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CONTINENTAL CROWNS FOR BRYSON (GBR) AND TOVKAI (UKR) IN EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS



Three gold medals for **Italy** and individual success for **Kerenza Bryson** of **Great Britain** and **Oleksandr Tovkai** of **Ukraine** provided the highlights of the 2024 European Senior Championships in Budapest (HUN) from 8-14 July.

Bryson (GBR) continued a prolific run of medals in the past 12 months by dominating the Women's Final with a phenomenal 29 victories in the Fencing Ranking Round, enabling her to win by 18sec.

Anna Jurt of **Switzerland** enjoyed a breakthrough silver medal only days after discovering she had qualified for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, and bronze went to Bryson's team-mate **Emma Whitaker** (GBR) with **Mariya Gnedtchik** (AIN) only 1sec behind.

Two-time world champion **Elena Micheli** (ITA) continued a steady recovery from injury with a 7th place, helping her country to win team gold with **Francesca Tognetti** and **Alice Rinaudo** also featuring in the Final.

Tovkai (UKR) built on the silver medal he won in the Men's Relay at the recent UIPM 2024 Pentathlon World Championships with a surprise victory in the Men's Final.



Like Bryson (GBR), he was the top fencer but this time by only a slim margin with his 24 victories equalled by **Marvin Dogue** of **Germany** (Tovkai won the additional four points in the Bonus Round). After a perfect score of 300 in Riding he finally won gold with a 10sec cushion over 2023 champion **Giorgio Malan** (ITA), who registered the fastest Laser Run of the Final to consign Dogue (GER) to bronze.

Italy again won the team gold thanks to Malan, 5th-placed **Matteo Cicinelli** and 8th-placed **Federico Alessandro**.

The week had already begun well for the Azzurri with Malan (ITA) and Cicinelli (ITA) enjoying success in the Men's Relay, after Whitaker (GBR) had teamed up **Alexandra Bousfield** (GBR) to win the Women's Relay.

The final day of the competition saw success for host nation **Hungary** as 2024 world bronze medallist **Rita Erdos** teamed up with **Mihaly Koleszar** to claim the Mixed Relay title.

Tatiana Ardabieva, President of the European Modern Pentathlon Confederation, said: "For years the Hungarian Federation has been among the most reliable partners of ECMP, providing a high-level European Championships. We all remember outstanding Senior European Championships in Szekesfehervar in 2014, 2018 and 2023.

"Since 2024 was a special edition – in the year of the Olympic Games and the last season Modern

Pentathlon includes Riding – the capital city of Budapest was chosen to host the competition. As usual the preparation and the execution of the event was impeccable. A special show with a farewell to Riding as part of the programme.

“All participants acknowledged the high competition level of the championships. On behalf of ECMP I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Hungarian Federation for their professionalism and unprecedented dedication and love for Modern Pentathlon.”