

## PREVIEW MEN'S INDIVIDUAL SKI FLYING OBERSTDORF – Saturday and Sunday 24-25 Feb 2024

### Stefan Kraft

- Stefan Kraft (39) is level with Adam Malysz and Kamil Stoch (both 39) in joint-third place all-time on most individual World Cup wins among men. Only Gregor Schlierenzauer (53) and Matti Nykänen (46) have more wins.
- Kraft has won as many as nine individual World Cup events in a season for the first time. The last Austrian man to claim this many individual World Cup victories in a single season was Schlierenzauer in 2012/13 (10).
- Kraft has won eight individual World Cup events in ski flying, second-most all-time behind Schlierenzauer's 14 victories.
- Kraft also won the individual ski flying world title for the first time this year, in Bad Mitterndorf (26-27 January).
- Oberstdorf is Kraft's favourite town in terms of major wins: he won a record three individual ski flying World Cup events here at the Heini Klopfer hill, and he also claimed three large hill victories at Oberstdorf's Schattenberg hill (twice in the Four Hills tournament, and the world title in 2021).
- In 2016/17, Kraft became the only man so far to win three individual World Cup events in Oberstdorf in a single season: the Four Hills event and two ski flying events. The other men to have won two ski flying World Cup events in Oberstdorf in a season are Matti Nykänen (1983/84) and Werner Rathmayer (1991/92).

### Ryoyu Kobayashi

- Since the beginning of the Four Hills Tournament, Ryoyu Kobayashi finished second in nine of the 12 men's individual World Cup events. Kobayashi (9) has equalled Anže Lanišek's record of most runner-up finishes in individual World Cup events in a single season, set in 2022/23.
- Only Simon Ammann (9) finished second in more individual ski flying World Cup events than Kobayashi (5).
- Kobayashi has won three individual ski flying World Cup events, including in Oberstdorf on 2 February 2019.
- Kobayashi claimed the overall trophy in the 2023/24 Four Hills Tournament despite second places at all four hills, including in Oberstdorf on 29 December.
- Kobayashi (31 wins) is two wins short of equalling Jens Weißflog (33) in seventh place all-time for most individual World Cup wins among men.
- Kobayashi finished in only ninth place at the recent ski flying world championships, in Bad Mitterndorf last month.

## Other contenders

- **Andreas Wellinger** won the Four Hills event in Oberstdorf this season. He could become the fifth man to win a large hill (Schattenberg) and a ski flying World Cup event (Heini Klopfer hill) in Oberstdorf in a single season, after Kazuyoshi Funaki (1997/98), Martin Schmitt (2000/01), Stefan Kraft (2016/17) and Ryoyu Kobayashi (2018/19).
- Wellinger finished second in this year's ski flying world championships, 2.2 points behind Kraft. The German has yet to win an individual ski flying World Cup event.
- **Domen Prevc** won the most recent individual World Cup event, in Sapporo on 18 February. It was his first individual World Cup triumph since he claimed his only ski flying victory, in Vikersund in March 2019.
- Domen's brother **Peter Prevc** has won seven individual ski flying World Cup events, third-most behind Schlierenzauer (14) and Kraft (8).
- Peter Prevc's last individual ski flying win at World Cup level was in Planica in March 2016. He has never won a major individual ski flying event in Oberstdorf.
- Peter and Domen, and their Slovenia teammates **Lovro Kos** and **Timi Zajc** won the team ski flying world title this year (28 January). Zajc also took bronze in the individual competition.
- **Zajc** has won three individual World Cup events in ski flying, including two in Oberstdorf (February 2019, March 2022). He can become the second man to win three individual ski flying World Cup events here, after Kraft (3).
- **Poland** (99 wins, but none in this season) is one victory shy of becoming the fifth country to reach 100 men's individual World Cup wins, after Austria, Finland, Norway and Germany (including former East and West Germany).
- **Piotr Zyla** is Poland's last winner in an individual ski flying World Cup (Bad Mitterndorf in February 2020). **Kamil Stoch** is Poland's only winner of a ski flying event in Oberstdorf (February 2019).

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