

Media release

Swiss-Ski nominates Markus Wolf as candidate for the Swiss-Olympic presidency

From sport, for sport: this is the motto of Markus Wolf, former CEO of Swiss-Ski and the Weisse Arena Group in Laax, who is running for the office of Swiss Olympic President. The 50-year-old Grisons native is nominated by Swiss-Ski, while the Swiss Cycling, swiss unihockey and Swiss Hockey associations are supporting the campaign.

Markus Wolf is a leader who knows all facets of sport in general and Swiss sport in particular inside out. Wolf first made a career in floorball, as a top player, champion and national coach. Parallel to his coaching activities, he launched his professional career in sport, which took him from cantonal to national to association level.

Most recently, Wolf led the Weisse Arena Group, an innovative tourism company with 1300 employees in the high season, for four years.

Markus Wolf was Head of Sports Promotion for the Canton of Graubünden from 2002 to 2009, Head of the Youth+Sport programme and a member of the Executive Board at the Federal Office of Sport (FOSPO) from 2009 to 2013 and then Director of Sport (2013/14) and CEO (2014 to 2019) of Swiss-Ski. Wolf first trained as a physiotherapist and qualified as a top-class sports coach, and later completed an Executive MBA at the University of Fribourg.

"In dialogue with various other professional associations and stakeholders in Swiss sport, we have come to the common conviction that the successful further development of Swiss Olympic requires a leader who knows our Swiss sports system inside out and across all levels," says Urs Lehmann, President of Swiss-Ski.

The fact that the candidature is being launched jointly by large and small associations, from non-Olympic and Olympic sports as well as from summer and winter sports, shows the broad acceptance and great credibility that Markus Wolf enjoys thanks to his previous work in Swiss sport and his strong personality.

Thomas Peter, Managing Director of Swiss Cycling, says: "The innovative decisions that made the current successes in Swiss sport possible were made over a decade ago. A fresh impetus is therefore needed, provided by a personality who can bring Swiss Olympic closer to the professional organisations and understand their concerns. Markus Wolf knows from experience who is confronted with which challenges - and is able to steer developments in the right direction. This ability is highly relevant for a Swiss Olympic President."

"Markus Wolf's career, his entrepreneurial thinking and his value-orientated management style speak for themselves," says Daniel Bareiss, Central President of swiss unihockey and Executive Board member of Swiss Olympic. "We are convinced that we can strengthen sport in society and in the political arena with an authentic doer from the ranks of sport at the head of Swiss Olympic."

Swiss-Ski, Swiss Cycling, swiss unihockey and Swiss Hockey see the election of the successor to Swiss Olympic President Jürg Stahl as a choice of direction. After 19 years, in

After Jörg Schild and Jürg Stahl, two deserving sports officials with a strong political background, had been in charge of the umbrella organisation, the strategic leadership is now to be taken over by a personality with a bulging sports backpack.

Markus Wolf says: "My motivation to bring together the diverse perspectives and extensive knowledge of 30 years in Swiss sport for the office of Swiss Olympic President is immense. I know the challenges and needs of our sports organisations, but also their opportunities, from my own experience and from years of close collaboration in a wide variety of constellations. I claim to have holistic sports expertise that encompasses all age and performance levels - from grassroots sport for children right up to the world elite."

The Sports Parliament will elect Jürg Stahl's successor on 22 November 2024.

Swiss-Ski

Markus Wolf will be available for further information today, Wednesday, from ... to ... In his function as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Swiss Sports Promotion Foundation, he will be present at the extraordinary meeting of the Sports Parliament in Ittigen tomorrow, Thursday.

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