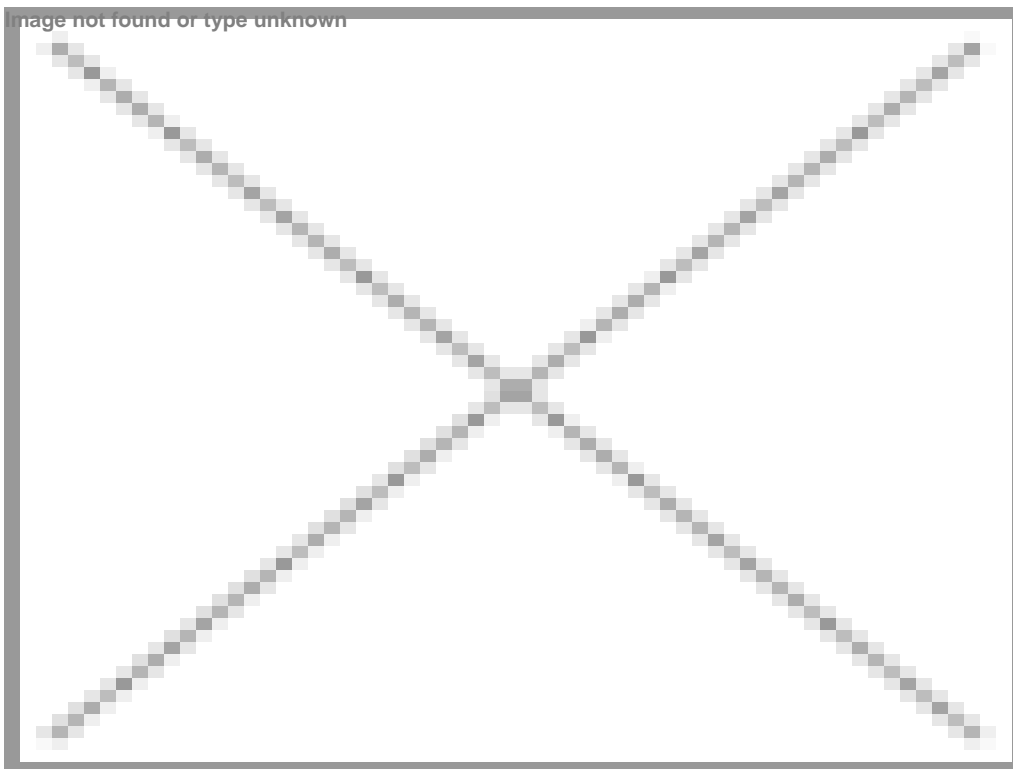


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YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES: FIND OUT WHO WILL COMPETE IN BUENOS AIRES (ARG)



A record 31 nations will be represented in the Modern Pentathlon at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The 48 competing athletes have qualified through continental qualifying events, a global rankings system and the UIPM 2018 Under 19 Tetrathlon World Championships.

A truly diverse range of nations, representing all of UIPM's continental confederations, will send athletes to Buenos Aires in October, with the likes of Moldova, Venezuela, Chinese Taipei and Kyrgyzstan competing with established pentathlon strongholds such as Egypt, France, Russia and China.

Martina Armanazqui and Franco Santiago Serrano, who are currently competing at the UIPM Junior World Championships in Kladno (CZE), will have the honour of flying the flag for the home nation, Argentina.

The format of the YOG competition is Tetrathlon (Swimming, Fencing and Laser-Run) and one of the unique features of the event is the International Mixed Relay, where pairs are drawn at random from different nations and given the chance to team up.

Viacheslav Malishev, UIPM Executive Board Member for Development, said: "It is a wonderful moment to see the final list of 48 athletes who will compete in the Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games and it will be a thrill to watch them in October.

"These athletes, 24 young women and 24 young men, have demonstrated their commitment to Modern Pentathlon and proved their ability at national, continental and global level. Now they will have the chance to compete for the ultimate prize of Olympic medals and gain valuable experience.

"The UIPM development programme is producing great results worldwide thanks to the support provided to National Federations and Continental Confederations and development initiatives like the Global Laser-Run City Tour.

"More and more people from communities across the world are being introduced to the UIPM Sports movement and this is resulting in a larger pool of athletes at elite level."

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann added: "Modern Pentathlon has been part of the programme of every Youth Olympic Games, in Singapore (2010), Nanjing (2014) and now Buenos Aires (2018).

"Today we see many medallists and other athletes who have participated in the Youth Olympic Games emerging as senior athletes. Some of them already competed at the Olympic Games and they are all aiming to qualify for Tokyo 2020.

"UIPM's global development programme has grown rapidly in recent years and one of the results of this is a higher standard of youth athletes, which we have seen during the qualification period for Buenos Aires 2018.

"My congratulations go to all 48 athletes who have qualified and I wish them and their support teams the very best of luck."

2018 YOG Qualification_list_final_by_nation