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PENTATHLON STORIES COMPETITION WINNER: MICHELLE MATSON (GBR)

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Head Coach - Wessex Wyvern Modern Pentathlon Club

Pentathlon has provided me with so many magical moments over the 25 years I have been involved with the sport. I started as a lifeguard at Wessex Wyvern Modern Pentathlon Club and within weeks was helping coach swimming. Fast forward a few years and I'm now the Head Coach of a very successful and amazing club. I have loved watching the club grow and overcome the changes that the sport has seen.

A dream came true when I was selected to be a Games Maker at the London 2012 Olympics for the Modern Pentathlon team and I was in the stadium on the night Sam Murray picked up her Olympic medal. I even managed to get close enough for a photo. Watching all the Union Jack flags flying around the stadium was a magic moment and made me so proud to be British.

Another amazing moment was when I took a team of young athletes to take part in a biathle world tour event in Italy. The excitement of putting on our GB kit for the first time and flying out as a team was just the best feeling. The team performed so well and even picked up some medals. I loved competing and representing Great Britain and still have a slight obsession with Union Jack flags! The whole experience was amazing.

I remember watching the 2018 World Championships on TV at home and the excitement of watching Jamie Cooke believing in himself and taking the title on the line was just awesome! What a moment and as a coach something to always share with the athletes. Actually one of our club members managed exactly the same feat last year in Madeira. I was watching live online while coaching a laser-run club at the school I work at. We were all shouting at him as if we were there, the Portuguese athlete celebrated far too early and Alex burst past him and won!

