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TRIBUTE TO GERD WERNER (1947-2026)



UIPM joins the Bavarian Modern Pentathlon community in mourning the passing of Gerd Werner, who died on April 5 at the age of 79 following a long illness.

Born on March 4, 1947, Werner was one of the defining figures of Modern Pentathlon in Bavaria and a trailblazer for the sport in Germany. He made history in 1976 when he became the first Bavarian pentathlete to compete at the Olympic Games, representing his country at 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal.

His distinguished athletic career also included two World Championship silver medals, won in 1973 and 1978, as well as Military World Championship titles in 1974 and 1977, underlining his consistency and excellence on the international stage.

Following his retirement from competition, Werner continued to shape the sport through his work as a physical education teacher at the University of the German Federal Armed Forces in Munich. Over many years, he inspired generations of young officers and officer candidates to engage in sport, particularly swimming, cycling, triathlon and Modern Pentathlon, while also supporting athletes at training camps and competitions with unwavering dedication.

“Gerd Werner was an outstanding teacher, mentor and human being who left a lasting mark on our

sport,” said the Bavarian Modern Pentathlon Federation (BLMF) President Olaf Kleidon.

His passing is a significant loss for the pentathlon community in Bavaria and beyond. Werner will be remembered not only for his pioneering achievements as an athlete, but also for his lifelong commitment to developing others and promoting the values of the sport.

UIPM extends its sincere condolences to his family, friends and all those who had the privilege of knowing him.