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LESUN (RUS) NAMED AS RUSSIA'S ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Alexander Lesun known

Alexander Lesun, the Rio 2016 men's Olympic Modern Pentathlon champion, has been named as Russia's Athlete of the Year.

The 28-year-old's achievements were recognised at an annual awards ceremony on December 14 at the Ministry of Sport, where he also received the "Pride of Russia" award.

Lesun won Olympic gold in Rio with a near-flawless performance and set new Olympic records for Fencing and overall score. But that was far from his only achievement in 2016.

At the World Championships in Moscow (RUS), he delighted the home crowd with a silver medal in the Men's Individual event and then gold in the Mixed Relay alongside Donata Rimsaite.

Later in 2016, Lesun and Rimsaite again paired up to win gold at the Kremlin Cup, also in Moscow.

The latest accolades for Lesun come in the wake of him winning the Senior Male Athlete of the Year award at the 2016 UIPM Congress in Frankfurt (GER) in November.