



Chairman's Letter

Welcome to our monthly newsletter. I know I speak for the entire Board when I offer a heartfelt thank you for your interest and participation in Modern Pentathlon. Whether you're an athlete in the middle of your base phase, a coach recruiting new athletes, a parent learning about a new sport in which your child has recently become interested, or a Pentathlon alum who's just checking in to see how things are going, there is a role for you in our organization. And as our community prepares for the 2010 Pentathlon season, now is a good time to take stock of the accomplishments of the 2009 season.

2009 was a year in transition for USAP. The United States Olympic Committee no longer operates Pentathlon. We are now a stand-alone organization, albeit one on probationary status from the USOC. In 2009 we created a Board of Directors, hired a CEO, established policies and procedures to address some of the problems that had affected the sport in the last decade—especially ethics and financial controls—and continued our job of approving a selection procedure for athletes to represent the United States in international competitions. Not everything went smoothly in 2009, but we have made progress and expect to accelerate that progress in 2010.

Our youth athletes remain the future of our sport, as shown by their continued success on the playing field. Nathan Schrimsher and Anna Olesinski teamed up to take the Bronze Medal at the Youth World Championships in the Mixed Relay. This was the second year in a row that the United States took a medal at the Youth World Championship, following on the heels of Margaux Isaksen's gold-medal performance at the Youth Worlds in 2008. Speaking of Margaux, she again had excellent international results in 2009. She took the Bronze Medal at the Junior World Championships in Taipei and placed 17th at the World Championships.

Senior men Will Brady and Sam Sacksen had successful campaigns as well. Will turned in the break-out performance of the year at the World Championships taking 14th. Sam consistently performed well in World Cup competitions, culminating in a 22nd place finish at the World Championships. Not to be forgotten, a mere eleven months ago, Dennis Bowsher turned in his best international performance, winning the Bronze at the World Cup Final. All our athletes, their coaches, their parents, and their support networks deserve much credit for their hard work during the usually relaxed post-Olympic season.

USAP also undertook the long-term effort of rebuilding the sport from the ground up. A significant step in this process was our partnership with the outstanding West Coast Pentathlon in our National Championship competition held in June. West Coast Pentathlon founders Mike and Pat Duffy, Equestrian Center International owner Michael Cintas, the entire local organizing committee, and the host of volunteers who made the event a success deserve our gratitude for a well-run competition.

Another very important step in rebuilding the sport was marked by Brad Camp's arrival as our Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Camp comes to USAP after serving for twenty years in the United States Army, four of those years as the Pentathlon WCAP commanding officer. After leaving the Army in 2000, Brad ran USA Archery for six years. The Board received significant interest in the CEO position and Brad was head and shoulders above the other candidates. We are excited to have Brad leading the day-to-day operations of USAP!

Individual Highlights

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*"All sports for all
people."*

[Pierre de
Coubertin](#)

Chairman's Letter (con't)

As we look ahead to 2010 we have established core goals of the organization. In 2010 we will: increase the number of athletes participating in the sport, increase our fundraising capabilities, provide more opportunities to compete for athletes of all ages but especially youth and junior athletes, and support and grow the small but dedicated network of pentathlon clubs that exist today in their work of training those athletes. We strive to have 10 senior athletes, 50 junior and 100 youth athletes competing at our 2010 National Championships. That may sound extremely ambitious given where we are today, but did you know that in the 2009 collegiate swimming season alone, over 1,250 men and over 750 women swam a 200 freestyle faster than the best Pentathletes in the world? Through very aggressive recruiting, constant communication with you the membership, and regular, targeted fundraising, we believe we can increase the number of participating athletes, the strength of our clubs, and the geographic footprint of the sport. We will field teams at every World Championship that are medal contenders.

None of this will happen without the Pentathlon family working together as one team. Our board is seven people; we cannot, acting alone, and accomplish these goals. Only if we act collectively and set aside any real or perceived differences will we be able to improve the sport for the athletes. I encourage everyone to join our weekly Pentathlon community call led by CEO Brad Camp (Wednesdays at 10:00 am Mountain time); join our board meetings, they are open to the public, and tell us what we're doing well and what we can do better; help us raise funds to grow the sport; and help us recruit the next generation of pentathletes. London 2012 and now Rio 2016 are just around the corner. We look forward to working together in the months and years ahead. We haven't a day to waste.

All the best,

Barry Matchett

Committee update

We are forming different committees to address the needs of the organization. Currently we have formed a development and a recruiting committee which will meet in the next few weeks. A fundraising committee will be formed in the near future.

We need your help. Please let us know where we could best utilize your talents in making a positive difference in our organization. You can serve on any committee.

The development committee will work on enhancing existing clubs, developing new clubs and assisting in the athlete development pipeline.

The recruiting committee will concentrate on acquiring new talent at the elite, junior and youth levels. We have already tasted some success in recruiting with the NCAA swimming clubs.

The fundraising committee will work on the budgetary shortfalls for the year, increasing our revenue streams and building up our foundation.

The purpose of a newsletter is to provide the membership up-to-date information and insight into Pentathlon. This will come out monthly to our membership.

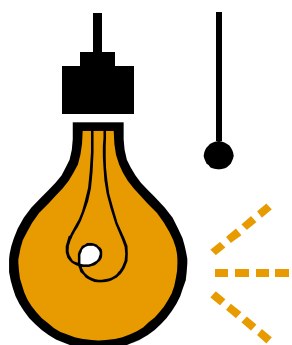
We are making great gains as we re-establish the NGB for Pentathlon. The emphasis over the next few months will be on membership, development, fundraising, coaching and communication. We have instituted a weekly community forum conference call, which I host so that you can ask questions directly to me, hear the latest information from the board or USOC, and be involved in the planning cycle. This is a time for me to hear what is important to you and to make sure your voice is heard. We cannot be everything to everyone but I want you to feel a part of this organization. We are only as good as our athletes and members.

In another section of this newsletter, we discuss committees. Please let me know how you would like to

serve. We have posted the master calendar for 2010 on the website. Please review it and provide us feedback.

I would like this newsletter to be of service to you. Please let me know what you would like to see in the content. In future issues, we will highlight athletes, coaches and clubs. Please send me any articles of interest or stories you would like to see included in the next issue.

Thank you for your participation in making Pentathlon great. – Brad Camp



Coaches Corner

After the Olympic Games it is always a struggle to start the training cycle once again. We are working diligently to recruit new athletes into the program to increase our athlete presence in the Resident Athlete (RA) program. We have the following athletes daily at the USOC: Dennis Bowsher, Will Brady, Eli Bremer and Margaux Isaksen. There are two fencing tournaments at the Air Force Academy that we participate in. The Falcon and Nick Troth tournaments. In September Will Brady took 3rd place at the Nick Troth Tournament.

In October, Janusz and Genadijus attended the international high altitude coaching symposium hosted by the USOC.

In November, Dennis Bowsher and Margaux Isaksen will go to Poland to train in fencing with the Polish national team. While in Poland, Janusz will run the judges seminar. In December, we have the Pan Am Championships in Buenos Aires.

We are planning camps in Palm Springs and Denver over the Christmas holiday for youth.

At the end of February, beginning of March, we are planning an international camp as a tune up prior to the first World Cup involving Germany, Egypt, Ukraine, Poland, Canada and Russia.

Janusz will attend coaches' seminars in Korea (Dec) and Mexico (Jan).

Coaching tip for athletes: In 2009 and 2010, focus on swimming and fencing. Later, the emphasis will be on the combined event once we see the introduction of the laser. – Janusz Peciak

UIPM Information

UIPM, the international federation for Pentathlon puts out a monthly newsletter which we have linked on our website. They also produce various technical bulletins which are also linked to our website. Please take the time to read this information.

Brad Camp posted a blog on the congress held in Copenhagen in October and actions taken by the membership. Here is an excerpt from the UIPM media,

"The introduction of laser pistol in the shooting event was the key decision taken by the consensus of the Congress following a motion presented by the Executive Board. The laser shooting concept will first enter a testing and transition phase in 2010. The testing will take place in a number of competitions including the 2010 World Cup Final. In addition at the first Youth Olympic Games in Singapore laser shooting will be used in the competition. Following this, the 2010 Congress will then take the decision on the introduction of the new system beginning 1 January 2011.

UIPM President, Dr h.c. Klaus Schormann stated that "the decision to introduce non-air pistol shooting was the second big step for the sport following the decision in 2008 to change to the combined run/shoot format. This is a significant development in terms of lowering the environmental impact of the sport."

The other decisions of the Congress focused on minor rule changes including the adoption of changes to the swimwear rules not permitting full length body suits."



Pan American Championship Team

The members of the Pan American Championship Team were selected from placement at the US Nationals in Palm Springs, CA. They will compete in Buenos Aires, Argentina December 3-8, 2009.

The team includes the following members by division:

Senior: Dennis Bowsher, Eli Bremer, Will Brady, Emily Andrews, McKenzie West.

Junior: John Gibbons, Andrew Jayne, Lucas Schrimsher, Anna Olesinski, Emily Andrews, McKenzie West.

Youth: Nathan Schrimsher, Andrew Jayne, Ryan Anderson, Anna Olesinski.

Officials: Cindy West, Carol Anderson.

We wish all the competitors success in their endeavors on the field of play.

Nike Apparel

Nike is our official sponsor for apparel and competition wear.

Per our agreement, all USA Pentathlon team members will wear Nike gear in competition both nationally

and internationally. Nike will provide our team members with running and swimming apparel as well as fencing shoes and socks. Nike does not manufacture equestrian attire.

We provided Nike apparel for the 2009 World Championship Team and will also provide apparel for the Pan American Championships Team.



Membership

We now have a new membership form on the website. In the next few weeks we will have online membership capability. We signed a contract with Barnet Consulting who produces RailStation.

RailStation launched in the late 1990's and is currently being used by USA Badminton, USA Shooting and Squash Associations for administrative, membership, tournament, league, ladder, results and rankings. RailStation has been instrumental in reducing workloads for employees, volunteers and regional administrators, while generating excitement and growth for these sports communities in the United States. This application is an example of the latest Microsoft technology being used to provide robust, web-based data-entry and reporting functionality.

The membership module is capable of producing reports including: National membership and Current Local Association Membership; Group E-Mailing including Captains, Current Members, League Participants, Expiring Memberships, Club Contacts and more; Payment record "audit trail"; Non-members highlighted in all lists; NGB main and local backup capability using Excel files ...

The global functions of RailStation include: web-based, password-protected data entry and maintenance; supports multiple user groups securely, including athletes and league administrators; handles multiple associations within the NGB; immediate "real-time" athlete rankings using official rating algorithms-including ranking drill down by athlete; for all NGB specific sporting events, handles multiple game types: singles, doubles, teams, elimination, and consol draws; banner ad revenue generator; archives historical results and more....

You can find more information at <https://www.railstation.org/railstation.html>.

Calendar

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| November | | |
| Nov 11- 30 | International Training Camp | Poland |
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| December | | |
| Dec 3-6 | NORCECA & SOUTH AMERICA YOG QUAL | Buenos Aires, Argentina |
| Dec 4-9 | DV1 Fencing | Pittsburgh, PA |
| Dec 26-Jan 3 | Training Camp | Palm Springs, CA |
| | | |
| 2010 | | |
| January | | |
| Jan 7-14 | Riding Camp | TBD |
| Jan 15-18 | DV1 Fencing | San Jose, CA |
| | | |
| February | | |
| Feb 15-Mar 3 | International Training Camp | Colorado Springs, CO |
| Feb 19-21 | Youth-Junior Training/Competition | Palm Springs, CA |
| | | |
| March | | |
| Mar 4-7 | World Cup 1 | Guadalajara, Mexico |
| Mar 18-21 | World Cup 2 | Cairo, Egypt |
| Mar 26-28 | Youth Training Camp | Roswell, NM |
| Mar 28-Apr 3 | Junior Training Camp/Competition | Colorado Springs, CO |



"Gold medals aren't really made of gold. They're made of sweat, determination, and a hard-to-find alloy called guts."

Dan Gable