



World Obstacle Reaffirm Commitment to Collaborative Integration Process with UIPM

World Obstacle today reaffirmed its commitment to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2023 with the Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne (UIPM), which set out a vision for a unified sporting movement with greater reach, visibility, and opportunities for athletes worldwide.

The MoU established a framework for World Obstacle to integrate into UIPM, combining the strengths of both organisations to grow Pentathlon, Obstacle Course Racing (OCR), Ninja, Adventure Racing, Calisthenics, and related disciplines internationally.

Progress has already been made, including the inclusion of a head-to-head speed Obstacle discipline in the Modern Pentathlon format that will debut at the LA 2028 Olympics. Work continues to define the structure, processes, and governance model for full integration.

Commitment to Transparency, Engagement and NF Autonomy

At the 2024 World Obstacle Congress, national member federations voted to continue discussions with UIPM towards a potential merger. The motion confirmed that a decision on integration can only be made after integration documents are jointly presented by both organisations. National federations remain free to operate independently and retain full control over their sports while the process is ongoing. If integration is approved, World Obstacle will be dissolved and UIPM, as the integrated body, will become the sole international governing body for Ninja, OCR, Adventure Racing, Calisthenics, and related disciplines.

To ensure the voice of the obstacle community is represented, World Obstacle has formed an **Integration Working Group** in December 2024, comprising representatives from its sport-specific committees. This group is developing proposals that meet the needs of the global obstacle sport community and is working in parallel with the UIPM Integration Taskforce to ensure the integration plan is practical, transparent, and representative.

These groups are guided by three core principles: cooperation, consultation, and communication. World Obstacle remains committed to open, transparent, and consistent messaging to ensure that all stakeholders are fully informed and engaged throughout the process.

World Obstacle recognises the importance of providing national federations with a clear and detailed proposal before any final vote on integration is taken. This will include

outlining governance representation, competition structures, development pathways, and the safeguarding of each sport's identity within the integrated framework.

World Obstacle also acknowledges that national federations and the athlete community have raised questions and concerns about the integration process. Addressing these openly and constructively will remain a priority.

Moving Forward Together

The integration process remains collaborative, open, and focused on delivering the best possible future for all sports under a unified umbrella. The shared goal is to ensure that all sports – OCR, Ninja, Adventure Racing, Calisthenics, and related disciplines – are managed and represented properly and benefit equally from the integration process, enhancing opportunities for athletes, officials, coaches, and event organisers worldwide.

World Obstacle President Ian Adamson said *"This extraordinary opportunity of integrating into the UIPM protects obstacle sports from unfriendly entities and brings us into the Olympic family. The financial and practical benefits for all involved are significant. By continuing to collaborate with UIPM, we are aiming for a win-win and the workgroups will provide clarity and detail they need to make informed decisions about integration, with the goal of strengthening and growing our sports worldwide."*

Further updates will be provided as the integration framework is developed and shared with the global community.