

#### **Preview Ski Jumping 2019 World Championships**

#### Seefeld in Tirol hosts Nordic World Ski Championships for the second time

- Seefeld in Tirol will host the Nordic World Ski Championships for the second time, after 1985.
- In 1985 three ski jumping events were held: the men's large and normal hill and the men's large hill team event.
- Norway's Per Bergerud won the men's large hill event, Jens Weißflog won the normal hill event representing East Germany and Finland was victorious in the team event.
- Finland also topped the overall medal table with one gold, one silver and one bronze medal. East Germany and Norway shared second place with one gold and one bronze medal each, while Austria finished in third place with two silver medals.

## Austrians aiming to win first gold medal for host nation in 30 years

- Austrian ski jumpers aim to become the first athletes to win a gold medal for the host nation in 30 years.
- The last time ski jumpers were crowned world champions on home snow was in 1989 in Lahti, when Jari Puikkonen (individual large hill) and the Finnish team (men's large hill team event) won gold medals for Finland.
- Once before has an Austrian won a ski jumping world title in front of a home crowd: Karl Schnabl won the men's large hill Olympic title in Innsbruck in 1976, which also counts as a world title.

### Austria continues to chase down Norway on all-time medal table

- Norway leads the ski jumping world championships medal table in gold (27) and total (80) medals.
- Since the start of this century, though, Austria has been playing catch-up, winning 14 of the 38 available world titles (Norway 3) and 29 total medals (Norway 18).
- Austria now stands in second place on the all-time medal table both in gold (20) and in total (55) medals.

# Japanese ski jumpers looking for first individual world title this century

 No Japanese ski jumper has won an individual world title in the sport since Kazuyoshi Funaki won the gold medal in the men's normal hill event in 1999 in Ramsau am Dachstein, Austria.





- Since Funaki's victory in 1999, Japanese athletes have won six total medals in individual events (G0-S3-B3), but the top podium spot has continued to elude them.
- In 2013 Japan did win the world title in the mixed normal hill team event.
- With Ryoyu Kobayashi and Sara Takanashi, Japan has two of the favourites for individual world titles this time around.

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