kazakhstan (Potapenko/Sukharev) and they all gained from the difficulties encountered by France (Clouvel/Belaud).

Mixed Relay podium, UIPM 2018 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo
LASER-RUN
Tocchi (ITA) looked like she was labouring at times during her two 800m laps but she did enough to keep Potapenko (KAZ) although Clouvel (FRA) reduced the deficit before handing over to her boyfriend Belaud (FRA).

The 2016 individual world champion could see the two targets in front of him, Sukharev (KAZ) and Micozzi (ITA), but only one of them proved to be within reach.

Belaud (FRA) kept up the pressure with two rapid shoots, and ultimately France made up 25secs on the leaders Italy during the Laser-Run, but it was not enough to deny them gold and Micozzi (ITA) showed excellent composure and good running speed to make sure he and Tocchi (ITA) went home with the top prize.

Janusz Peciak (POL), the 1976 Olympic champion and UIPM Executive Board Member for Sport, said: “In such a high-quality field of 10 nations, it was always going to be hard to pick a winner in this Mixed Relay and I was very impressed with the way Italy dominated in Fencing and Riding and protected their lead in the Laser-Run.

“The French team should be congratulated on a very special opening Pentathlon World Cup of the season. With so much competition from nations from all continents, two gold and two silver medals is an incredible result and they have set a high standard for the rest of the season.

“The Mixed Relay is a fantastic showcase for our sport and this was no exception, with male and female athletes demonstrating great teamwork and tactics and putting on a wonderful show for the crowds here in Cairo and for everyone else watching back home.”

The season continues with Pentathlon World Cup Los Angeles from March 24-31.
After the rapid growth of 2017, a new season of Laser-Run City Tour began in Alexandria (EGY) with a competition that gave 525 disabled and able-bodied athletes from Under 9 to Masters a taste of Laser-Run.

Coinciding with the UIPM 2018 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo, the Tour brought participants from 14 clubs to the historic Alexandria Stadium for two days of competition.

The first event was for para athletes, with one heat organised for wheelchair athletes and another for athletes with other disabilities. Age-group categories followed – U9, U11, U13, U15, U17, U19, Junior, Senior and Masters – for the rest of day one, with a Laser-Run relay event for men, women and mixed teams on day two.

The competition was organised by the Egyptian Federation of Modern Pentathlon and the Global Laser-Run City Tour will stop in Cairo, the capital, on March 30.

The Global Laser-Run City Tour is taking place in almost 100 cities across all continents in 2018.

Laser-Run offers people from urban communities all over the world a chance an entry point to UIPM Sports, with the ultimate aim of growing participation in Modern Pentathlon.

Youth Laser-Run competitors on the podium in Alexandria (EGY)
Save the date: 9/9/18 – it’s Pierre de Coubertin Pentathlon Day

A new annual celebration of sport will be born on September 9, 2018 – and the whole world is invited.

Pierre de Coubertin Pentathlon Day will be introduced this year following a unanimous vote at the 2017 UIPM Congress.

A wide range of activities aimed at celebrating the history, present and future of the Modern Pentathlon movement will take place in all countries represented by the UIPM’s 120-plus National Federations.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: “The purpose of this new initiative, which was approved unanimously during the 2017 UIPM Congress, is to create more recognition for our sporting movement and to celebrate its proud heritage.

“We have a long history, from the original pentathlon that formed part of the ancient Olympic Games to the dynamic Modern Pentathlon conceived by Baron Pierre de Coubertin in the early 20th century and which now has such an exciting future, supported by so many other UIPM Sports.

“Normally the Olympic Games – every four years – provides us with our best opportunity to showcase our wonderful sport and connect with the wider world. Now we can use Pierre de Coubertin Pentathlon Day to achieve this every single year.

“The first celebration will take place in September 2018, which will be a very special time as we are hosting our UIPM Senior World Championships in Mexico City (MEX) and also looking forward to the 3rd Youth Olympic Summer Games in Buenos Aires (ARG).”

More details about planned activities for the first Pierre de Coubertin Pentathlon Day will be announced in due course.

Kitty Chiller (AUS) joins FIG Executive

Kitty Chiller, President of the Oceania Modern Pentathlon Confederation, has been appointed as the Oceania representative to the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) Executive Committee.

Ms Chiller, who this year took up a new position as chief executive of the Australian Gymnastics Federation, attended her first meeting of FIG in Lausanne (SUI) in February.

Ms Chiller competed at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and worked as chef de mission for the Australian Olympic team at Rio 2016.
UIPM appoints Paul Baudet (FRA) as Head of Classification

The UIPM Para-Sports movement is gaining momentum all the time and the latest sign of progress is the appointment of Paul Baudet (FRA) as Head of Classification.

This newly-created role is part of the UIPM Para-Sports Regulations and the Head of Classification will be responsible for the direction, administration, coordination and implementation of all classification matters for the remainder of the Tokyo 2020 cycle.

Paul Baudet, a current member of the UIPM Para-Pentathlon Commission, is a qualified UIPM Classifier who speaks Spanish, English and Russian as well as his native French.

He said: “I am very proud and grateful to have the opportunity to work for UIPM and I am eager to get started.

“Our challenge is to make UIPM Para-Sports a more established part of the Paralympic movement, offering Modern Pentathlon to more people than ever before, regardless of physical barriers.”

UIPM gained membership to the International Paralympic Committee in 2014.

Edy Weber (1942-2018)

The UIPM Masters community has lost one of its most active participants after Edy Weber (SUI), died suddenly on February 20, aged 75.

Eduard Weber served an apprenticeship as a painter before enrolling the police service where he was stationed in Davos (SUI) for more than 30 years.

Here he trained members of the Hungary cross-country ski team in preparation for the 1992 Olympic Winter Games in Albertville, and it was during this time he became associated with the Modern Pentathlon community.

A competent rider, Edy became a pillar of the international Masters community for almost two decades. Tragically he was killed when his car was hit by a train.

Peter Engerisser, Chairman of the UIPM Masters Committee, said: “We always will remember Edy as a good friend and fair sportsman. Our empathy is with him and our condolence with his dependants.”

Pentathletes of all ages flock to Davos (SUI)

The 3rd Winterpentathlon in Davos (SUI) took place in February 2018 with 28 participants drawn from 10 countries.

This unique annual event always attracts a diverse range of athletes. In 2018, the line-up included two 13-year-old twins, Katarina and Florina, and the 80-year-old Erwin Stalder.

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.

COMPETITION INVITATIONS

UIPM Pentathlon World Cup III
Kecskemét, HUN
03-07 MAY

UIPM Pentathlon World Cup IV
Sofia, BUL
23-27 MAY

Medical and Anti-Doping
Corner

WADA PUBLISHES 2018 LIST OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has published its 2018 List of Prohibited Substances and Methods, an important resource for anyone involved in the UIPM Sports and the wider international sporting movement.

The list, which comes into force on January 1, 2018, is accompanied by the 2018 Summary of Major Modifications and Explanatory Notes, which serves to help athletes, coaches and other support personnel to understand the latest changes.

“WADA is pleased to publish the 2018 Prohibited List,” said WADA President, Sir Craig Reedie. “Updated annually, the List is released three months ahead of taking effect so that all stakeholders - in particular athletes and their entourage - have sufficient time to familiarize themselves with the document and its modifications.

“It is vital that all athletes and entourage take the necessary time to consult the List; and that, they contact their respective anti-doping organizations (ADOs) if they have any doubts as to the status of a substance or method.”

WADA Director General, Olivier Niggli, added: “Annually, the Prohibited List review involves a very extensive stakeholder consultation process over the course of nine months. “In reviewing the List, experts examine such sources as scientific and medical research, trends, and intelligence gathered from law enforcement and pharmaceutical companies in order to stay ahead of those that endeavour to cheat the system.”

The 2018 Prohibited List, the Summary of Modifications, and the 2018 Monitoring Program are available for download on WADA’s website in English and French. Spanish will follow shortly and if anybody would like to receive these documents in another language, please contact UIPM at projects@pentathlon.org
Inside UIPM: Monthly activities of President Dr Schormann

05.02.-17.02.2018, PyeongChang, KOR
Winter Olympic Games 2018

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann joined Secretary General Shiny Fang at the 132nd IOC Session during their visit to the 23rd Olympic Winter Games. While in PyeongChang they met with IOC Members, National Olympic Committee Presidents and Secretary Generals from winter and summer federations. The main topics of discussion were anti-doping, sanctions, progress of the IOC Agenda 2020, the promotion and image of the Olympic movement, clean athletes, projects for developing countries, solidarity, cooperation and sporting political activities. During the talks the Youth Olympic Games was identified as one of the pillars for a solid and strong future for a modern and dynamic Olympic movement.

Dr Schormann also had talks with the President and Secretary General of the Greece NOC, Spyros Capralos and Emmanuel Kolympadis, and Cyprus NOC Secretary General General Charalambos Lottas, who is also President of the Modern Pentathlon Federation of Cyprus and who will be host of the UIPM Congress in November 2018.
The UIPM President met with The Association For International Sport For All (TAFISA) President Prof Dr Ju-Ho Chang and Secretary General Wolfgang Baumann to discuss TAFISA Mission’s 2030 project, entitled “For a better world through sport for all”.

While in PyeongChang the UIPM President gave a lecture to the George Washington University Student Group led by Associate Prof Lisa Delpy Neirotti PhD about Olympic values, International Federations for Winter and Summer Olympic Sports and the vision of Baron Pierre de Coubertin to create Modern Olympic Games.

During the ice hockey match between Russia and Slovakia, the UIPM President met with United World Wrestling (UWW) President and IOC Executive Board Member Nenad Lalovic, as well as the International Biathlon Union’s Vice President Medical Issues, Dr James E Carrabre, and former IBU Vice-President and IOC Member Vladimir Smirnov, who was the first Olympic champion for the independent Kazakhstan in the 50km cross-country biathlon in Lillehammer in 1994.
The UIPM President also visited the German House in PyeongChang and was welcomed by NOC Germany President Alfons Hoermann and Katrin Grafarend (International Relations) on February 15.

The same day, after the Pairs Skating Final in the Ice Arena in Gangneung Olympic Park, Dr Schormann met with UIPM Honorary Member Pal Schmitt (HUN), IOC Member and founder of the World Olympians Association, former NOC President of Hungary, former State President, former pentathlete and Olympic champion in fencing.

They discussed new educational projects and tools of UIPM and the strong support of the Hungarian Government for the development of Modern Pentathlon and high-performance athletes.
17.02.2018, Seoul, KOR

After his trip to the Olympic Winter Games 2018, UIPM President travelled to Seoul to meet with Sangwoo Park, President of the Korea Modern Pentathlon Federation and Asian Confederation, to discuss the development of new national federations in Asia, preparations for the Asian Games Jakarta 2018 and matters of sporting politics within UIPM.

25.02.2018, Cologne, GER

UIPM President Dr Schormann was present at the opening ceremony of the MA Olympic Studies at the Guest House of the German Sport University Cologne. After a welcome from Prof Dr Stephan Wassong, Director of the Olympic Studies Centre of the University, President Schormann was one of the keynote speakers. He made a presentation on Olympic values and the role of IFs in the Olympic movement and underlined the importance of the legacy of Pierre de Coubertin - in the present and in the future - to the students. Philipp Waefller, UIPM Competition Manager, took part in the opening ceremony as a graduate of the MA Olympic Studies course. "I feel honoured to be among the chosen 27 participants from five continents," said Philipp Waefller. "To be able to link Olympic experience at different levels with daily practical work for UIPM and academic knowledge is a unique opportunity."

The advanced programme implements a high-level curriculum in Olympic Studies aimed at fostering the links between academia and the Olympic world. The main objective of this unique degree programme is to provide the students with an interdisciplinary knowledge of the Olympic Movement. International teaching teams from various cooperating universities teach seminars in sport history, sport pedagogy, ethics, international relations, media/commercialization and sport governance, all closely linked to Olympic Studies. In recent years, the MA has continually developed, and it benefits from the support of the IOC, Olympic Solidarity and collaboration with the IOC Olympic Studies Centre.
New Balance
World Rankings

The PWR is updated live on www.pentathlon.org after each competition. PWR as at 16 March 2018:

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The Full New Balance World Ranking is available on www.pentathlon.org
Baron Pierre de Coubertin

“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.”