

## PREVIEW MEN'S SPRINT CLASSIC STYLE FALUN – Friday 15 Mar 2024

### Overall World Cup

- Coming into this weekend, Harald Østberg Amundsen (2,415) holds a 157-point lead over Johannes Høsflot Klæbo (2,258) in the overall World Cup standings. With 345 points up for grabs in the final three World Cup events in Falun this weekend (including bonus points), Klæbo could still secure his fifth overall crystal globe.
- Klæbo recorded 415 points in the previous three World Cup events (winning in Lahti, Oslo and Drammen), 148 points more than overall leader Amundsen (267).
- Amundsen can win the overall World Cup for the first time. His best result in the overall World Cup standings was an eighth place in 2021/22.
- Klæbo can win the overall World Cup for the fifth time, after 2017/18, 2018/19, 2021/22 and 2022/23. Only Bjørn Dæhlie (6) and Gunde Svan (5) have won the men's overall crystal globe at least five times.
- Norway has won the men's overall World Cup a record 17 times, at least eight more than nearest competitor Sweden (9).

### Johannes Høsflot Klæbo

- Last Tuesday, Johannes Høsflot Klæbo secured his sixth sprint crystal globe by winning the classic sprint in Drammen. Klæbo won the sprint crystal globe in 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2022/23 and 2023/24.
- No other male cross-country skier has won the sprint competition more than three times. On the women's side, Bente Skari (5) and Marit Bjørgen (5) won at least five sprint crystal globes.
- **Klæbo has won each of the last six individual World Cup sprint events (Goms, twice in Canmore, Minneapolis, Lahti and Drammen), the longest men's sprint winning streak in World Cup history.**
- On the women's side, only Marit Bjørgen won as many successive individual World Cup sprints: 11 between December 2003 and January 2005.
- Klæbo (8) has won eight individual sprints in a single World Cup campaign for the third time, after 2022/23 (10), 2018/19 (8) and 2019/20 (8).
- Klæbo (111) can equal Bjørn Dæhlie (112) for most World Cup podium finishes among men (including team events).
- Only Alexander Bolshunov (6) has won as many individual World Cup events in Falun as Johannes Høsflot Klæbo (5, including 4 sprints).
- Klæbo won the final classic sprint event of the World Cup season in five of the last six campaigns: in 2017/18, 2018/19 (both in Drammen), 2019/20 (Trondheim), 2020/21 (Falun), and in 2022/23 (Lahti). The only exception was in Falun in 2021/22 (won by Richard Jouve).

## Other contenders

- **Erik Valnes** (3) is the only man to have defeated Klæbo multiple times in World Cup sprint events in the classic style. Aside from his two victories this season, he also beat him in Ruka on 27 November 2020.
- Only Johannes Høsflot Klæbo (48) claimed as many men's individual World Cup sprint victories as **Federico Pellegrino** (17). Pellegrino's last individual WC sprint victory dates from 17 December 2022 (in the freestyle in Davos).
- Sixteen of Pellegrino's 17 individual World Cup sprint wins came in freestyle events. The exception was his sprint classic style victory in Canmore on 8 March 2016.
- **Richard Jouve** is the last non-Norwegian winner of an individual sprint World Cup in the classic style, as he won in Les Rousses on 28 January 2023.
- Jouve won the most recent World Cup classic sprint in Falun, on 11 March 2022. With that win, Jouve became the first French winner of a sprint crystal globe.
- **Håvard Solås Taugbøl** finished second in the most recent World Cup classic sprint. Taugbøl (30y-208d) can become the oldest winner of a World Cup sprint since Nikita Kriukov won the classic sprint in Stockholm on 11 February 2016 (30y-257d on that day).
- **Even Northug** is still in search of his first win in a sprint World Cup. He achieved five podium finishes (one second place and four third places). Only Østein Pettersen (6) recorded as many podium finishes in World Cup sprint events without winning once.

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