

PREVIEW MEN'S SLALOM BANSKO – Sunday 11 Feb 2024

History maker Daniel Yule

- **Daniel Yule made history in the Chamonix slalom a week ago. He became the first-ever skier to move up from 30th to first place in the second run of a men's slalom in World Cup history.**
- The previous largest jump to victory in a men's World Cup slalom was achieved by Lucas Braathen in Wengen on 16 January 2022. The Norwegian gained 28 places: from 29th to first place.
- Yule qualified in 30th and last place for the second run in Chamonix. Yule's gap to Fabian Ax Swartz in 31st place (did not qualify) was only 0.05 seconds.
- Yule was 1.93 seconds behind home favourite Clément Noël after the first run.
- Yule can become the first Swiss male skier to win back-to-back World Cup slaloms since he did so himself in January 2020: in Madonna di Campiglio (8 January 2020) and Adelboden (12 January 2020).

Clément Noël

- Clément Noël came third (+0:18) in the Chamonix slalom last week. The Frenchman set the fastest time in the first run but could not finish it off as he set only the 28th-fastest time in the second run. He was 2.11 seconds slower than Yule in run two.
- Noël has claimed 10 World Cup victories in the slalom but not since 24 January 2023, when he triumphed in the famous Schladming night race.
- Noël and Manuel Feller (both 3) recorded the most World Cup slalom podiums on the men's side this season. Feller won three World Cup events, Noël none (one second place, two third places).

Other contenders

- **Manuel Feller** leads the men's World Cup slalom standings on 490 points. Feller has a 164-point gap to Linus Straßer in second place.
- Feller finished inside the top five in all seven men's World Cup slalom events this season (1-5-1-1-4-5-4), including victories in Gurgl, Adelboden and Wengen.
- Feller can become the first man to win four World Cup slalom events in a single season since compatriot Marcel Hirscher won five in 2018/19.
- The only previous two men's World Cup slalom events in Bansko both resulted in a win for **Austria**. Mario Matt triumphed on 27 February 2011 and Marcel Hirscher emerged victorious on 19 February 2012.
- **Linus Straßer** can become the third male skier representing Germany (including East and West) to win more than two men's World Cup slalom events in a single season, after Armin Bittner (four in 1989/90) and Felix Neureuther (three in 2013/14).
- Germany (including East and West) has claimed 30 World Cup slalom wins on the men's side, one fewer than on the women's side (31).
- The **Norwegians** won five out of 10 men's World Cup slalom events last season, but are zero out of seven in 2023/24.
- Norway's most recent World Cup victory in a men's slalom event almost dates a year ago: Alexander Steen Olsen in Palisades Tahoe on 26 February 2023.
- **Stefano Gross** is the only **active** skier to have achieved a podium result in a World Cup slalom in Bansko: third place in 2012. Gross is in joint-38th place in this season's men's World Cup slalom standings on 18 points.
- The best career World Cup result by Bulgaria's **Albert Popov** is a third place in the Palisades Tahoe slalom on 26 February. His only top 10 result this season was 10th in Gurgl (18 November).