

General Information

Country:	GER
Gender:	M
Height:	176
Weight:	68
Handedness:	Right-handed
Date of birth:	1982-12-21
Profession:	Soldat
License:	21121982000

Further Personal Information

Family	Daughter Nova [2016]
Languages	English, German

Sport Specific Information

When and where did you begin this sport?	He began fencing in 1988 in Koblenz, Germany.
Why this sport?	"As a young child I was interested in the stories of knights, inspired by castles and fortresses on the Rhine and Mosel. The stories of the Musketeers also fascinated me. Then I saw the 1988 Olympic Games on television, where Anja Fichtel won a gold medal. I told my parents that I wanted to become a 'knight' just like Fichtel. So, my parents signed me up to the fencing club in Koblenz. I also played football, tennis and tried other sports, but fencing was my favourite."
Handedness	Right
Footedness	Right

General Interest

Hobbies	Football, skiing, watching Formula One. (badische-zeitung.de, 07 Jul 2017)
Memorable sporting achievement	Winning four individual world titles. (Label 56 magazine, 01 Mar 2019)
Most influential person in career	Coach Ulrich Schreck. (Athlete, 20 May 2008)
Injuries	<p>He injured his back in 2017 and had to rest for two and a half weeks. (general-anzeiger-bonn.de, 13 Feb 2017)</p> <p>An ankle injury affected his performance at the 2013 European Championships in Zagreb, Croatia. (swr.de, 24 Jun 2013)</p> <p>He injured ligaments in his right shoulder in October 2010. (derwesten.de, 26 Oct 2010)</p>
Sporting philosophy / motto	"Never give up a fight." (Athlete, 20 May 2008)
Awards and honours	<p>He was flag bearer for Germany at the opening ceremony of the 2017 World Military Championships in Acireale, Italy. (Instagram profile, 13 Sep 2017)</p> <p>After winning a bronze medal at the 2012 Olympic Games in London, he was presented with the Silbernes Lorbeerblatt [Silver Laurel Leaf]. The honour is one of the highest awards in German sport. (der-lokalanzeiger.de, 12 Nov 2012)</p> <p>He has been named Sportsman of the Year in Rheinland-Pfalz and German Fencer of the Year on multiple occasions. (Athlete, 20 May 2008)</p>
Milestones	In 2010 he became the first German fencer to have won four individual foil world championship titles. He also claimed victory at the tournament in 2003, 2006, and 2007. (SportsDeskOnline, 06 Jul 2018; zdf.de, 01 Dec 2010)
Other information	<p>RETIREMENT He announced his retirement from the sport after he competed at the 2022 World Cup event in Paris, France. "My goal was to finish my fencing career in Paris. I had always considered the Paris World Cup the most beautiful and on a personal level the most emotional. Here in Paris, I had become world champion for the fourth time in 2010 and it seemed only right to make this my final competition." (Coblener Turngesellschaft 1880 e.V. Facebook page, 17 Jan 2022)</p> <p>OTHER ACTIVITIES He has served as an ambassador for the Red Cross Foundation in Koblenz, Germany. (Facebook page, 19 Jun 2015)</p>