

# Press release

## Canoe Slalom World Championships

July, 31:

### **Voices about the World Championships:**

#### **Maria Cwiertniewicz (Poland), 4th place Kayak, Olympic Games 1972:**

*"These World Championships are a dream. Everything is just right here, from the organisation to the sporting events to the atmosphere created by the many spectators. I'm also lucky enough to be able to celebrate my birthday here, just like I did in 1972. For me, the World Championships in Augsburg are number one in the world."*

#### **Joachim Herrmann, Bavarian State Minister:**

- *"I have already followed the World Championships on the TV screen during the past few days and from that and from the short time here at the Eiskanal I can only say: a gigantic atmosphere that leads all paddlers to top sporting performances. A more than successful event!"*
- *"When I think back to 2016, when we were explained what was required to bring the facility at the Eiskanal up to world standards and to design it for a successful future in terms of sustainability, I can only say that everyone involved has kept their word and every euro has been well invested. It was also important that no new interventions into nature were necessary, but that the 'old' track was upgraded to meet the*

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*highest international standards", says Bavarian State Minister Joachim Herrmann, who also signed the Golden Book of the City of Augsburg on the sidelines of the event.*

## **Horst Woppowa, honorary chairman of Kanu Schwaben**

### **Augsburg:**

*"We were already told at the 1985 World Championships that Augsburg had set standards. The same followed in 2003 and now again. Where are the standards being shifted to? But anyway, the praise and gratitude from athletes, coaches and staff, international federations and the spectators is the best award for the organisers."*

## **Sideris Tasiadis, Germany, after his canoe final race:**

*"How many spectators were here and cheered along - it's incredible that the people of Augsburg support canoeing so much."*

## **ICF President Thomas Konietzko:**

*"The ICF will celebrate because successful World Championships are the best advertisement for our sport. Augsburg is always special, you can compare it to Wimbledon or to the Wembley Stadium. The special thing here is that you realise that the whole city supports this sport and it was so impressive today, that's an experience you don't want to miss in your life."*

## **Manuel Schill, Head of the Cultural Events:**

*"The events were attended extremely well. Also thanks to the*

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*integration of the city's strong cultural brands we were able to create an overlap with the sporting highlights on the canal."*

**Eva Weber, Mayor of Augsburg:**

*"The athletes, the spectators and we as the organising team - everyone is happy. What better thing could happen to us?"*

**Robert Kühnle, Head of Police Operations at the Olympic Park Augsburg:**

*"We took the great, cheerful mood of the participants and the people of Augsburg at the opening ceremony with us into the operation. Based on security, the spectators here at the Eiskanal were able to enjoy the atmosphere without any worries. We succeeded in this as police together with security, rescue forces, fire brigade, water rescue and organisers."*