

PREVIEW MEN'S GUNDERSEN NORMAL HILL / 10KM – Thursday 28 Feb 2019

- Eric Frenzel is the 2018 Olympic champion in this event. No reigning Olympic champion in this event has won the world title in this event since Bjarte Engen Vik in 1999 and 2001.
- Frenzel has won two gold medals at the 2019 world championships. He never won more than two at a single world championships.
- Only Johannes Rydzek (4 in 2017) and Jason Lamy Chappuis (3 in 2013) have won at least three gold medals at a single world championships.
- Frenzel is currently on seven world titles in total, most of all athletes in Nordic combined.
- His total of 14 medals makes him the most decorated athlete at the world championships: G7-S5-B2.
- Johannes Rydzek won a gold medal in this event at each of the past two world championships, in 2015 in Falun and in 2017 in Lahti.
- Rydzek is hoping to join Ronny Ackermann (2003-2007), Ulrich Wehling (1972-1976) and Oddbjørn Hagen (1934-1936) as the only athletes to win a gold medal in this event at three successive world championships.
- Rydzek can become the fifth athlete to win more than two world titles in this event, following Johan Grøttumsbråten (4), Wehling (4), Hagen (3) and Ackermann (3).
- Two years ago in Lahti, Germany performed a medal sweep in this event. In Rydzek's wake came Eric Frenzel (silver) and Björn Kircheisen.
- Germany's clean sweep was the first by one country in this event at Nordic world championships since 1954, when Norway won all three medals in this event.
- In 1954 in Falun, the silver medal was won by Gunder Gundersen, the man eventually credited as the inventor of the current scoring system in Nordic Combined.
- Jarl Magnus Riiber is hoping to become the first Norwegian to win this event at world championships since 2001, when Bjarte Engen Vik took the spoils.
- Riiber can become the sixth world champion in this event under the age of 22 and the third representing Norway following Trond Einar Elden and Fred Børre Lundberg.
- Akito Watabe is hoping to become the second world champion representing Japan in this event, following Kenji Ogiwara who won this in 1993 and 1997.
- Watabe won all three World Cup events staged in Seefeld in the 2017/2018 season.

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