

PREVIEW MEN'S 20KM FREESTYLE FALUN – Sunday 17 Mar 2024

Overall World Cup (if not already decided)

- In this race, the skiers can still collect a maximum of 130 points for the overall crystal globe (including bonus points).
- **Harald Østberg 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.
- **Johannes Høsflot Klæbo** can win the overall World Cup for the fifth time, after 2017/18, 2018/19, 2021/22 and 2022/23. Only Bjørn Dählie (6) and Gunde Svan (5) have won the men's overall World Cup at least five times (Dario Cologna also 4).
- Norway has won the men's overall World Cup a record 17 times, almost twice as many times as their nearest competitor Sweden (9).

World Cup distance standings (if not already decided)

- **Harald Østberg Amundsen** can win his first crystal globe. Before this season, his best result was an eighth place in the overall standings in 2021/22. Amundsen's highest rank in the distance standings was ninth in 2021/22.
- **Pål Golberg** won the distance crystal globe in last season's World Cup. Only one Norwegian man won the distance crystal globe multiple times: Martin Johnsrud Sundby (in 2013/14, 2015/16 and 2016/17).
- Golberg can join four men on multiple distance crystal globes: Dario Cologna (4), Alexander Bolshunov (3), Sundby (3) and Tobias Angerer (2).
- Norwegian men have won the distance crystal globe a record six times (including the 'Long Distance World Cup' from 1996/97 to 1999/2000).

Norway

- Norway (26 coming into Falun) can break their own men's record for most individual wins by a single country in a World Cup season (28 in 2022/23) if it wins all three events in Falun.
- Norwegian men won 19 of the last 21 individual freestyle distance events in the World Cup, with Jules Lapierre's win in Val di Fiemme (7 January) and Gus Schumacher's triumph in Minneapolis (18 February) this season as the only exceptions.
- Skiers representing Norway have won each of the last 19 individual distance events with a length of at least 20km, including eight wins by Johannes Høsflot Klæbo. The streak began after Alexander Bolshunov's win in the 50km classic style in Oslo on 8 March 2020.
- Klæbo won only one of the last nine freestyle World Cup distance events he participated in, the 20km in Goms on 28 January 2024.

- **Harald Østberg Amundsen** (2) is the only man to record multiple triumphs in individual freestyle distance events in this season's World Cup. He claimed wins in Östersund (10 December) and Toblach (New Year's Day, Tour de Ski).
- Only Bjørn Dæhlie (8 in 1995/96) and Martin Johnsrud Sundby (7 in 2015/16) have recorded more World Cup podium finishes in individual freestyle events in a single season than Amundsen in 2023/24 (6).
- Last season, **Simen Hegstad Krüger** (3) won the most freestyle distance events in the men's World Cup. Krüger's only WC freestyle distance win this season came in Canmore on 9 February.

Other contenders

- **Gus Schumacher** won the most recent individual World Cup event in the freestyle, the 10km in Minneapolis on 18 February. The last non-Norwegian man to win back-to-back WC freestyle distance events was Alexander Bolshunov (3 between December 2020 and January 2021).
- **Andrew Musgrave** is looking to become the first British cross-country skier to win a World Cup event. He has recorded two World Cup podium finishes in individual freestyle distance events, both in 2017.
- The last **Swede** to win an individual World Cup freestyle distance event on home snow was Marcus Hellner, who triumphed in the 15km in Gällivare on 20 November 2010.

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