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UIPM 2026 PENTATHLON WORLD CUP PAZARDZHIK: EL ASHQAR (EGY) SMASHES OBSTACLE WORLD RECORD IN MEN'S QUALIFICATION



Moutaz Mohamed of **Egypt** may be the hot young talent who currently sits atop the Pentathlon world but a record-shattering opening salvo of Men's competition at UIPM 2026 Pentathlon World Cup Pazardzhik was a reminder that the veterans are hanging around too.

***UIPM 2026 Pentathlon World Cup Pazardzhik: All you need to know**

Day two in southern Bulgaria saw a whopping 115 entrants split into four qualification groups and the action was fast and frenetic. A landmark world record was set when **Mohamed El Ashqar** (EGY) became the first pentathlete in history to go sub-20 seconds in the Obstacle discipline. The 24-year-old sent the record keepers scrambling with a new mark of 00:19.95.

World No.1 Mohamed (EGY) made it safely through in the day's first group, **Hungary's Csaba Bohm**

joining him in progressing to Saturday's Semi-final. In the next group, **Valentin Belaud** of **France** was in imperious form as the 33-year-old led all qualifiers, fellow veterans **Marvin Faly Dogue** of **Germany** and **Changwan Seo** of **Korea** not far behind.

Seo's compatriot and longtime teammate **Woongtae Jun** (KOR) made a hugely impressive return to the sport in the subsequent group as the Tokyo 2020 Olympic bronze medallist and fan favourite crossed the line joint-fastest with **Matteo Bovenzi** of **Italy**.

The day's final group was highlighted by the Obstacle wizardry of **El Ashqar** (EGY) with **Mathis Rochat** (FRA) continuing a fine day for French competitors by leading the nine qualifiers, Paris 2024 bronze medalist **Giorgio Malan** (ITA) also impressing.

[Click here](#) for a full list of the athletes who qualified for the Men's Semi-finals.

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UIPM 2026 Pentathlon World Cup Pazardzhik takes place from May 13-17, with live stream of the Semi-finals and Finals available free on UIPM's YouTube streaming service.

Daily schedule with stream start times (Central European Summer Time) as follows:

- **Friday May 15:** Women's Semi-final A (13:00); Women's Semi-final B (16:00) | Men's and Women's Fencing Seeding Rounds
- **Saturday May 16:** Men's Semi-final A (09:00); Men's Semi-final B (13:00)
- **Sunday May 17:** Women's Final (09:00), Men's Final (13:00).

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