

New Modern Pentathlon Format Paris 2024

On December 7, 2020, UIPM welcomed positive communication received from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) around the new Modern Pentathlon format designed for introduction at the Olympic Summer Games Paris 2024.

This followed the approval of the new format by the UIPM Executive Board in October 2020 and the first test events, held in Budapest (HUN) and Cairo (EGY) in September 2020.

Further testing and evaluation is in the pipeline, but viewers and spectators watching the Olympic Games' most demanding sport in 2024 can now expect to see a compelling showpiece featuring all five disciplines in 90 minutes.

The new format features an elimination system that results in only 12 athletes taking part in each final, a process designed to reduce the overall length of the competition and create a more dynamic sport with a continuous flow.

The graphic on the next page illustrates the vision of five disciplines in 90 minutes in a compact field of play, which is another cornerstone of planning for Paris 2024.

The 90-minute showpiece will follow the Fencing Ranking Round, held on a previous day, with a new order that opens with Riding, followed by Fencing Bonus Round, Swimming and Laser Run.

Other changes to the current Olympic Games competition format include:

- **Riding** – a reduction in jumps from 15 to 12
- **Fencing Ranking Round** – a reduction in points per win from six to five
- **Fencing Bonus Round** – an increase in points per win from one to two
- **Laser Run** – a possible reduction in the running circuit from 800m to 600m

This vision is designed to make Modern Pentathlon shorter, faster, more connected and compact and easier to understand for all audiences.



The changes to Modern Pentathlon are designed to transform the profile and popularity of a sport that has been a constant feature of the world's biggest sporting event since it was introduced by Baron Pierre de Coubertin – founder of the Modern Olympic Games – in Stockholm in 1912.

The latest changes follow the move away from a five-day format, the introduction of laser technology and combined running and shooting, the arrival of the Fencing Bonus Round and the establishment of an all-in-one Pentathlon Arena, which will feature at the Olympic Games for the first time in Tokyo (JPN) in 2021.

The new format is more broadcast-friendly, enabling the dramatic storylines of Modern Pentathlon to be told in a logical sequence that is easier for spectators inside the stadium and watching around the world to understand.

As a sustainable and cost-effective model for the future of Modern Pentathlon within the Olympic Games, the proposal is also compatible with the International Olympic Committee's Olympic Agenda 2020 and New Norm reforms.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "We are proud of the dynamic changes made to the Modern Pentathlon in recent decades and we are very pleased that the IOC has recognised our commitment to innovation by supporting this ambitious vision for Paris 2024.

"We are looking forward to working very closely with colleagues from the IOC, Paris 2024 and Olympic Broadcasting Services to finalise plans for the historic Olympic Summer Games taking place in the magical city of Paris for the first time in 100 years.

"The sport created by Baron Pierre de Coubertin continues to represent the most complete examination of any athlete competing in the Olympic Games, while offering spectators more excitement and a better showcase for each of the Pentathlon disciplines.

"Our new Modern Pentathlon format is strongly aligned to these two principles. It will dramatically improve the experience of viewers and spectators while retaining the essence of the sport.

"I guarantee all audiences that they will see a wonderful sporting spectacle when they watch the Modern Pentathlon at Tokyo 2020 in 2021 – and an even better showcase in Paris three years later."

Further testing and evaluation of the new Modern Pentathlon format will take place in 2021.

