



On behalf of the Portuguese Modern Pentathlon Federation and the Local Organizing Committee I would like to welcome all the participants of the U19 World Championships that will take place from April 8th until 14th in Caldas da Rainha.

Portugal has been hosting major international events for the past decade, for the third time in its history, a World Championship following 2007 Junior WCH and 2008 World Cup Final, both in Caldas as well, and looking forward now this 2018 U19 WCH. This also means that the best worldwide athletes, from the formation to the elite of the modern pentathlon have Portugal as a competitive gateway in their careers.

Caldas da Rainha owns an exemplary sports complex, being this town characterized by the hospitality and sympathy of its population. The town council policy reflects its concern with the promotion of health and wellbeing through diversified sport activities, and the modern pentathlon is not more than the symbolism of that strategic universality.

It is with enormous pride that we accepted the challenge for hosting this competition of the UIPM calendar on the road to the Youth Olympic Games. With this, on one hand, Portugal sends a message to the international community stating the will to continue in the first line of the organization of great international events. On the other hand, it shares the vision that this type of initiatives contributes to the maturity of a new generation of qualified athletes foreseeing the preservation of the future of modern pentathlon.

I would like to thank the local authority of Caldas da Rainha, Dr. Tinta Ferreira, for all the hospitality and sympathy demonstrated in the support for this event.

The athletic season starts an important stage concerning the conquest of goals for these young athletes, but nothing better than doing it in the spirit of healthy competition, raising the values of respect, friendship and fraternization.

A final word of gratitude must go also to the foreign delegations that visit us; our votes of the best athletic successes and we certainly know that the lovely city of Caldas da Rainha and this Championships will remain on their memories.

Enjoy Portugal, enjoy Caldas da Rainha and have a great U19 World Championships
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Manuel Barroso

LOC President