

PREVIEW MEN'S INDIVIDUAL - SKI FLYING – 23-25 Mar 2018

Norway close to first ski flying World Cup win

- With two more individual ski flying events left this World Cup season, Norway occupies the entire podium of the ski flying standings. Andreas Stjernen (180 points) is in first place ahead of Robert Johansson (150) and Daniel-André Tande (140).
- Norway has yet to win its first individual ski flying World Cup. Austria has won an all-time record seven ski flying titles, leading Slovenia (6), Germany (4), Czech Republic (2) and Switzerland (1).
- Norway has claimed four podiums in total in the ski flying World Cup: Espen Bredesen in 1994 (second), Tommy Ingebrigtsen in 2000 (third), Stjernen in 2013 (third) and Johann André Forfang in 2016 (third).
- Only one country previously swept the podium in the ski flying standings: Austria in 1992 and 2011.
- Norway has won the last two individual World Cup ski flying events as Stjernen won in Tauplitz/Bad Mitterndorf on 13 January and Johansson in Vikersund on 18 March. The country could win three in a row for the first time in the World Cup.
- Norway claimed five of the six podium spots in these last two individual ski flying meets with the third place by Simon Ammann in Tauplitz/Bad Mitterndorf as the only exception.
- Johansson celebrates his 28th birthday on Friday 23 March. He can become the first ski jumper to win a World Cup ski flying event on his birthday since Florian Liegl won in Tauplitz/Bad Mitterndorf on 1 February 2003, when he turned 22 years old.
- Two Norwegians have previously won a World Cup ski flying event in Planica: Ole Gunnar Fidjestøl (1987) and Bjørn Einar Romøren (2005 and 2006).
- Norwegian ski jumpers have won six individual World Cup events this season. The country only won more in 2003/04 (13), 1981/82 (9) and 1980/81 (8).

Stoch, Kraft and Prevc hope to stop Norway's winning streak

- Last week, Kamil Stoch secured the overall crystal globe after amassing an unassailable lead. He claimed the overall title for a second time after winning it in the previous Olympic season, in 2014.
- Stoch has won 29 individual World Cup events, but only two in ski flying events: in Planica on 20 March 2011 and in Vikersund on 19 March 2017.
- Stoch can become the second Polish ski jumper to win at least eight individual World Cup events in one season, after Malysz in 2000/01 (11) and 2006/07 (9).
- Stefan Kraft has won four of the last seven individual World Cup ski flying meets, including both in Planica last season.

- Kraft could join Gregor Schlierenzauer (5), Adam Malysz (3), Matti Hautamäki (3) and Peter Prevc (3) on at least three World Cup sky flying wins in Planica.
- Kraft also set a new world record for longest jump last season as he jumped 253.5 metres in the team ski flying event in Vikersund on 18 March 2017.
- Kraft, who claimed eight individual World Cup victories last season (most of all jumpers), is still waiting for his first win of this season. His best result was a second place in Oslo on 11 March and in Trondheim on 15 March.
- Austria is still awaiting its first individual World Cup victory of the season. Their 2000/01 campaign was Austria's last in the World Cup without a single individual victory.
- Domen Prevc hopes to become the fourth ski jumper representing Slovenia to win in Planica in front of a home crowd, after older brother Peter Prevc (3 wins), Jurij Tepeš (2) and Robert Kranjec (2).
- Eighteen-year-old Domen Prevc can become the first teenager to win a ski flying meet in the World Cup since Schlierenzauer (then 19) won in Planica on 20 March 2009.

Ski jumpers hoping to profit from ski flying event

- Simon Ammann finished third in the first World Cup ski flying event this season, in Tauplitz/Bad Mitterndorf. It marked his first individual World Cup podium in almost three years.
- Only Gregor Schlierenzauer (19), Robert Kranjec (17) and Adam Malysz (15) have claimed more podiums in individual World Cup ski flying events than Ammann (14). The Swiss, though, has yet to claim his first ski flying victory in the World Cup.
- Three of Noriaki Kasai's last four individual World Cup podiums came in ski flying: in Vikersund in 2016 (third) and 2017 (second) and in Planica in 2017 (second).
- Kasai has won three World Cups in individual ski flying of which two in the previous century. He won in Harrachov at the 1992 FIS Ski Flying World Championships (part of World Cup), in Planica in 1999 and in Tauplitz/Bad Mitterndorf in 2014.
- Andreas Wellinger finished in second place in four of the last seven individual ski flying events in the World Cup, all behind Stefan Kraft. The last German ski jumper to win a World Cup ski flying event was Severin Freund in Vikersund on 15 February 2015.

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