



MODERN PENTATHLON

TECHNICAL HANDBOOK

FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIPS



DEPARTMENT
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INTERNATIONAL
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1. HISTORY

Modern Pentathlon was officially introduced to the FISU World University Championships programme in 2014. The inaugural championship took place in 2018 in Budapest, Hungary. Planned editions in Warsaw (2020) and Buenos Aires (2022) were cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic and other force majeure circumstances.

In 2024, Kaunas, Lithuania, hosted a milestone edition featuring the innovative Obstacle-Laser Run format, which integrates Obstacle, Running, and Laser Shooting. This evolution enhanced accessibility and reduced organisational complexity, laying the groundwork for broader participation and long-term integration within the university sports framework.

Building on this momentum, the 2026 FISU World University Championship Modern Pentathlon will be held in Madrid, Spain. This edition will continue the development of the Obstacle-Laser Run format and reinforce the sport's dynamic growth and integration within the global university sports movement.

2. STATISTICS

EDITION	YEAR	COUNTRY	CITY	COUNTRIES	ATHLETES			OFFs	TOTAL
					M	W	TOT		
1	2018	HUN	Budapest	17	28	25	53	20	73
2	2024	LTU	Kaunas	17	30	19	49	21	70

3. GENERAL SCHEDULE

DAY -3	DAY -2	DAY -1	DAY 1-3	DAY 4	DAY 5
A	A	GTM / OC	C	C / CC	D

Legend: A - Arrivals / CC - Closing Ceremony / C - Competition / D - Departures / GTM - General Technical Meeting / OC - Opening Ceremony / RD - Rest Day

For Modern Pentathlon, the competitions shall last 4 days

4. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

4.1. GENERAL ENTRY (DEADLINE: -6 MONTHS TO THE EVENT)

The General Entry is the first stage of the registration process, where delegations are invited to register, through the NUSFs, for the Championship indicating a general interest in participating in the event.

Teams and athletes are not required to submit any documentation or undergo a selection processes.

The submission of a General Entry Form is non-binding, indicating only initial interest by the NUSF but not final commitment



4.2. QUANTITATIVE ENTRY (DEADLINE: -3 MONTHS TO THE EVENT)

During the Quantitative Entry the NUSF delegation commits to participate and confirms the delegation composition in terms of numbers and although it does not yet provide individual details, it requires the NUSFs to submit an accurate count of delegation members.

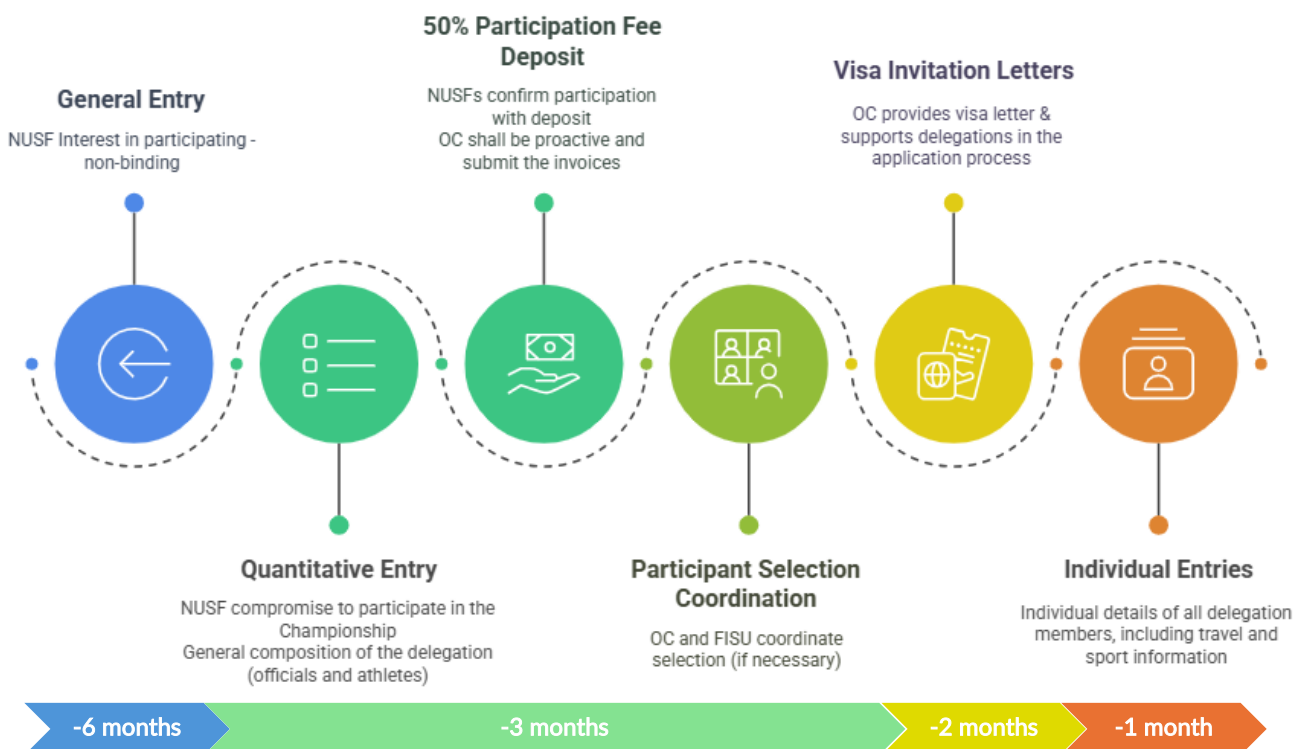
At this stage, a 50% payment of the participation fees is due and must be settled by the Quantitative Entry deadline. By proceeding with the payment, the delegation confirms its participation in the Championship.

This deposit serves as a participation guarantee, and is non-refundable in case of withdrawal, with refunds subject to FISU General Regulations and any OC-specific cancellation policies

4.3. INDIVIDUAL ENTRY (DEADLINE: -1 MONTH TO THE EVENT)

The Individual Entry is the final step in FISU event registration. The NUSF must provide all relevant data and documentation for each delegation member.

The remaining 50% of the participation fees is paid in full to the Organising Committee by this deadline. Failure to do so may result in non-participation in the Championship, unless specifically approved by the Organising Committee



5. SPORT REGULATIONS

The Modern Pentathlon competitions and its disciplines shall be organised in accordance with the most recent technical rules of the Union International de Pentathlon Moderne (UIPM) [UIPM Obstacle Laser Run Competition Guidelines](#) and the [Competition Rules and Equipment Regulations](#), unless otherwise stated in this document. In case of dispute in the interpretation of the rules, the English text shall be regarded as authoritative.

The competitions shall last 4 days as indicated in the General Schedule (Section 3) and the competition programme shall be proposed by the Organising Committee Competition Manager and confirmed by the FISU TCC, including the following events:

5.1. COMPETITION EVENTS

The event comprises three of the five Modern Pentathlon disciplines: the Obstacle and Laser Run (running and laser shooting). Competitors earn points in each discipline based on their performance. The final discipline is the Laser Run, with a staggered start based on competitors' total scores from the preceding Obstacle discipline. Athletes begin at intervals determined by the difference in pentathlon points between themselves and the leading competitor, measured in seconds. The first athlete to cross the finish line is the overall winner.

COMPETITIONS	
Men's Individual	Women's Individual
Team Event	Mixed Relay

Day 1: Individual Semi-Finals

Day 2: Individual Finals

Day 3: Team Event

Day 4: Mixed Relay

5.1.1. INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS

Individual competitions shall be organised for both genders: women and men. Each delegation may enter a maximum of six competitors per gender and three officials per competition.

Should the overall number of athletes exceed 24, semifinal rounds and a final (limited to 24 athletes) will be held, in accordance with the [UIPM Obstacle Laser Run Competition Guidelines](#).

SEMIFINALS	More than 24 athletes
FINALS	Up to 24 athletes

A. Semifinal Round

- The semifinal rounds shall consist of a maximum of 24 athletes. Athletes must be equally distributed across all semifinals groups. Exceptionally, groups of up to 26 athletes may be formed if sufficient shooting targets are available.



- Pentathletes are grouped according to the current PWR list:

GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C	GROUP D
1	2	3	4
8	7	6	5
9	10	11	12
16	15	14	13
17	18	19	Etc...

Athletes with no PWR points should be placed by their Obstacle entry time

- The following numbers of athletes qualify for the Final:
 - 2 groups - the top 12 from each group
 - 3 groups - the top 8 from each group
 - 4 groups - the top 6 from each group

If the total number of athletes per gender is less than 24 athletes, no semifinals rounds are necessary, and the competition must start directly with the Final

5.1.2. TEAM EVENT COMPETITION

- Each team comprises two athletes from the same delegation: one woman and one man. Each athlete competes in a single discipline only. Teams may choose which athlete (woman or man) starts the first event.
- The Team Event accepts up to 24 teams. A maximum of two teams per delegation is permitted.
- The Team Event must be completed on a single day.

5.1.3. MIXED RELAY COMPETITION

- Each team comprises two athletes from the same delegation: one woman and one man.
- The Mixed Relay competition permits up to 24 teams. A maximum of two teams per delegation is allowed.
- The Mixed Relay must take place over a single day.

5.2. CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

The overall ranking positions are determined as follows:

- Athletes/teams competing in the Final are ranked in positions 1st to 24th according to their place after the Laser Run phase.
- Athletes competing in the Semifinals and not qualified for the Final are ranked from position 25th onwards according to the total number of points achieved in their respective groups.

In case of a tie in any of the situations above described:

- If two or more athletes finish the Laser Run phase in a tie (and placings cannot be determined by Photo Finish), the athlete with the best result in Laser Run will be placed in the higher position.
- If the tie remains, the athlete with the best result in the Obstacle phase will be placed in the higher position.
- If the tie remains, the athlete with the better PWR position will be placed higher.

5.3. DISCIPLINE RULES

The event will be conducted in accordance with [UIPM Obstacle Laser Run Competition Guidelines](#) and the [UIPM Competition Rules and Equipment Regulations](#) unless otherwise stated in this document.

5.3.1. OBSTACLE

- The Obstacle event is a race that consists of overcoming obstacles from a start line to a finish point organised both for Individuals and for Relays.
- The course can be straight, U-shaped, or curved.
- A course of 70 metres in length will feature eight obstacles.
- Athletes will be seeded into head-to-head heats based on their PWR Obstacle time. If a competitor/team lacks a PWR time, entry times will be used. The Athlete/Team with the slower PWR Obstacle time (or, if applicable, entry time) will be placed in lane “A”.
- In the Mixed Relay event, each member of the team must complete the entire course.
- The starting order for the Mixed Relay teams is: women first, then men.
- The points are awarded according to the performance times presented in Appendix A of the [UIPM Competition Rules and Equipment Regulations](#). Every 0.33 seconds is equal to 1 point.

5.3.2. LASER RUN (RUNNING & LASER SHOOTING)

- Shooting is conducted using laser pistols and certified electronic laser targets.
- The Athlete, Team, or Mixed Relay Team with the highest score in the preceding Obstacle event shall start first in the Laser Run. All other competitors will start with time handicaps, calculated as 1 second per point of difference based on the Obstacle event results.
- In Individual and Team competitions, the Laser Run consists of 4 shooting series and a total running distance of 3.000m, divided into 5 laps of 600m. The sequence begins with a 600m run, followed by the first shooting series (five successful hits required), then alternating 600m runs and shooting stages for a total of 4 shooting and 5 running segments.
- In the Mixed Relay competition, the Laser Run comprises 4 shooting phases and a cumulative running distance of 3.600m per team. Each athlete completes 3 running laps of 600m, interspersed with 2 shooting stages. The female athlete completes her full sequence before handing over to the male teammate, who then completes the remaining segments.
- The points are awarded according to the performance times presented in Appendix 5B1 of the [UIPM Competition Rules and Equipment Regulations](#). Every 1 second is equal to 1 point.

5.4. DELEGATIONS COMPOSITION

A. Athletes

TOURNAMENT	MEN's	WOMEN's
Individual	Max. 6 athletes	Max. 6 athletes
Team Event	Max. 2 teams per delegation (1 man + 1 woman per team)	
Mixed Relay	Max. 2 teams per delegation (1 man + 1 woman per team)	
Max. 20 athletes (10 men & 10 women) per delegation		

All participating athletes and coaches will require a UIPM licence as a condition of entry

At the Technical Meeting, the Head of Delegation or his/her representative shall confirm and sign the official list of competitors accredited by the CIC



B. Officials

TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICIALS
Max. 6 officials per delegation

6. TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

6.1. INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

For the FISU Championship, the ITOs are appointed by UIPM, with the endorsement of FISU. This appointment process considers several critical factors, including the number of participants, the level and availability of NTOs, and the goal to minimise expenses when possible. To achieve cost-efficiency, UIPM will aim to nominate ITOs from neighbouring countries whenever feasible. This approach not only fosters regional cooperation but also optimises resources.

A. Number & Roles of ITOs

INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS	
NUMBER	FUNCTION
2	ITO
A total of 2 ITOs are required	

B. ITOs Costs

According to the Collaboration Convention signed between FISU and UIPM, the costs of the ITOs are the following:

- UIPM will cover:
 - Technical Delegate's flights
 - ITO's flights
 - ITO's per-diem
- Organising Committee shall cover:
 - Technical Delegate's accommodation in single room
 - Technical Delegate's meals
 - Technical Delegate's internal transportation
 - ITOs' accommodation
 - ITOs' meals
 - ITOs' internal transportation

6.2. NATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

Concerning the NTOs, these individuals are appointed by the Modern Pentathlon National Federation or the appropriate governing bodies within a country, under the supervision of the Organising Committee.

A. Number & Roles of NTOs

NATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS	
NUMBER	FUNCTION
8	Obstacle
10	Laser Run
A total of 18 NTOs are required	

B. Agreement with the NF

Concerning the NTOs participation, it falls outside the scope of FISU or UIPM. It is therefore advisable for the Organising Committee to reach an agreement directly with the National Federation. This collaboration will help ensure clarity and alignment on the financial aspects associated with it, including the following:

- NTOs Nomination – Ensure all NTOs possess the necessary qualifications to work in an international event
- Management and distribution of the technical official's clothing/uniforms
- Arrangement of suitable accommodation for the required period, if needed

It is strongly recommended to initiate communication with the National Federation promptly regarding the appointment of these officials. This proactive approach will help avert any potential personnel shortages that may arise from conflicting event dates, thereby expanding the available options and ensuring a more successful engagement

7. SPORT MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

7.1. COMPETITION VENUES

- Number of competition venues – 1
- Type of venue – Indoor or Outdoor
 - Obstacle
 - 1 course of 8 obstacles
 - Laser Run
 - Loop of 600m
 - Shooting Range – min. 15-40m – UIPM homologated targets
- Lighting – min. 500 lux

7.2. EQUIPMENT

A. Venue Equipment

- Video scoreboard
- Electronic timing system



B. Uniforms & Sport Equipment

- Bib numbers

Please refer to the [Minimum Requirements document](#) for more detailed information

8. TRAININGS

The Organising Committee is responsible for coordinating and communicating the training schedule to each delegation, ensuring appropriate access to facilities based on the sport and competition schedule. Some of the factors to be considered are:

- Create a training schedule based on the indications of the FISU TCC
- Consider the usage of the main competition venue, if needed and appropriate
- Provide hydration and basic medical assistance for training sessions
- Share a detailed training plan with each delegation at least 48 hours before their arrival
- Ensure training venue availability throughout the Championship

Please refer to the [Section 5.2.3 of the General Handbook](#) for more detailed information regarding Trainings

9. MEDICAL SERVICES

A. FISU Requirements

- First aid and Emergency Medical care
- Medical transportation
- OC on-call first aid medical services shall be available on a 24-hour basis
- A minimum of two ambulances per venue should be available and on duty from the start of warm-up until at least 45 minutes after the final competition of the day

B. Participants Medical Insurance

All participants must have valid travel medical insurance, covering:

- 24/7 Emergency Assistance
- Emergency Medical Expenses
- Medical Evacuation/Repatriation
- Trip Cancellation/Interruption
- Accidental Death or Injury

The OC is solely responsible for providing first aid, emergency medical care, and transportation to the designated hospital. All other medical costs shall be borne by the participant's insurance

Refer to [Section 3.4.1 of the General Handbook](#) for more detailed information regarding Medical Services

10. DOPING CONTROL

A. FISU Requirements

- The requirements regarding the number and type of doping tests, as well as the total number of tests to be conducted, can be found in the *FISU Doping Test Requirements* document. This information is available exclusively to the Organising Committee.
- The OC Doctor or Head of the Medical area shall coordinate the doping testing and contact the FISU CMI to clarify the moment or disciplines in which the tests will be carried out.
- All doping tests costs (including collection, transportation, laboratory analyses) shall be borne by the Organising Committee.

B. Athletes Selection

- Athletes are eligible for testing once accredited until departing from the official event accommodation.

Please refer to Section 3.4.2 of the General Handbook for more detailed information regarding Doping Control

11. PROTOCOL, SPORT PRESENTATION & AWARDING

11.1. MEDALS TABLE

MODERN PENTATHLON									
EVENTS	MEN			WOMEN			TEAM MIXED RELAY		
	G	S	B	G	S	B	G	S	B
Individual	1	1	1	1	1	1			
Team Event							2	2	2
Mixed Relay							2	2	2
TOTAL	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4

A. FISU Requirements

The Organising Committee is responsible for providing the medals as shown in the table above. Medals must be awarded for all individual and mixed team events. The top three athletes/teams in each discipline (individual and mixed relay) are eligible for medals.

The table below provides a comprehensive overview of the total number of medals awarded across all competition disciplines. Please note that extra/reserve medal sets and the FISU set are not included in these figures.



MODERN PENTATHLON MEDALS	
Gold	6
Silver	6
Bronze	6

The Organising Committee must provide FISU with a set of medals of the event

B. Recommendations & Considerations

It is crucial to have additional sets of medals on hand as a contingency. Some medals may be defective and may need to be replaced.

Medals are not mandatory for Officials in Modern Pentathlon

11.2. SPORT PRESENTATION

Sports presentation is vital for elevating a Championship from a competition to an unforgettable experience. It encompasses everything from music and lighting to commentary and fan engagement, creating a unique atmosphere that engages the audience.

In case there is a big screen in the venue for the spectators, some educational video (provided by UIPM) regarding the rules of the sport can be displayed at the beginning of the competition day

A. FISU Requirements

- **Audio Elements**
 - Sound System: A high-quality sound system is essential for announcements, music, and commentary, ensuring clear communication and an engaging atmosphere.
 - Microphone: Essential for general announcements such as schedule, results, athletes introduction, general information, and others.
 - Thematic Music: Curate an energetic playlist to be played during introductions, warm-ups, and medal ceremonies to elevate the excitement.
- **Commentary and Announcing**
 - Live Announcements: Make timely announcements regarding event schedules, race results, and athlete backgrounds to keep the audience informed and engaged.
- **Athletes Introduction**
 - Ceremonial Introductions: Develop exciting and personalized introductions for the athletes, showcasing their achievements and backgrounds.

B. Recommendations & Considerations

- **Audio Elements**
 - DJ: Enhances the atmosphere and overall experience of a sports competition, by creating and maintaining energy, motivating the athletes and engaging the crowd.
 - Music can be played during races, but shall be stopped for the start.
- **Commentary and Announcing**
 - Engaging Commentary: Hire knowledgeable commentators who can provide insights about the athletes, techniques, and race strategies. This adds depth to the viewing experience.

11.3. MODERN PENTATHLON PRE-COMPETITION PROTOCOL

A. Athletes Introduction

Event Host:

“Now, let’s introduce our contenders for the [men’s/women’s/teams] Championship! Please join me in welcoming our athletes with enthusiasm!”

- Country Flag Display (if any big screen available)
 - “Representing [Country], we have [Athlete’s Name]!”
 - “[He/She] recently finished [insert notable performance], and holds a personal best of [insert time, if available].”
 - “Notably, [he/she] has also won [mention any major titles or accolades, such as national championships].”

OBSTACLE PRE-COMPETITION PROTOCOL	
TIME	ACTIVITY
-	- Announcement of the athletes of each heat

LASER RUN PRE-COMPETITION PROTOCOL	
TIME	ACTIVITY
-5'	- Athletes are ready to be called to the start line
-3'	- Announcement of the athletes one-by-one on to the start line
0'	- Start of the Laser Run

12. SERVICES

The Organising Committee should provide a variety of services for the event, including:

- Ice
- Laundry
- Wi-Fi

12.1. ICE

The supply of ice is one of the most common requests from participating delegations, particularly for injury treatment and recovery purposes.

- The Organising Committee must supply ice for treating injuries during both practice and competition, as part of the medical coverage for the event. It does not cover large quantities of ice needed for recovery treatments, such as cryotherapy.

The Organising Committee secure a reliable ice provider on standby, anticipating the request from teams and establishing clear procedures for ice procurement, including pricing and how to access this service



12.2. LAUNDRY

Laundry services are essential for many sports, particularly in long-duration competitions and team sports, where athletes may require frequent changes of clothing.

- Laundry services must be provided in all Team Sports Championships and in all sports with more than four competition days.
- Self-Service or Full-Service Laundry can be considered (hotel/accommodation and external services included in the latter)

Self-Service is the preferred option, giving more flexibility and control to the teams. If not, it is important to negotiate reduced pricing and adjust the timing for collection/delivery of uniforms with the provider

12.3. WI-FI

Wi-Fi is an essential service for university students, as it serves as a critical infrastructure that fosters communication and supports their academic responsibilities.

- Participants can easily access real-time information about event schedules, results, and updates. This allows them to plan their day effectively, ensuring they don't miss out on key events and activities.
- Participants can engage with live broadcasts, social media updates, and other digital content related to the event.
- For many students, academic responsibilities continue even during events. Wi-Fi connection ensures they can access study materials and educational resources, maintain communication with professors, and keep up with online courses.

Wi-Fi should be provided free of charge for all participants at the event, both at the accommodation sites and at the competition venues

Please refer to the Section 3.11 of the General Handbook for more detailed information on all services

13. GENERAL TIMELINE

TIMELINE	ACTIONS
Event -12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination Visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Venues visit and Equipment approval (FISU TCC) • Competition programme approval (FISU TCC) • Venue medical plan approval (FISU TCC)
Event -6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Entries (NUSFs)
Event -3 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantitative Entries (NUSFs) • 50% payment from participating countries (NUSFs / OC) • ITOs & NTOs list (FISU / UIPM)
Event -1 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Entries (NUSFs) • 100% payment from participating countries (NUSFs / OC) • Final Bulletin (OC / FISU / FISU TCC)
Event -1 day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation and participants list confirmation (NUSFs) • Technical Officials Meeting (ITOs / NTOs / TCC / OC) • General Technical Meeting (NUSFs / OC / FISU)
EVENT	
Event +1 week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send all documents and media to FISU (OC)
Event +1 month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Report to FISU (OC)

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