

PREVIEW MEN'S 10KM FREESTYLE LES ROUSSES – Friday 27 Jan 2023

General

- Les Rousses is a brand new venue in the World Cup. Last week, Livigno hosted the World Cup for the first time.
- Third time is a charm for Les Rousses, after having to postpone the events in the 2020/21 season for one year - and a cancellation in the 2021/22 season due to national Covid-19 restrictions.
- Les Rousses is the first venue in France to host the World Cup since La Clusaz on 17 and 18 December 2016. All four events were won by Norway that weekend, including the men's 15km freestyle and men's 4 x 7.5km relay.
- Krogh won the men's 15km freestyle in La Clusaz on 17 December 2016, ahead of Martin Johnsrud Sundby and Alexander Legkov.

Johannes Høsflot Klæbo

- Johannes Høsflot Klæbo claimed eight of the last nine individual wins in the men's World Cup since the opening stage of the Tour de Ski on 31 December. Klæbo finished sixth in the final stage of the Tour de Ski (10km freestyle), which was won by Simen Hegstad Krüger.
- Klæbo won 12 of the 19 individual wins in the 2022/23 men's World Cup. Among men, only Martin Johnsrud Sundby (14 in 2015/16) and Klæbo himself (13 in 2018/19) claimed as many individual World Cup victories in a single season.
- The all-time record for most individual World Cup victories in a single season is 20, set by Therese Johaug in 2019/20. There are 12 individual events left in the 2022/23 men's World Cup.
- Johannes Høsflot Klæbo will compete in a professional race in France for the first time. Klæbo claimed his 60 individual World Cup victories in 10 different countries.
- This will be the first men's World Cup event in Les Rousses. Last week, Klæbo triumphed in the first ever men's World Cup event in Livigno as he emerged victorious in the men's sprint freestyle on 21 January.
- Klæbo has only competed four times in a **10km freestyle** event in the World Cup, all stages in the 3-Days Tour or Tour de Ski. He competed in this event in December 2016 (13th in Lillehammer), January 2020 (21st in Val di Fiemme), January 2022 (5th in Val di Fiemme) and 8 January 2023 (6th in Val di Fiemme).
- Klæbo claimed three individual World Cup victories in 10km events. All three victories were in the **classic style** and achieved this season: in Ruka on 26 November (10km classic style), in Val Müstair on 1 January (10km pursuit classic style) and in Oberstdorf on 3 January (10km classic style).

Other contenders

- Besides Johannes Høsflot Klæbo (12), five men have won an individual World Cup event this season: **Pål Golberg** (2), **Simen Hegstad Krüger** (2), Federico Pellegrino (1), **Iver Tildheim Andersen** (1) and Richard Jouve (1).
- **Norwegian** men have won each of the last 13 distance events in the World Cup, including all 11 in the 2022/23 season. This is the longest winning streak by a country in distance events in the men's World Cup.
- The last non-Norwegian victory in a distance event in the men's World Cup was the triumph by **Iivo Niskanen** in the 15km classic style in Lahti on 27 February 2022.
- Each of Simen Hegstad Krüger's eight individual World Cup victories in distance events came in the freestyle.
- Following his win in the 10km freestyle in Val di Fiemme on 8 January (Tour de Ski), Krüger can win back-to-back individual distance events in the World Cup for the second time. In December 2021, he won consecutive 15 km freestyle events (in Lillehammer and Davos).
- **Jules Lapierre** came third in the 10km freestyle in Val di Fiemme on 8 January (Tour de Ski) to achieve his first World Cup podium result.
- **The only Frenchman to claim an individual World Cup podium result on home snow was Vincent Vittoz: a second place in the 15km freestyle in La Clusaz on 6 February 2004.**

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