

## PREVIEW MEN'S INDIVIDUAL LARGE HILL – Saturday 4 Feb 2023

### Willingen

- The men's individual World Cup has been coming to Willingen since 1995. Andreas Goldberger won the first event at the resort on 8 January that year.
- Kamil Stoch (3) and Noriaki Kasai (3) won the most individual World Cup events in Willingen. Out of the two, Stoch is the only one to record all of his three wins in consecutive events 2014 (2) and 2015.

### Halvor Egner Granerud

- Halvor Egner Granerud (1316) won both individual World Cup events in Bad Mitterndorf last week to overtake Dawid Kubacki (1204) at the top of this season's overall World Cup rankings.
- Bad Mitterndorf was the fifth time Granerud has done a double at an individual World Cup event, including in January 2021 in Willingen.
- The last male ski jumper to win at least three successive individual World Cup events was Ryoyu Kobayashi from December 2021 to January 2022 (4).
- **Granerud has finished on the podium for the last 11 individual World Cup events starting on 29 December in Oberstdorf. In World Cup history, there have been two occasions in which a man recorded 12 successive podium finishes in individual events: Janne Ahonen in 2004/05 (13) and Peter Prevc in 2015/16 (12).**
- Granerud has the most individual World Cup wins amongst Norwegian men (20) and the most podium finishes (35). He surpassed Anders Bardal (34) in Bad Mitterndorf.
- Germany (7 wins) is Granerud's most successful host country in terms of wins. With a win this weekend he can make Willingen (2 wins) his joint-most or most successful venue (Nizhny Tagil, 3 wins).

### Dawid Kubacki

- Dawid Kubacki (12) is level with Halvor Egner Granerud (12) for the most individual World Cup podiums this season. Kubacki (1204) trails Granerud (1316) by over 100 points in the overall World Cup standings.
- This weekend Kubacki (12) could draw level with Adam Malysz (14 in 2000/01 and 2001/02) to record the joint-most podium finishes for a Polish ski jumper in a single season.
- Kubacki finished on the podium in 12 of the first 14 individual World Cup events of the season but has failed to reach the podium in the last four events (finished 11th, 10th and 17th in the last three).
- Kubacki has won as many individual World Cup events this season (5) as in all of his previous seasons combined (5).
- Kubacki's best result in Willingen was a third-place finish in February 2018.

## Other contenders

- Slovenia's **Anže Lanišek** (990) sits in third place in the overall individual World Cup rankings but has not reached a podium since 6 January in Bischofshofen (2nd). Since then countrymen **Domen Prevc** (3rd in Bad Mitterndorf) and **Timi Zajc** (2nd in Bad Mitterndorf) have both finished in the top three.
- Domen Prevc's third place in Bad Mitterndorf was his first individual World Cup podium in nearly four years. He can win an event for the first time since Vikersund on 17 March 2019 (ski flying).
- **Stefan Kraft** (89) is Austria's men's individual World Cup record holder in terms of podium finishes. He surpassed Gregor Schlierenzauer (88) last weekend. Kraft can finish on the podium in three consecutive events for the first time this season.
- **Ryoyu Kobayashi** won the first event in Willingen last season. He has won the same event in consecutive seasons twice before; Oberstdorf, 2018/19 and 2019/20 and Engelberg, 2018/19 and 2019/20.
- Kobayashi hopes to reach his first individual World Cup podium in Europe of this season. After winning the World Cup overall standings last season, his only podiums in 2022/23 came in Sapporo (G2-S0-B1).
- **Germany** have had two ski jumpers on a men's individual World Cup podium this season (**Karl Geiger**, 3rd in Titisee-Neustadt; **Marcus Eisenbichler**, 3rd in Sapporo). **Stefan Leyhe** is the last German to win in Willingen (February 2020).
- Geiger (1 win in February 2019) can become the third German men's ski jumper to win multiple individual World Cup events in Willingen after Sven Hannawald (2) and Severin Freund (2).
- **Piotr Żyła** missed a podium spot by one place (4th) in Bad Mitterndorf. He could become only the second 36-year old to finish on a men's individual World Cup podium in Willingen after Noriaki Kasai (3rd in 2009, age 36).
- **Giovanni Bresadola** could become the first Italian man to finish on the podium in an individual World Cup event since a third place by Andrea Morassi in Obertsdorf in January 2007.

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