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UIPM 2023 PENTATHLON WORLD CUP SOFIA: LITHUANIA AND GREAT BRITAIN STAR IN WOMEN'S SEMI-FINALS



Ieva Serapinaite of **Lithuania** took a 15-point lead into the Women's Final after a towering Semi-final performance on the third day of UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Sofia.

Serapinaite (LTU), gold medallist at UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Ankara, inspired her team to claim four of the 18 places in Saturday's Final with a dominant Fencing Ranking Round that featured 25 victories.

London 2012 Olympic champion **Laura Asadauskaite** (LTU) could be a major contender in the Final after scoring 20 wins of her own, qualifying alongside team-mates **Gintare Venckauskaite** (LTU) and **Elzbieta Adomaityte** (LTU).

Great Britain also achieved four Final berths thanks to **Charlie Follett**, **Kerenza Bryson** (21 wins in Fencing), **Jessica Varley** and **Emma Whitaker**.

Semi-final B was won by a relaxed Serapinaite (LTU) as she allowed UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World

Cup Budapest winner **Blanka Guzi** of **Hungary**, **Alessandra Frezza** of **Italy**, Bryson (GBR) and **Sehee Kim** of **Korea** to finish in unison.

This serene Laser Run contrasted with the drama of Semi-final A, where Rio 2016 Olympic silver medallist **Elodie Clouvel** of **France** finished 11th and failed to win one of the nine Final berths on offer. The race was won by **Sunwoo Kim** (KOR) with the trio of Follett (GBR), **Annika Zillekens** of **Germany** and **Haeun Jang** (KOR) 1sec behind.

The closest challengers to Serapinaite (LTU) when the Final begins on Super Saturday will be **Xiuting Zhong** of **China**, Jang (KOR) and Sunwoo Kim (KOR), each of whom claimed 22 victims in the Fencing Ranking Round.

UIPM 2023 Pentathlon World Cup Sofia continues tomorrow (May 12) with the Men's Semi-final before the Finals on 'Super Saturday' (May 13), with the Mixed Relay concluding the competition on May 14.

Live stream of both Finals will be available on UIPM TV and up-to-date results of all competitions are available at the UIPM website and via the UIPM Central app.

The list of qualified athletes for the Women's Final is as follows:

Rank	Name	Nation	MP	Points
1	KIM Sunwoo	KOR	1066	
2	FOLLETT Charlie	GBR	1065	
3	ZILLEKENS Annika	GER	1065	
4	JANG Haeun	KOR	1065	
5	BAUER Blanka	HUN	1064	
6	VENCKAUSKAITE Gintare	LTU	1063	
7	ASADAUSKAITE Laura	LTU	1063	
8	SERAPINAITE Ieva	LTU	1062	
9	GUZI Blanka	HUN	1062	
10	FREZZA Alessandra	ITA	1062	
11	BRYSON Kerenza	GBR	1062	
12	KIM Sehee	KOR	1062	
13	VARLEY Jessica	GBR	1061	
14	WHITAKER Emma	GBR	1056	
15	SEONG Seungmin	KOR	1056	
16	OTEIZA Marie	FRA	1055	
17	ZHONG Xiuting	CHN	1055	
18	ADOMAITYTE Elzbieta	LTU	1055	