

03 MAR 2019

# UIPM 2019 PENTATHLON WORLD CUP CAIRO: EGYPT DOUBLE UP IN MIXED RELAY



Another golden moment for **Egypt** ended a memorable fortnight of success for the host nation of UIPM 2019 Pentathlon World Cup Cairo.

A gold medal in the Mixed Relay achieved in style by **Haydy Morsy** and **Ahmed Elgendy** came on the back of an exceptional victory for **Elgendy** (EGY) in the Men's Individual Final and a double individual success at the African Championships that made **Morsy** (EGY) and **Sherif Nazeir** (EGY) the first qualifiers for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

**Egypt** (Morsy/Elgendy) were impossible to catch in the Mixed Relay, winning by 36sec from silver medallists **Czech Republic** (**Eliska Pribylova** & **Ondrej Polivka**).

**Medallists' reaction**

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**Elgendy** (EGY) said: "I am very proud of these two gold medals and very happy, and it's been the best birthday celebration ever.

"Our Swimming was a little bit slow but the Fencing was great, we achieved 1st place and created a very big gap. In the Riding we did great and in fact all disciplines went well today, so we are very happy to achieve this medal."

**Morsy** (EGY) added: "It's my first World Cup gold medal and I'm so happy I achieved it with Elgendy. We competed together in 2017 and won a bronze medal, and I'm so happy we achieved gold here in Egypt in front of everyone.

"This is the best feeling ever. My family and friends are here and the federation, and this World Cup means a lot to me so it's amazing. I qualified for the Tokyo Olympics 10 days ago, so I hope the season is going to continue like this."

**Pribylova** (CZE) said: "We started really well in the Fencing and then the Riding was so-so, but our shooting in the Laser Run was quite good. The Hungarian girl was catching me but fortunately Ondrej's second shoot was really good.

It was a second silver in two days for Czech Republic after Jan Kuf's heroics in the Men's Individual Final.

**Polivka** (CZE) added: "I'm very happy for Jan and for us. We made it, and I hope this will be a sign for better results in the next World Cups."

Bronze went to **Hungary** thanks to the efforts of **Kamilla Reti** and **Illes Szabo**, who said: "It was my first World Cup so I am really excited about the competition. I achieved my aim. The individual semi-final wasn't so good but today the Mixed Relay went well, and we will see for the future."

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## Swimming

**France** set the standard in the pool thanks to a time of 1min 57.24 by **Marie Oteiza** and **Valentin Prades**, Mixed Relay gold medallists at the 2018 European Championships and individual medallists at the UIPM 2018 Pentathlon World Championships.

**United States** (**Avery Niemann** & **Alexander Guzman**) were next quickest (2:00.14) while **Italy** (**Alessandra Frezza** & **Matteo Cicinelli**) timed 2:00.57.

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## Fencing

As **France** (Oteiza/Prades) lost ground with a modest score of 21V/23D, **Egypt** (Morsy/Elgendy) completely dominated on the piste with 32V/12D and two extra points in the Bonus Round.

No other nation came close to matching that level of scoring, although **Czech Republic** (Pribylova/Polivka) and **Hungary** (Reti/Szabo) signalled their intent with 26V/18D apiece.

The stars of the Bonus Round were **Ukraine**, as **Valeriya Permykina** and **Pavlo Tymoshchenko** added six additional points to put themselves into medal contention.

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## Riding

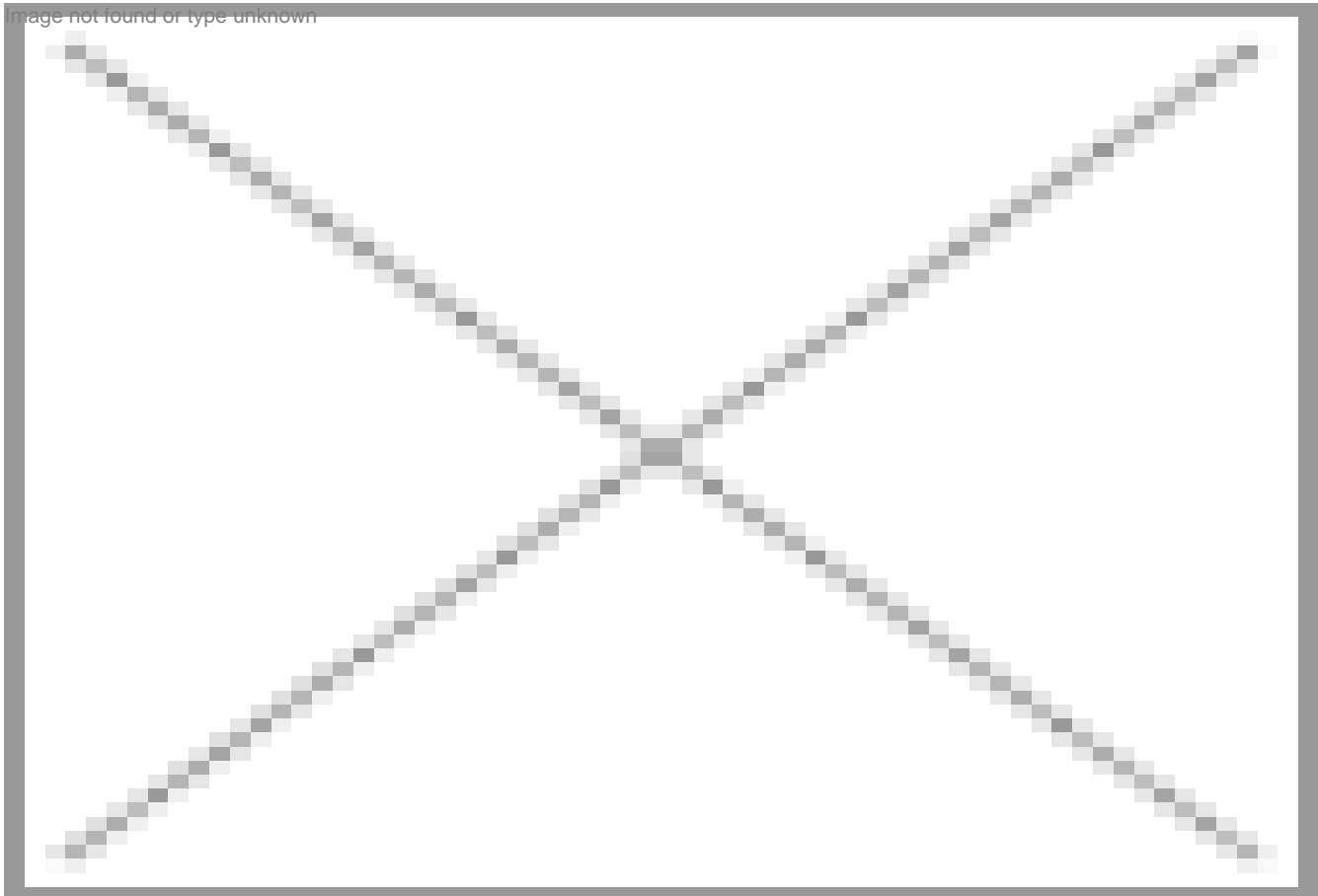
As if they needed confirmation that it was going to be their weekend, **Egypt** (Morsy/Elgendy) received it in the Riding arena as a series of potential rivals failed to make any inroads into their lead.

**France** (Oteiza/Prades), **Italy** (Frezza/Cicinelli) and **Japan** (**Shino Yamanaka & Hikaru Shimano**) were all eliminated, while **Czech Republic** (Pribylova/Polivka) dropped 28 penalty points and **Hungary** (Reti/Szabo) 38. Even **Ukraine** (Permykina/Tymoshchenko) failed to put pressure on the leaders with a score of 276.

**Egypt** (Morsy/Elgendy) took full advantage with the best score of the round, conceding just 14 penalty points.

## Laser Run

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With

a huge cushion of 47sec, **Egypt** (Morsy/Elgendy) knew that all they had to was avoid a major malfunction on the shooting range to secure gold. And with two athletes in such confident form, that was never likely to happen.

As home spectators revelled in their team's success, the real area of interest for other supporters was the battle for silver and bronze, where **Hungary** (Reti/Szabo) kept pressure on **Czech Republic** (Pribylova/Polivka) throughout.

In fact, **Reti** (HUN) made up so much ground on **Pribylova** (CZE) that their two male partners spent the first half of their relay leg almost side by side. In the end, the greater experience of **Polivka** (CZE) won the day as an exceptional final shoot allowed him to leave **Szabo** (HUN) in his wake.

### President's reaction

UIPM President **Dr Klaus Schormann** said: "For the competition organisers and the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation, to have this victory by their athletes in front of the Minister for Youth and Sports, I think it was a glory day for Egypt.

"This Mixed Relay was an exciting team event, which we are promoting for the future programme of the Olympic Games, hopefully in Paris 2024. To have Czech Republic and Hungary on the podium underlines the motivation of countries which are also organising competitions in this World Cup season, and with Ukraine in 4th place it shows that the top nations are competing in the Mixed Relay.

"We hope that all of the remaining competitions in this season will be as exciting as the Mixed Relay we had today."

**Watch and follow**

Catch up on highlights of UIPM Pentathlon World Cup Cairo at UIPM TV and review the results and reports at the UIPM website.

The next competition on the UIPM calendar is UIPM Pentathlon World Cup Sofia from April 10-14.