

16 January 2026

Dear Mr Rob Stull,

Exclusion of Adventure Racing from World Obstacle's integration with World Pentathlon

The International Adventure Racing Association (IARA) is the international body for the sport of Adventure Racing and was formed by the global community of national adventure racing organisations and representatives from active adventure racing countries in response to the unilateral declaration by World Obstacle (FISO) that they were the governing body for Adventure Racing.

As the integration of World Obstacle with World Pentathlon approaches, we have one major concern we wish to address, namely the exclusion of Adventure Racing from the list of sports that will fall under the UIPM banner.

This request stems from a protracted history summarised below:

- Sept 2020 – Adventure Racing appears on World obstacle Website as a discipline
- March 2023 – Adventure Racers mobilised at a global level and voted that they did not wish to be part of World Obstacle.
- January 2024 –Interim Steering Committee formed to establish the International Adventure Racing Association (IARA).
- November 2024 IARA requests UIPM and UIPM members to remove ‘adventure racing’ from the revised definition of UIPM Sports, as proposed in Motion EB3 at UIPM 2024 Congress. The Motion was not passed. In the amended definition ‘adventure racing’ was removed, but the wording “*and standalone disciplines of Obstacle sport*” remained.

In the [UIPM 2024 Congress Minutes \(Page 16\)](#), UIPM Secretary Shiny Fang is noted as saying, “*On the other hand, SF said Adventure was a different story, as UIPM was misled at the beginning about its status inside WO*”.

- January 2025 – First AGM of IARA held ratifying the constitution prepared by the Interim Steering Committee and formally constituting IARA.
- Q3 2025 – in the document ‘[World Obstacle Reaffirm Commitment to Collaborative Integration Process with UIPM](#)’, adventure racing is included with the other disciplines listed as part of World Obstacle... “*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*”.

- September 2025: In the document '[World Obstacle 11th Congress: UIPM Integration Vote](#)', adventure racing is still shown as a sport under UIPM in Figure 1

Links to additional reference material supporting this position are included below for ease of reference.

With the World Obstacle Congress expected to vote for dissolving FISO on 15 March 2026, UIPM's role as a recognised governing body for Obstacle Sports will be finalised. We want to ensure that Adventure Racing is not included by default as a sport represented by World Obstacle.

With this in mind, we request that UIPM:

- **excludes** the sport of adventure racing, for which IARA is the representative organisation, from the integration with World Obstacle;
- **confirms** their commitment to this exclusion by reply to this letter as soon as possible and well in advance of the World Obstacle final assembly on 15 March 2026.

We wish you well with this integration and your continuation as a respected Olympic sport.

Regards,



Cormac MacDonnell

Chairperson

International Adventure Racing Association
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Additional References

- International Adventure Racing Association (IARA) is the recognised international body for the sport of Adventure Racing, created by and supported by national Adventure Racing organisations. See [all IARA Meeting Minutes](#) from founding to present, and [Member list](#).
- [What is the relationship between IARA and World Obstacle?](#)
- 11 September 2025: [IARA's position regarding World Obstacle remains clear](#)
- 19 November 2024: [Thank you to UIPM Members](#)
- 16 November 2024: [The words 'adventure racing' are excluded from UIPM Sports definition](#)
- 4 November 2024: [IARA contacts World Pentathlon members](#)
- 28 October 2024: [Adventure Racing's position on World Obstacle + World Pentathlon merger](#)
- February 2023 - Video clip of public meeting where World Obstacle President stated that he would respect the decision of the consultation process that eventually established IARA, whatever the result
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sUQrlllov9axfnw3DqiZs6Q3plcz84gKe/view>
- UIPM-FISO Integration Page <https://worldobstacle.org/integration>
- #ARSaysNo campaign and petition results -
<https://internationaladventureracing.org/arsaysno-petition-results/>