

PREVIEW MEN'S INDIVIDUAL LARGE HILL LAKE PLACID – Saturday 10 Feb 2024

Stefan Kraft

- Stefan Kraft has won seven of the 16 individual men's World Cup events this season. It marks the highest number of wins in a single season by an Austrian man since Kraft himself recorded eight victories in 2016/17.
- The last Austrian man other than Kraft to record at least seven World Cup wins in a single season was Gregor Schlierenzauer, who recorded 10 wins in 2012/13.
- Kraft (37) is two victories short of equalling Adam Malysz and Kamil Stoch (both 39) for the third-most individual World Cup wins among men.
- No man has achieved as many individual World Cup podiums as Kraft (109). On the women's side, only Sara Takanashi (115) recorded as many podium finishes as Kraft.
- Last week in Willingen, Kraft recorded his worst individual World Cup result of the season (39th on 3 February). He finished in the top-9 in all other 15 individual events this season.
- Stefan Kraft has yet to win an individual World Cup event in United States. He finished 16th and third in last season's World Cup events in Lake Placid.
- The last Austrian man to win an individual World Cup in United States was Andreas Felder in Lake Placid on 1 December 1990.
- Kraft (30) can become the oldest winner of an individual World Cup event in Lake Placid. Andreas Felder (28y-270d) currently holds that record (set in December 1990).

Andreas Wellinger

- Andreas Wellinger won the most recent World Cup event, in Willingen on 4 February. He can become the first man to win successive individual World Cup events since Karl Geiger won both events in Klingenthal in December 2023.
- Wellinger was the only man to finish on the podium in both individual World Cup events in Lake Placid last season. He won the event on 11 February and finished second a day later (behind Halvor Egner Granerud).
- Wellinger can become the second German man to win multiple individual World Cup events in United States, after Martin Schmitt (won both events in Iron Mountain in February 2000).
- Among German men, only Severin Freund (53), Martin Schmitt (52), Sven Hannawald (40) and Karl Geiger (39) have recorded as many individual World Cup podium finishes as Wellinger (37).
- Only in 2022/23 (2) did Wellinger win as many individual World Cup events as this season (2), and only in 2016/17 (12) did he record as many podium finishes as this season (9).

Other contenders

- Eight different men have won an individual World Cup event this season (Stefan Kraft, Karl Geiger, Pius Paschke, Andreas Wellinger, Anže Lanišek, Jan Hörl, Ryoyu Kobayashi, Johann André Forfang), already one more than last season (7).
- **Ryoyu Kobayashi** finished on the podium in six of the seven individual World Cup events in 2024 (1 victory, 5 second places), more than other male ski jumper (Wellinger 4).
- Kobayashi finished second in six individual World Cup event this season (including both in Willingen), his highest tally in a single season. Last season, Anže Lanišek finished runner-up a record nine times.
- Kobayashi holds the record on the large hill in Lake Placid: 136 meters, set on 11 February 2023.
- Kobayashi can become the third man representing Japan to win an individual World Cup event in United States, after Masahiko Harada in Iron Mountain (February 1996) and Noriaki Kasai in Salt Lake City (February 2004).
- **Slovenian** men have yet to record a podium finish in an individual World Cup event in United States. The best result was a fourth place, by Primož Peterka in Iron Mountain (February 1996) and Timi Zajc in Lake Placid (February 2023).
- **Peter Prevc** announced his retirement at the end of this season on 6 February. Prevc holds many records, including most individual victories in a single World Cup campaign (15) and the Slovenian national distance record (250m).
- Prevc won three world titles (all in ski flying) and claimed one Olympic gold medal, in the mixed team event at Beijing 2022. In 2015/2016, Prevc won the overall World Cup, the Four Hills tournament and the ski flying world championships and World Cup.
- Last week in Willingen, **Johann André Forfang** won his first individual World Cup event in over five years (Nizhny Tagil in December 2018). He can become the third Norwegian man to win an individual World Cup in United States, after Vegard Opaas (3 between 1985 and 1988, all in Lake Placid) and **Halvor Egner Granerud** (1, in Lake Placid in 2023).
- **Gregor Deschwanden** can become the third Swiss man to record an individual World Cup podium finish in United States, after Stefan Zünd in Lake Placid (2nd in December 1990) and Simon Ammann in Salt Lake City (2nd in February 2004).
- **Poland** (99) is one victory shy of becoming the fifth country to reach 100 men's individual World Cup wins, after Austria, Finland, Norway and Germany (including former East and West Germany).

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