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# **GEORGINA HARLAND (GBR) APPOINTED CHEF DE MISSION FOR BEIJING 2022 WINTER OLYMPICS**



The Athens 2004 Olympic Modern Pentathlon bronze medallist, Georgina Harland of Great Britain, has continued her rise in sports leadership by being appointed Chef de Mission for Team GB at the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games.

A multiple Pentathlon World Cup champion and Pentathlon World Championships medallist, Harland (GBR) was Deputy Chef de Mission at the Rio 2016 Olympic Summer Games and will play this role again when the rescheduled Tokyo 2020 Games take place in 2021.

Earlier this year was Chef de Mission for the Youth Olympic Winter Games in Lausanne (SUI).

Aged 42, Harland (GBR) will become the first woman to be Chef de Mission of a senior British Olympic team in Beijing (CHN) in 2022. When congratulated by UIPM via Twitter, she replied: "Thank you @WorldPentathlon. My time as a pentathlete taught me so much and such amazing memories."

As a pentathlete, Harland's breakthrough season came in 2001 when, aged 23, she won gold at Pentathlon World Cups in Mexico City (MEX) and Szekesfehervar (HUN), as well as bronze at the Pentathlon World Championships in Millfield (GBR).

She continued to enjoy prominence in major competitions and rehearsed for the Olympics in style by winning the UIPM 2003 Pentathlon World Cup Final in Athens (GRE), which doubled as an Olympic Test Event.



Reacting to her appointment, Harland (GBR) said: "I am so honoured to have been asked to take the role of Chef de Mission for Beijing 2022.

"I have a deep passion for the Olympic Movement and all it encompasses, and so outside of representing your country as an athlete, which I have been fortunate enough to do, this is the next best thing.

"Being named as Chef de Mission is a privilege, and I will give everything I can to the role on behalf of all of our winter athletes and sports."

UIPM President Dr Klaus Schormann said: "The Chef de Mission position carries huge responsibility – and we are sure that Georgie will rise to the challenge of taking on this position for the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022.

"It is always a source of great pride when a member of our community achieves great things in sport or in other professions after retiring. Georgie is setting a wonderful example to other athletes who see her as a role model."