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UIPM 2017 WORLD CUP II: BELARUS WIN MIXED RELAY



- Prasiantsova and Kasyanik too hot to handle in Cairo
- Great Britain secure silver and Hungary bronze
- Impressive performances from Italy and Japan

For the third successive day, gold was won with something to spare at World Cup II as Belarus claimed the Mixed Relay title.

Iryna Prasiantsova and Kiril Kasyanik (BLR) proved strongest in Fencing and held on to their advantage for the rest of the day, defending a Laser-Run lead of 22 seconds with no significant alarm.



Behind them, Great Britain (Joanna Muir & Myles Pillage) managed to cut the deficit in half at one point, but a decisive final shoot from Kasyanik (BLR) consigned them to silver.

The battle for bronze was won by Hungary (Tamara Alekszejev & Tamas Bence Frohlich), who devoured a 23-second to overtake Japan and claim bronze.

Prasiantsova (BLR) said: "We are feeling good because we fenced really well, swam really well and rode well. Shooting was not so nice but we ran strongly - we really wanted this win."

Tokyo 2020 host nation Japan continued to demonstrate the strides they have made to compete at this level, as Natsumi Tomonaga & Tomoyuki Ono finished 2nd in both Swimming and Fencing before their challenge faded in Riding and Laser-Run.

Myles/Pillage (GBR) were quickest in Swimming (1:56.81) but it was Prasiantsova/Kasyanik (BLR) who dominated on the piste with 28V/14D.

There were polished rides for Great Britain (295), Belarus (293) and Hungary (287) while Japan (279) faltered and Russia (Uliana Batashova & Alexander Lifanov) were eliminated.



In Laser-Run, Alekszejew/Frohlich (HUN) were the star performers as Belarus and Great Britain defended their positions strongly. Italy (Irene Prampolini & Matteo Cicinelli) also made ground and overtook Japan to finish 4th.

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "We had eight nations in this Mixed Relay and a young group of athletes who are very exciting.

"We saw that Japan almost made it again to the podium but Hungary are very strong and Great Britain and Belarus as we know are very traditional modern pentathlon countries.

"We have excellent new athletes coming from nations who have been investing a lot in our sport in the past, and we can see their gains now as the young generation continue their success.

"We have seen a very good presentation of our sport at this World Cup II in Cairo."

The UIPM 2017 World Cup seasons resumes in May with World Cup III in Kecskémet (HUN, May 5-7) and World Cup IV in Drzonkow (POL, May 26-28).

The World Cup Final follows in Vilnius (LTU) from June 23-25.

Mixed Relay's final results:

Athletes	Points
1 - Belarus	1431
2 - Great Britain	1404
3 - Hungary	1389
4 - Italy	1373
5 - Japan	1363
6 - Kazakhstan	1344
7 - Egypt	1299

