

20 MAY 2026

YASSER HEFNY (EGY) NAMED AS ATHLETE ROLE MODEL FOR DAKAR 2026 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES



Yasser Hefny, one of Modern Pentathlon's most respected coaches and a distinguished former Olympic athlete from Egypt, has been named an Athlete Role Model (ARM) for the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games.

Hefny (EGY) currently sits on the UIPM Coaches Committee having been elected Chair of the UIPM Athletes Committee during the Paris 2024 Olympic cycle. He works as Sport Director and Technical Advisor to the Egyptian Modern Pentathlon Federation and has already coached numerous athletes to the highest level , most recently men's world No.1 and world champion Moutaz Mohamed.



In this short Q&A arranged by the International Olympic Committee, Hefny (EGY) shares his thoughts about the opportunity to play an important role in supporting athletes taking part in Dakar 2026 – the first Olympic Games to take place in Africa.

Why are you an ARM for Dakar 2026?

To seize this fantastic opportunity to experience the Olympic spirit, connect with the next generation, and inspire them to chase their dreams, whether in sports or beyond.

How excited are you to be going to Dakar 2026 as an ARM?

Super excited. I have experienced the vibe of the Olympic Games and I am looking forward to the Youth Olympics.

What does this opportunity mean to you personally?

It is an honor to be part of the ARM team; it's a great opportunity to be trusted and selected to take on the responsibility of inspiring the next generation.

What support do you hope to offer the athletes in Dakar?

I will share my experience with the next generation, offering mental support, career guidance, and physical well-being.

If you could go back to the start of your career, what words of advice would you give to your younger self?

Enjoy the process and appreciate the gift of time.