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UIPM 2019 BIATHLE/TRIATHLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS: ACHTERBERG (USA) AND SOUSA (POR) SIGN OFF WITH BIATHLE GOLD



Samantha Achterberg of the **USA** completed a clean sweep of gold medals and **Tiago Sousa** of **Portugal** won his first world title on the final day of the UIPM 2019 Biathle/Triathle World Championships in Saint Petersburg (USA).



Tokyo 2020 Olympic qualifier Achterberg (USA)

had already won both Mixed Relay titles alongside Amro Elgeziry (USA) and the Individual Triathlon, and on day four she demonstrated her supremacy again in the Individual Biathlon, winning by 16sec from silver medallist **Nadezhda Bekmaganbetova** of **Kazakhstan**. **Heidi Hendrick** (USA) claimed bronze.

In the Men's Individual Biathlon, Sousa added to his Individual Triathlon bronze with a commanding performance, claiming victory by 11sec from **Arman Kydyrtayev** (KAZ) with **Gregan Clarkson** of **Great Britain** picking up bronze.



The other gold medals were shared among

numerous nations, with individual world titles going to **Great Britain, Egypt, Japan, France, Germany, Guatemala, Spain, Portugal, USA** and **South Africa**.

More than 420 athletes from 33 countries took part across Biathlon (Run-Swim-Run) and Triathlon (Swim-Run-Shoot) from October 24-27.

Competing on the Florida beach were people with an age span of more than 60 years. The age categories in Biathlon ranged from Under-9 to Masters 70+ while Triathlon spanned Under-11 to Masters 60+.

UIPM Executive Board Member for Sport, Janusz Peciak, said: "The UIPM 2019 Biathlon/Triathlon World Championships was a wonderful showcase for two of the most important development sports in our movement.

"We saw high levels of skill, dedication and commitment across all age categories – and not just from the countries with established development programmes.

“It was great to see athletes from countries like Singapore winning medals, and Japan continued to enjoy good results thanks to their increased focus on UIPM Sports through hosting the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

“Biathle and Triathle, like Laser Run, play a vital role in giving young athletes an entry point to UIPM Sports and a chance to develop their multi-sport abilities.”

All results are available at the UIPM website.