

FACTS & FIGURES – Women’s downhill in Beaver Creek

Slope info:

Historically, the Birds of Prey events have been held on the Golden Eagle ski trail, with a short section of the Red Tail trail below the final jump. The Raptor course, used for women’s speed events, incorporates sections of three trails: Peregrine, Kestrel, and a small part of Red Tail.

Past Events in Beaver Creek Women’s World Cup:

- December 7, 2011: Women’s Super G, a replacement race for Val d’Isère, held on the Golden Eagle trail of the Birds of Prey course. The course was rerouted to avoid the Golden Eagle Jump and Abyss compression, which were considered too severe at the time.
- December 1, 2013: Women’s Giant Slalom, part of the test events leading up to the 2015 World Ski Championships (WSC). This GS was held on the Birds of Prey course/Golden Eagle trail as the lower part of Raptor was deemed too flat for technical events. The downhill and Super G events that year were held on the Raptor course, giving the women a chance to test the new speed venue ahead of the 2015 WSC.

2015 World Ski Championships:

During the 2015 WSC, women’s speed events were held on the Raptor course. Women’s Giant Slalom, Slalom, and Combined slalom were conducted on the lower Golden Eagle section of the Birds of Prey course, while all men’s events were held on the full Birds of Prey course.

Historical Firsts:

- This will be the first time the entire Birds of Prey course, including the Golden Eagle Jump and Abyss, is used by women for Super G.
- It will also mark the first women’s World Cup downhill on the Birds of Prey course, making next week a significant moment in skiing history.

- **Conny Hütter (AUT)** is the reigning downhill World Cup champion. The Austrian won her first ever Globe on the final day of last season, denying Lara Gut-Behrami (SUI) the title by winning the World Cup Finals race in Saalbach, Austria, with her Swiss rival finishing 17th.
- It was Hütter's second ever World Cup downhill triumph, the other coming in Lake Louise (CAN) in 2017.
- Hütter had started the day 72 points behind Gut-Behrami in the standings and knew she needed a win and for Gut-Behrami to finish 10th or lower.
- The Austrian had five other top-10 downhill finishes last season, including a 2nd place in Crans Montana (SUI) and a third in Val D'Isere (FRA).
- In 2013, Hütter came 21st in the downhill and the super-G in Beaver Creek.
- Second in last season's downhill standings was **Lara Gut-Behrami's (SUI)** best showing in her 16 seasons on the World Cup circuit.
- Her win in Crans Montana was her 13th downhill World Cup triumph. She also had a second (Cortina D'Ampezzo) and a third (second downhill in Crans Montana) place finish last season.
- The Swiss star won both the downhill and the super-G in Beaver Creek the last time the women raced here, in 2013 (not on the Birds of Prey piste).
- In her only event so far this season, Gut-Behrami finished 13th in the giant slalom in Killington (USA).
- **Sofia Goggia (ITA)** made her World Cup debut in both downhill and super-G in Beaver Creek in 2013. Goggia did not finish the downhill run but a day later she came seventh in the super-G.
- The Italian had a win, a second place, two thirds and a fourth in her five World Cup downhills last season before breaking her tibia in her right leg while training for the giant slalom in February. At the time she was leading the downhill Globe standings.
- Goggia was the World Cup downhill champion three times in succession before last season and has won 14 World Cup races in the past four seasons.
- Austrian **Stephanie Venier** finished fourth in last season's downhill standings, missing the podium by just four points.
- She won in Cortina D'Ampezzo - her second ever World Cup victory - and finished inside the top 10 in all but one of her downhill races.
- Venier also came fourth in the super-G Globe standings.
- No skier won more than one downhill title last season, with eight different winners in the eight events.
- Two of them will not race downhill this season - **Mikaela Shiffrin (USA)** who has chosen to focus elsewhere, and Ragnhild Mowinckel (NOR) who has retired.
- **Jasmine Flury (SUI)**, 2023 downhill world champion and still recovering from the injury, and **Marta Bassino (ITA)** are the others to have won last season.