

PREVIEW WOMEN'S SPRINT CLASSIC STYLE FALUN – Friday 15 Mar 2024

Overall World Cup

- Coming into this weekend, Jessie Diggins (2,490) holds a 102-point lead over Linn Svahn (2,388) in the overall World Cup standings. With 345 points up for grabs in the final three World Cup events in Falun this weekend (including bonus points), Svahn could still overtake Diggins in the overall standings.
- Svahn recorded 295 points in the previous three World Cup events (in Lahti, Oslo and Drammen), 135 points more than overall leader Diggins (160) in this stretch.
- Diggins can win the overall World Cup for the second time, after 2020/21. She is already the only non-European woman to claim the overall crystal globe.
- Svahn can win her first overall crystal globe. Her best result in the overall World Cup classification was a seventh place in 2020/21.
- Svahn can become the first Swedish woman to win the overall crystal globe. Marie-Helene Östlund finished second in 1987/1988, behind only Marjo Matikainen.
- Svahn (24y-99d on 17 March) can become the second-youngest woman **this century** to win the overall crystal globe, after Julia Tchepalova in 2000/01 (24y-91d).

Sweden

- Last Tuesday, **Linn Svahn** claimed her second sprint crystal globe by finishing second in the classic sprint in Drammen (behind Kristine Stavås Skistad). Svahn also won the sprint classification in 2019/20.
- Svahn is the second Swedish woman to win the sprint crystal globe multiple times, after Maja Dahlqvist (in 2021/22 and 2022/23).
- Svahn (5), **Emma Ribon** (2) and **Jonna Sundling** (1) all have won an individual sprint World Cup event this season.
- Svahn (10) can become the first woman to record more than 10 podium finishes in sprint events in a single World Cup campaign. **Note:** Kristine Stavås Skistad is also on 10 sprint podiums this season.
- Sweden can become the first country with at least four different individual sprint World Cup winners in a single season. Besides Sweden this season, only Norway have had three different sprint winners in a World Cup season before, both 2013/14 and 2014/15.
- Four of the five individual World Cup classic sprints this season were won by Swedish women. Ribon won in Ruka (24 November) and Östersund (9 December), Svahn in Oberhof (19 January) and Canmore (13 February). The only exception was Kristine Stavås Skistad's victory in Drammen last Tuesday.

- Sweden can become the first country to claim five classic sprint wins in a single World Cup season. Sweden (4) have equalled the record for most individual classic style sprint victories in a single season, previously achieved by Slovenia (4 in 2008/09) and Norway (4 in 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2022/23).
- In the last four years (from February 2020 onwards), Jonna Sundling finished on the podium in 11 of her last 13 World Cup classic sprint starts (including a victory in Falun in March 2022). She did not compete in the classic sprint in Drammen on 12 March.
- Swedish women won six of the eight individual World Cup sprints in Falun. The only exceptions were wins by Marit Bjørgen in March 2014 (classic style) and by Kristine Stavås Skistad in March 2023 (most recent edition, in freestyle).
- Only **Stina Nilsson** (2, both in freestyle) has won as many World Cup sprints in Falun as Svahn (2, both in classic).

Other contenders

- **Kristine Stavås Skistad** (4) is the only non-Swedish woman who claimed an individual sprint victory in the World Cup this season. She won each of the last two World Cup sprints, the freestyle in Lahti and the classic in Drammen.
- Skistad (9) can become the fourth Norwegian woman to record double digits in individual World Cup sprint victories, after Marit Bjørgen (40, all-time women's record), Maiken Caspersen Falla (22) and Bente Skari (17).
- Skistad (10) can become the first woman to record more than 10 podium finishes in sprint events in a single World Cup campaign. **Note:** Linn Svahn is also on 10 sprint podiums this season.
- Skistad won the most recent individual World Cup sprint event in Falun, in the freestyle on 18 March 2023. She can become the second woman to win successive World Cup sprint at the resort, after Linn Svahn (won the classic in 2019/20 and 2020/21).
- Skistad won the freestyle sprint in Falun in last season's World Cup. She can become the first woman to win World Cup sprints in both the freestyle and classic style at multiple resorts. She already recorded a freestyle and classic style sprint World Cup win in Lahti.
- **Rosie Brennan** finished third in the World Cup sprint classic in Drammen last Tuesday. It marked only her second individual World Cup podium finish in sprint events, after claiming the victory in Davos on 12 December 2020 (freestyle).

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