

FACTS & FIGURES – Men's slalom in Gurgl

Debut event last season – 2023-24, saw the debut men's Audi FIS World Cup slalom race at the high altitude venue known as the 'Diamond of the Alps'.

- Last season Austria's men broke a 17-race winning drought by finishing first, second and third in Gurgl. **Manuel Feller (AUT)** won, ahead of **Marco Schwarz (AUT)** and **Michael Matt (AUT)**.

The last Austrian triple podium in a slalom event occurred on January 14, 2001, in Wengen, where Benjamin Raich claimed victory ahead of his fellow Austrians Rainer Schoenfelder and Mario Matt.

- **Clement Noel (FRA)** currently leads the men's slalom standings after winning the slalom in Levi on Sunday, November 17. In Levi, Noël secured the win ahead of Henrik Kristoffersen (NOR) and Loïc Meillard (SUI), who finished third.

Noël's last season-opening slalom victory was in Val d'Isère in 2021, and he went on to have his best World Cup season that year, finishing second in the slalom standing and claiming the Olympic slalom Gold medal in Beijing.

Among skiers representing France (including women), only Perrine Pelen (15) and Jean Noël Augert (13) have claimed more World Cup victories in the slalom as Noël (11).

- **Manuel Feller (AUT)** Reigning Crystal Globe champion Feller won four of the 10 World Cup slaloms last season, finishing inside the top five in the other six races.

His victory in Gurgl last season marked his third slalom win in the Audi FIS World Cup, with his previous victories coming in Lenzerheide and Flachau in 2021. During the 2023-24 season, Feller doubled his World Cup podium tally, securing four podium finishes: three first-place finishes and one second-place finish.

- **Linus Strasser (GER)** Two victories and three podium places helped **Linus Strasser (GER)** to his best ever finish of second in last season's slalom standings.

- **Loïc Meillard (SUI)**, who was unable to start the season in Sölden after injuring his back during the morning warm-up on race day, impressed everyone with his high level of skiing in Levi, securing another slalom World Cup podium.

- **Lucas Pinheiro Braathen (BRA)** after making his Giant Slalom debut, Pinheiro Braathen competed in his first Slalom World Cup race for Brazil, his mother's home country, in Levi. With two fourth-place finishes, in Levi and Sölden, Lucas is on the brink of a historic milestone: becoming the first Brazilian athlete to reach a World Cup podium in alpine skiing.

- **Steven Amiez (FRA)**, who was in third position after the first run in Levi but finished sixth by the end of the day, came tantalizingly close to adding another podium to the Amiez family legacy. His father, Sébastien Amiez, achieved 10 Slalom World Cup podiums during his career, with his first in 1995 and his last in 2001.

- **Timon Haugan (NOR)** had a win and two second place finishes last season en-route to his best ever finish of third in the standings.

- **Dave Ryding (GBR)** can become the oldest skier to record a podium finish in a World Cup slalom event, surpassing Giuliano Razzoli's third place at age 37 years and 29 days old in Wengen on 16 January 2022.
- **Michael Matt (AUT)**, third last season in Gurgl, started the season with a 25th place finish in Levi.
- **Eduard Hallberg (FIN)** became the first Finnish athlete to earn Slalom World Cup points since Santeri Paloniemi, matching his 24th-place finish in the Levi World Cup race back in 2012.