

Preview Nordic Combined 2020/2021 World Cup - Men

Jarl Magnus Riiber

- Jarl Magnus Riiber won the overall World Cup standings in the last two seasons and he could become the first Norwegian to win the trophy three times.
- Riiber can become the sixth man to win the overall World Cup standings at least three times, after Eric Frenzel (5), Hannu Manninen (4), Kenji Ogiwara (3), Ronny Ackermann (3) and Jason Lamy Chappuis (3).
- Riiber can win the overall World Cup standings three seasons in a row, something that has been achieved by Frenzel (5, 2012/13 - 2016/17), Manninen (4, 2003/04 - 2006/07), Ogiwara (3, 1992/93 - 1994/95) and Lamy Chappuis (3, 2009/10 - 2011/12).
- In 2019/20 Riiber led the overall World Cup from the first World Cup event to the last. He was the first to lead the standings the entire season since Hannu Manninen in 2005/06).
- Riiber set a record by winning 14 individual World Cup events in 2019/20. He had won 12 World Cup events in 2018/19, equal to Hannu Manninen in 2005/06.
- In total Riiber has won 27 individual World Cup events, one fewer than Ronny Ackermann (28). Only Manninen (48) and Eric Frenzel (43) have won more.
- Riiber finished on the podium in 16 of the 17 individual World Cup events in 2019/20: 14 wins and two second places. He recorded a 10th place finish in Lahti on 1 March 2020.

Eric Frenzel

- Eric Frenzel has won the overall World Cup five times, all from 2012/13 to 2016/2017. This is the most by any athlete.
- Frenzel finished outside the top six of the World Cup standings in each of the last three seasons: 8th, 12th, 7th.
- Frenzel has won 43 individual World Cup events, second only to Hannu Manninen's 48 wins.
- Frenzel's last victory in an individual World Cup event was in Trondheim on 13 March 2018. The last time he claimed a podium finish was in Lillehammer on 1 December 2018.
- Frenzel (76) is third on the list of most podium finishes in individual World Cups, behind Manninen (90) and Ronny Ackermann (77).

Vinzenz Geiger

- Vinzenz Geiger finished third in the overall World Cup standings in 2019/20, his best career result.
- Geiger could become the fourth German (including East & West Germany) to win the overall World Cup standings, after Ronny Ackermann (6), Eric Frenzel (5) and Hermann Weinbuch (1).
- Geiger has won three individual World Cup events. His three victories are Germany's most recent World Cup wins.
- In 2016, Eric Frenzel was the last German skier to win at least four World Cups in a row for Germany without any of his compatriots claiming a win in between.
- Only Norway (153) has won more individual World Cup events than Germany (137, including East and West Germany).

Jørgen Graabak

- Jørgen Graabak finished second in the overall World Cup last season, behind Jarl Magnus Riiber. It marked the first season in which Norwegians finished first and second in the overall World Cup.
- Graabak has won six individual World Cup events, but none in 2019/20, despite recording 11 podium finishes: eight times in second place and three times in third place.
- Graabak only just fell short of Akito Watabe's record of claiming 12 podium finishes in a single season without winning once: 12 in 2015/16.
- Graabak's 34 podium finishes in individual World Cups are fourth most among Norwegians, behind Bjarte Engen Vik (61), Magnus Moan (54) and Jarl Magnus Riiber (41).

Other contenders

- **Fabian Rießle** has claimed 48 podium finishes in individual World Cups and he can become the third German Nordic combined skier to register at least 50 podium finishes, after Ronny Ackermann (77) and Eric Frenzel (76).
- Rießle is only trailing Ackermann (77) and Frenzel (76) in most podium finishes among German Nordic combined skiers.
- **Akito Watabe** won the overall World Cup in 2017/18 and he hopes to become the second Japanese Nordic combined skier to win the World Cup multiple times, after Kenji Ogiwara (3).
- Watabe has won 18 individual World Cup events, only one fewer than Japan's record holder Ogiwara (19).
- **Jens Lurås Oftebro** has claimed five podium finishes in individual World Cup events, but he has yet to win his first World Cup event. His brother **Einar Lurås Oftebro**'s best result is a fifth place. Jens Lurås Oftebro was born on 21 July 2000 and he could become the first World Cup event winner who is born in this millennium.

- **Espen Bjørnstad** has claimed four podium finishes in individual World Cup events, but he has yet to win his first World Cup. All his podium finishes came in large hill events. His best results in normal hill events was fourth (2).
- **Ilkka Herola** and **Eero Hirvonen** hope to claim the first individual World Cup event win for Finland since Hannu Manninen won the last of his record 48 victories in Lahti on 5 March 2010.
- At the age of 36, **Bernhard Gruber** became the oldest winner of an individual World Cup event when he won in Schonach on 16 March 2019. This was Austria's 69th and most recent victory in the World Cup. Gruber intends to continue his career even after undergoing heart surgery earlier this year.
- United States has won 18 individual World Cup events and recorded 61 podium finishes, but its most recent podium spot dates back to 24 January 2015, when Taylor Fletcher finished third in Sapporo.
- The three winners of Nordic combined gold medals at the Youth Olympic Winter Games - **Tomáš Portyk (2012)**, **Tim Kopp (2016)** and **Stefan Rettenegger (2020)** - have yet to claim a podium finish in an individual World Cup.

Nations Cup

- Norway has won the Nations Cup standings a record 18 times, including in each of the last three seasons.
- In the last three seasons Norway finished ahead of Germany (2nd) and Austria (3rd).
- The last time Norway, Germany and Austria did not make up the podium was in 2011/12, when France finished third, behind Norway (1st) and Germany (2nd).
- Germany won the Nations Cup 12 times, including five times in a row from 2012/13 to 2016/17. It finished runners up behind Norway in the last three seasons.
- Austria (4), Finland (2) and Japan (1) have also won the Nations Cup.