Hungary win the historic 1st Mixed Relay World Cup Series gold

Leila Gyenesei & Adam Marosi make history by winning first ever Mixed Relay World Cup gold at World Cup #1 in Palm Springs, USA
Xiaonan Zhang (CHN) almost had the perfect day here at the World Cup #1 in Palm Springs, USA, breaking the Women's Fencing World Record and topping the leader board throughout the day. But in the last seconds of the final event, the Combined, she was overtaken just short of the finish line by the 2011 World Champion Victoria Tereshuk (UKR).

The 20 year old former boxer from China, Zhang was making her debut on the international circuit when she finished the Fence discipline with a massive 30 victories and only 5 defeats to set a new World Record.

Xiaonan Zhang (CHN) said just prior to the Combined: “This is my first time to participate in World Cup. I feel everything is newness. This is also the first time I come to the USA. The venue of the competition and the accommodation are very well met I meet lots of athletes from different countries. I am very excited. I cannot believe I won the Fencing event. I am very happy."

The newcomer fought off stiff competition from Olympic Bronze Medallist Yane Marques (BRA) throughout the day but it was the more experienced 30 year old Tereshuk who outpaced both of them, despite starting out with a 24 second handicap. Tereshuk had placed 7th in the Fence, 14th in the swimming but had dropped only 40 points in the ride.

On pipping Zhang at the post, Victoria Tereshuk (UKR) said: “I am so happy because after the disappointment at the Olympic Games I thought my career in sports was over. But now, I am happy. In the Combined, my first shoot series was many mistakes but then I made less mistakes and I ran fast for the Gold medal”.

So Zhang has a Silver medal to go with her World Record and Marques goes home with Bronze.
Men’s Final

World #1 Aleksander Lesun (RUS) takes first Gold of 2013 at the Modern Pentathlon World Cup in Palm Springs, USA.

The World Champion and World #1 shot flawlessly and never looked like letting the gold medal leave his grasp during the combined event. Olympic Bronze Medalist Adam Marosi (HUN) ran his way into the silver medal and Joseph Evans (GBR) hung on for a well-deserved bronze.

Lesun started the day in vintage form, finishing 4th in the fencing behind Dymtro Kirpulyanskyi (UKR) who won with 25 victories. The Russian followed up this respectable result with a 14th place in the swim, but it was his near perfect ride worth 1156 points which put him in 3rd position ahead of the combined event.

Lesun said “I have had better results but this was a good performance”

Olympic swim record holder Amro El Geziry (EGY) was first off in the Combined Event, having won the swim and scored 1180 points in the ride, with Britain’s Joseph Evans only 5 seconds behind and Lesun one second behind Evans.

Olympic Bronze Medalist Adam Marosi (HUN) started out in 5th place 25 seconds behind El Geziry but powered his way up over the 4 circuits though still crossing the finish line just under 10 seconds behind Lesun.

For 19 year old Joseph Evans, it must seem like a dream come true. This is his first World Cup. Who knows what the next one will have in store for him.

The UIPM World Cup Series now heads down to Rio de Janeiro for World Cup #2 starting on 20 March 2013.

Mixed Relay

The Hungarian team of Leila Gyenesei and Adam Marosi have won the first Gold Medal of the inaugural Mixed Relay World Cup Series. Natalya Coyle and Eanna Bailey took Silver, Irelands first ever World Cup Medal, whilst Ukrainans Viktoria Tereshuk and Pavlo Tymoshchenko grab the Bronze.
The Hungarian pair started the day in 2nd place after the Fence, moving to the top of the leader board after the Swim with the fastest time in the pool of 1:57.59. Scoring 1100 points in the ride gave them an 18 second advantage for the Combined Event which they kept all the way to the finish line.

On winning Gold, Gyenesei said: “It was a good day. When we started fencing it was good as we work well together. We started with good results and we pushed to the finish line.” Marosi, the London 2012 Olympic Bronze medallist, added “After the jumping it was easier as the Russians went out in riding” and on Mixed Relay “It was a very good competition, it is team work and we love it.”

The Irish pair Natalya Coyle and Eanna Bailey also had a great day, winning Ireland’s first ever World Cup Medal. Indeed, the only other medal ever won by an Irish pentathlete was Arthur Lanigan-O’Keefe taking Bronze at the Junior World Championships last year. They were 3rd in the Fence, 4th in the Swim and came 2nd in the ride. Excellent shooting from Bailey and the 2nd fastest time in the Combined gave them a richly deserved Silver medal.

The Ukrainian team of 2011 World Champion Viktoria Tereshuk and world cup multi-medallist Pavlo Tymoshchenko fought for their Bronze medal, starting out in the Combined in 6th place with a 61 second handicap. But their experience showed as they overtook Latvia, USA and China on each lap as the made their way to the finish line.

UIPM President Dr h.c. Klaus Schormann said on completion of the 5-day event: “The first World Cup season after an Olympic year has brought world class athletes together in desert Palm Springs, where the first World Cup Mixed Relay tour also took place.

The medals have been won by 3 different continents, and for the first time ever an individual medal in the women’s World Cup has been won by a Chinese athlete, Zhang Xiaonan, and it is the first time ever Ireland has won a medal in any World Cup with athletes Natalya Coyle and Eanna Bailey. And of course we have a new World Record in Women’s Fencing also thanks to Zhang Xiaonan.
All the disciplines have been at the same venue and the competition was televised by our new media partner, NTV Plus, with Live signal. Alongside the event a UIPM high level Judges seminar was held at the beginning of the competition.”

**UIPM PRESIDENT REAPPOINTED MEMBER OF IOC COMMISSION**

Congratulations to UIPM’s President Dr h.c. Klaus Schormann for being reappointed onto the IOC Commission for Culture and Olympic Education. Serving on the Commission since 1994, he was reappointed based on his commitment and the knowledge he brings to the Commission. President Schormann is also Coordinator of the Working Group for Programme Development within the Commission.

The Commission for Culture and Olympic Education advises the IOC on the promotion of culture and Olympic education and supports the IOC programmes and activities related to the education of youth through sport.

**LONDON 2012 RESEARCH RESULTS**

During London 2012 the Olympic Research Team of the University of Kaiserslauter, Germany with 10 graduate students led by Dr Norbert Müller, member of the IOC Culture and Olympic Education Commission, surveyed spectators for UIPM watching the Modern Pentathlon event, and some very interesting results were found out.

UIPM also conducted similar surveys at the Olympic Games since Sydney 2000, which has given UIPM important data in shaping the future of the sport.

- The majority of the spectators interviewed at London 2012 were very happy with the Modern Pentathlon venues, with 94.8% of them stating the high visibility from their seat was very good.
- 69.8% of people stated that the reason they went to the Modern Pentathlon event, was that they admired the multi-talented athletes on show, and 67% said that they attended, because they liked the thrill of Modern Pentathlon because victory is open until the end.
- Three-quarters of them bought tickets to the Modern Pentathlon event so that they could see 5 sports with one ticket.” A great chance especially for families with children.
- 97.7% of the people believe that the most important role of an Olympic spectator is to respect the achievements of the athletes - A wonderful compliment for the Modern Pentathletes competing at London 2012.
42.3% of the spectators had a University degree, which portrays a very educated crowd for the Modern Pentathlon event;
Only 32.1% of the spectators were from the London, which shows that this Olympic Games was not just for London area, but for the whole of the world.

MODERN PENTATHLON NOMINATED FOR 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES

UIPM is excited to announce, that Modern Pentathlon has been confirmed as one of the 25 core sports that will be proposed to the 125th IOC Session for approval to appear at the 2020 Olympic Games.
UIPM President Dr h.c. Klaus Schormann stated: “We have promised things and we have delivered. That gives me a great feeling. It also gives me new energy to develop our sport further and never give up. All the Modern Pentathlon family worked hard for this, and we are very glad that we could achieve our goal together”

For further information on the 25 core sports, please see below the IOC Press Release:

IOC Executive Board recommends 25 core sports for 2020 Games

The Executive Board (EB) of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) today agreed on the 25 sports it will propose to the 125th IOC Session for approval as the core sports for the 2020 Summer Olympic Games.

The 25 sports are: athletics, rowing, badminton, basketball, boxing, canoeing, cycling, equestrian, fencing, football, gymnastics, weightlifting, handball, hockey, judo, swimming, modern pentathlon, taekwondo, tennis, table tennis, shooting, archery, triathlon, sailing and volleyball.

The EB recommended that wrestling, governed by the International Federation of Associated Wrestling Styles (FILA), not be included on the list of core sports. Wrestling will now join the seven shortlisted sports – baseball/softball, karate, roller sports, sport climbing, squash, wakeboarding and wushu – vying for inclusion in the 2020 Olympic programme as an additional sport.
The eight sports are scheduled to make presentations to the Executive Board at its meeting in St Petersburg, Russia, in May. The EB will select which of the eight sports to recommend to the 125th IOC Session for inclusion as an additional sport on the 2020 programme.

In an effort to ensure the Olympic Games remain relevant to sports fans of all generations, the Olympic Programme Commission systematically reviews every sport following each edition of the Games.

Golf and rugby sevens were added in 2009 as additional sports to the 2016 Olympic programme.

The 125th IOC Session will take place from 7 to 10 September in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

**UIPM AGREES LANDMARK DEAL WITH NTV PLUS**

UIPM has agreed terms with Russian network and production company NTV Plus, to produce the UIPM World Cup Series and Senior World Championships live for TV for the next 4 years.

NTV Plus beat a long list of companies vying to become UIPM's production partner in the next Olympic period on the back of their vision, passion and experience in producing Modern Pentathlon events.

UIPM President Dr h.c. Klaus Schormann stated: “This is a landmark deal for UIPM, we are very excited to be partnering up with such a big and prestigious company like NTV Plus. We believe they are the right partner for us to take UIPM’s TV project which has grown significantly over the past 4 years to the next level.”

UIPM’s Vice President for Business Affairs Viacheslav Aminov added: “I am very excited about this agreement, as NTV Plus is a famous Russian network and production company. This agreement is a new epoch in UIPM’s history in the broadcast and popularisation of our great sport. NTV Plus brings with them 3 years of experience in online and Live TV broadcasting of modern pentathlon, especially riding and combined event. So we are looking forward to our very bright TV future together with our new partner.”

In the agreement, NTV Plus will produce the individual final days and Mixed Relay finals from 6 events a year live for TV for international distribution, plus a live webcast of each event, a TV magazine show and news edits.

If your TV network is interested in obtaining rights for any Modern Pentathlon event over the next 4 years, please contact UIPM’s Communication Department on communications@pentathlon.org.
The Oceania combined Fencing/Pentathlon training camp took place over 10 days in January at the “Tigerland” training centre in Melbourne. Participants came from all states as well as New Zealand. A mini Laser shooting range was set up and 40 participants with ages ranging from 12 to 25 were introduced to the event. On the final day all completed a 4 event pentathlon (swim, fence and combined). The enthusiasm was infectious with many wanting to know when the next event will be held. It will be up to the individual states and New Zealand to follow up on the enthusiasm generated by the camp and competition.

Currently Victoria planning is underway for a series on Equathon (swim, show jump, run) events with over 50 participants expected at the first event at the end of March. The inaugural schools biathle will also be held in conjunction with this event. Queensland is planning a series of pentathlon days for the next few months as is New South Wales. It seems Australia is on the move again.

Planning is underway for the Australian Youth Olympic elimination trials to determine who will compete at the Oceania trials later in the year.

In February John Pennell and Kate Thompson, Acting Secretary Oceania, travelled to Canberra for the Annual General Meeting of Modern Pentathlon Australia.

EGYPT PRESIDENT MR. SHARIF EL-ERIAN ELECTED EGYPTIAN NOC MEMBER


The results saw the victory of Mr. Sharif El-Erian achieving 18 votes from a total of 27, whilst unfortunately, Mr. Ahmed Nasser was unsuccessful. Thus the new board of the Egyptian National Olympic committee consists of:

1. Mr. Khaled Zien Eldin  President
2. Mr. Hesham Hatab  Vice president
3. Mr. Alaa Gabr  Secretary General
4. Mr. Sharif El-Erian  Board Member
5. Mr. Alaa Meshrif  Board Member
6. Mr. Khaled Hamouda  Board Member
7. Mr. Abdelaziz Ghoniem  Board Member
8. Mr. Gaser Riad  Board Member
9. Mr. Sameh Mobasher  Board Member

We congratulate Mr. El-Erian for that achievement and wish him all the best in his new role besides the leading of the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation to new levels.

This is the 3rd time in Egyptian History that Modern Pentathlon is represented in the Egyptian NOC Board; the last time was the 2000-2004 period represented by Mr Mohamed Touni. The Egyptian NOC is one of the oldest in the world, and just celebrated its 100th anniversary a couple of years ago.
BELARUS AND HUNGARY MP FEDERATIONS SIGN AGREEMENT

There was an historic moment during the Hungarian Indoor Open when Mr. Mikalai Ivanchanka (BLR) and Mr. Lajos Szabó (HUN) – both Presidents of their National MP Federations – signed an Agreement of Cooperation in a nice downtown restaurant during the evening of the competition's Opening day.

The two Presidents briefly introduced their respective Federations and exchanged ideas about eventual training camps and competitions in each other's countries. There were some words about the structure of the financing of sport in Hungary and Mr. Ivanchanka raised the possibility of business cooperation as well.

From the Belarus Federation Mr. Ihar Harbatsenka (Executive Director), Mr. Mikhail Prokopenko (Vice-President) and Mrs. Anfisa Kasyanova (Sport and IR Manager) also joined the dinner and were welcome by their Hungarian hosts Mrs. Beáta Simóka (General Vice-President), Mr. László Fábián (HOC sport director), Mr. Miklós Pálvölgyi (National Team Captain) and Mr. Tamás Varga (IJ, competition organiser).

The Belarus President invited the whole Hungarian Team to their Senior Open Championships. This is not the only International event in Minsk, since the European Confederation MP board decided to give the right to Belarus Federation to host the European Youth B Championships.

MEXICO LAUNCHED ITS FACEBOOK PAGE

The Federación Mexicana de Pentatlón Moderno has launched its facebook page. Already full of photos and news, it reported in live time on its team participating at World Cup #1 in Palm Springs.

The Federation is also using its facebook page to report on its national competitions. The Mexican federation established 3 national competitions to select the representative team for the world cups. Also these nationals are part of the system to select the 24 national pentathletes in Youth categories to participate in the Mexican National Olympics to be celebrate in May 2013 in Aguascalientes Mexico.

Visit [http://www.facebook.com/PentationModernoMex](http://www.facebook.com/PentationModernoMex) for news and photos from the Mexican Open (top 50 pentathletes) and 3rd National Competition (200 athletes all age groups)
The Federazione Italiana Pentathlon Moderno (FIPM) has launched a new and exciting website.

Check out www.fipm.it for photo gallery, video gallery, innovative graphics and all the latest Modern Pentathlon news in Italy, including results, reports and photos of their recent National Championships.

From the 19 to 25 February the UIPM President was in in Palm Springs, USA. During the first World Cup in Palm Springs President Dr. Klaus Schormann met with UIPM EB Members: 1st Vice President Ivar Sisniega, Treasurer John Helmick, Member for Sport Janusz Peciak, Member for Marketing Martin Dawe, Member for Media Andrejus Zadneprovskis, President NORCECA Juan Manzo Oranegui, Coaches Chairman Awad Samy and Secretary General Shiny Fang and briefed them about the IOC EB decision for the Olympic Program and the next steps to be done at the next meetings during SportAccord in St. Petersburg (end of May 2013) and later the year in September in Buenos Aires.

They also discussed during that days the different steps in the field of development in the new countries in the different continents linked to financial resources and technical possibilities. The development through special seminars for coaches will have priority to have better possibilities for practical support to the upcoming nations.
On 21st February 2013 the UIPM Sponsor New Balance Athletic Shoe Company hosted an evening reception for the team leaders of the participating nations, UIPM EB members, and member of the WC Organizing Committee at the New Balance Store located in Palm Desert, California. Kevin Tripp, an Executive of New Balance welcomed the guests and underlined the close partnership since 1995. Helen Patton, granddaughter of 1912 Olympic Pentathlete George S. Patton spoke powerfully on the subject to sport and culture and how the sport of modern pentathlon shaped her family; moreover, she noted that her great-grandfather built the building in Massachusetts where New Balance now performs research and development and manufactures its shoes.

This reception was also a celebration on the renewal of the Sponsor contract between UIPM and New Balance Athletic Shoe, Inc. which started 1995 and is now confirmed through 2016. In his remarks, President Dr. Schormann noted the long cooperation and successful relationship between UIPM and New Balance.

President Dr. Klaus Schormann, Member for Marketing Martin Dawe and Secretary General Shiny Fang discussed marketing issues and the stronger involvement of the Business Affair Delegates in the UIPM Category A competitions and new concepts linked to the new Modern Pentathlon format. A very close cooperation with the media department under the guidance of Member for Media Andrejus Zadneprovskis linked to the TV partner NTV plus will happen.

27 February 2013 – Brussels
President Dr. Klaus Schormann took part in Brussels at the "European Evening of Sports" hosted by the Government of North Rhine-Westphalia and the European Olympic Committee. The EOC President Patrick Hickey welcomed IOC Members, NOC Presidents, National and International Presidents, Secretaries of State and politicians and representatives of European sport societies. Key note speaker IOC Vice President Dr. Thomas Bach spoke about: "The European Union, Sport and it's Athletes - Quo Vadis?". President Patrick Hickey presented his ideas in the panel "The EU-financing of Sport beyond 2014? " and Director General of the IOC Christophe de Kepper and Chair of the IOC Athletes Commission and IOC EB Member Claudia Bokel discussed in the 2nd panel the very important and actual situation "What to do against Match-Fixing?" The objectives for this meetings are to set up to develop the European dimension of sport and to contribute to the promotion of European sporting issues closely linked to health, youth, education, volunteering and integrity.
2013 saw the launch of a new UIPM Award. Decided by the UIPM Coaches Committee, the Coaches’ Award will be presented at all World Cups as well as World Championships on each day of the Finals at the Medal Ceremonies.

The Coaches’ Award is given in recognition of the coach’s contribution and selfless dedication to Modern Pentathlon through their work with their athletes.

Pictured here, Samy Awad, Chair of the UIPM Coaches’ Committee and UIPM President Dr Schormann award the coach of the Hungarian Mixed Relay Team.

I. Thanks and Praise to the National Federations attending presented the UIPM World Cup I Palm Springs Opening Ceremony

Dear Member Federations,
UIPM launched 2013 season through the first World Cup in Palm Springs USA on Feb20 2013, during the opening ceremony, we have all fantastic speakers and distinguished guests including:

- Steve Pugeot, Mayor – City of Palm Springs
- Lt. General Herbert R. Temple, Jr., United States Veterans Advisory Committee
- Helen Patton, Chairman of the Patton Foundation in the United States, Chairman of the Patton Trust in Europe
- John Benoit, Riverside County Supervisor
- Rob Osterberg, Director of Convention Sales & Services, Greater Palm Springs Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Michelle Strauss, CEO – USA Pentathlon World Cup
- Dr. h.c. Klaus Schormann, President, International Union of Modern Pentathlon

During this opening, the nations present showed their best respect to the local organising committee, to the Union, and to themselves, we appreciate the sportsmanship of those athletes, coaches and officials, and we thank you National Federations who educated their athletes in the Olympic values!
II. Thanks and best wishes to former Communication Manager

Mr. Matthew Pound

3 years ago, a young Australian came to UIPM and brought in a lot of fun, fresh air and brave thoughts to Monaco UIPM Headquarters. Now, full of Media and Communication experiences in UIPM, he has just started on his new journey in Singapore, closer to his home in Australia, taking with him the best wishes from UIPM HQ colleagues and bringing with him the luck of Modern Pentathlon, which on the day he left HQ for the last time, was confirmed as one of the 25 core Olympic Sports.

This is Matthew Pound, UIPM former Communications Manager, a skilful, passionate, energetic and optimistic young man. In last 3 years, Matt devoted all his energy to improving the levels of UIPM Media across the board, including but not only, the official website, image library, media communications, social media platforms, television and promotion, marketing activities.

We are very sad to lose Matt, but we feel happy for him; we fully believe he is carrying the spirit of Modern Pentathlon to his new society, which is the best moral, strongest endurance, ultimate intelligence, and the attitude of harmony.

Best wishes for Matt, and our thanks for his contribution for Modern Pentathlon!

UIPM HQ colleagues
UIPM Secretary General
UIPM President
UIPM Executive Board

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**PENTATHLON NEW BALANCE WORLD RANKING**

New Balance Pentathlon World Ranking
The PWR is updated live on www.pentathlon.org after each competition.
PWR as at 28 February 2013:

| Women | | | |
|-------|----------|---|
| 1     | LTU      | Laura ASADAUSKAITE | 220 |
| 2     | BRA      | Yane MARQUES       | 200 |
| 3     | GBR      | Samantha MURRAY    | 196 |
| 4     | CHN      | Qian CHEN          | 178 |
| 5     | BLR      | Anastasiya PROKOPENKO | 178 |
| 6     | AUS      | Chloé ESPOSITO     | 170 |
| 7     | FRA      | Amelie CAZE        | 164 |
| 8     | GBR      | Heather FELL       | 161 |
| 9     | POL      | Sylvia GAWLIKOWSKA | 157 |
| 10    | GER      | Annika SCHLEU      | 156 |
| 11    | GBR      | Mhairi SPENCE      | 155 |
| 12    | GER      | Lena SCHONEBORN    | 149 |
| 13    | LAT      | Elena RUBLEVSKA    | 149 |
| 14    | UKR      | Victoria TERESHUK  | 148 |
| 15    | RUS      | Ekaterina KHURASKINA | 147 |
| 16    | CAN      | Melanie MCCANN     | 147 |
| 17    | UKR      | Iryna KHOKHLOVA    | 143 |
| 18    | HUN      | Sarolta KOVACS     | 142 |
| 19    | RUS      | Donata RIMSAITE    | 140 |
| 20    | HUN      | Leila GYENESEI     | 138 |
PENTATHLON IN THE ANCIENT GAMES
708 BC - Lampis of Sparta won the first ancient Pentathlon

MODERN PENTATHLON
1912 - Stockholm: First time in the Olympic Programme
1948 - London: UIPM was born
1996 – Atlanta: First time all 5 events competed in one day at Olympics
1998 – Budapest, Mexico, Monaco, Olympia and Lausanne: UIPM 50 Years Anniversary
2000 – Sydney: First time for women in the Olympic Programme
2004 – Athens: Pentathlon home after 2712 years
2010 – Singapore: First ever Youth Olympic Games
2012 – London: 100 Years of Modern Pentathlon in the Olympic Games
2012 – Congress Buenos Aires, Argentina

UIPM Headquarters
Stade Louis II – Entrance E -13 Avenue des Castelans, MC-98000 Monaco
Tel. +377 9777 8555 - Fax +377 9777 8550
E-mail: uipm@pentathlon.org  Web site: www.pentathlon.org
Facebook: Facebook.com/modpen  Twitter: UIPM_HQ
Youtbe: Youtube.com/uipmchannel

UIPM wishes its founder Pierre de Coubertin a happy 150th birthday.

100 years after Modern Pentathlon was originally introduced into the Olympic Games by Coubertin, UIPM is still taking care of the legacy left by Coubertin, who also founded the Modern Olympic Games.