

PREVIEW MEN INDIVIDUAL - LARGE HILL – 15-16 Dec 2018

Kobayashi aiming for sixth successive podium

- Ryoyu Kobayashi has claimed a podium finish in all five individual large hill events this World Cup season. He won both events in Ruka and the second event in Nizhny Tagil.
- Kobayashi can now become the first ski jumper to finish on the podium in each of the first six individual World Cup events of a season since Thomas Morgenstern in 2007/08 (first eight). Morgenstern went on to claim the overall World Cup title that season.
- Kobayashi is hoping to become the first ever non-European ski jumper to claim the overall World Cup title. The last non-European athlete to finish on the overall World Cup podium was Noriaki Kasai in 1998/99 (3rd).
- Kobayashi can become the first ski jumper from Japan to claim four individual World Cup wins in a single season since Daiki Ito in 2011/12.
- Kobayashi can become the third non-European ski jumper to win an individual ski jumping World Cup event in Engelberg after compatriots Kazuyoshi Funaki in 1999 and Masahiko Harada in 1997.
- Kasai was the last non-European ski jumper to claim a podium finish in a World Cup event in Engelberg, as finished in third place in the large hill on 19 December 2015.

Stoch needs double win to match Weißflog

- Kamil Stoch has won 31 individual World Cup events, sixth most all-time among men. Stoch needs two more wins to join Jens Weißflog (33) in fifth place.
- Stoch has won eight individual World Cup events this calendar year. The only other jumpers with multiple wins in 2018 are Ryoyu Kobayashi (3), Daniel-André Tande (2) and Johann André Forfang (2).
- Only Adam Malysz in 2007 (9) and 2001 (17) managed to claim more than eight individual World Cup victories for Poland in a single calendar year.
- In the previous eight years (2010-2017), only three ski jumpers won more than eight individual World Cup events in a single calendar year: Peter Prevc in 2016 (12), Severin Freund in 2015 (11) and Gregor Schlierenzauer in 2013 (9).
- Stoch has claimed just one victory in an individual World Cup event in Switzerland, the large hill in Engelberg on 22 December 2013.
- Stoch is the only ski jumper to have claimed a podium spot in each of the last three individual World Cup events in Engelberg. He finished in second place on both 18 December 2016 and 17 December 2017 and in third place on 16 December 2017.
- Stoch missed out on a podium spot in the last two individual World Cup events, since a third-place finish in Ruka (large hill) on 25 November.

- Stoch could fail to reach the podium in three successive individual World Cup events for the first time since January-February (Tauplitz/Bad Mitterndorf, Zakopane and Willingen).

Germany still waiting for first win in 2018

- German jumpers have failed to win any of the 19 individual World Cup events in 2018. On 17 December 2017, Richard Freitag was the last ski jumper to hand Germany an individual World Cup win, when he won the large hill in Engelberg.
- In 2010, Germany last failed to claim a single win in an individual World Cup event in a single calendar year.
- Only ski jumpers from Finland (21) and Austria (60) have recorded more individual World Cup podium finishes in Engelberg than athletes from Germany (19, including East Germany).
- The last jumper from Germany to win consecutive individual World Cup events in Engelberg was Martin Schmitt in January 2000.

Other contenders

- **Johann André Forfang** finished on the podium in both events in Nizhny Tagil (first and second). Forfang could finish on the podium in three successive individual World Cup events for the first time since a run of four in March 2016.
- **Piotr Zyla** also finished on the podium in both events in Nizhny Tagil (second, third). The only ski jumper on more individual World Cup podium finishes in 2018 without claiming a victory than Zyla (4) is **Stefan Kraft** (5). **Andreas Wellinger** is also on four.
- On 26 March 2017, Kraft was the last ski jumper from Austria to claim an individual World Cup victory, as he won the final event of the 2016/17 season in Planica (ski flying).
- Austria are now 27 individual World Cup events without a victory. The last time Austrian jumpers failed to win more consecutive individual World Cup events was between January 2005 and January 2006: 29 in a row.
- Kraft and **Peter Prevc** are the only ski jumpers to have reached the podium in an individual World Cup event in each of the previous six seasons. Both athletes have yet to record their first top-three finish of the 2018/19 season.
- **Daniel-André Tande** is the only ski jumper to have won at least one individual World Cup event in each of the previous three seasons. His best result in 2018/19 was a 21st-place finish in the second event in Nizhny Tagil.
- Evergreen **Noriaki Kasai** is still going strong at the age of 46. Kasai finished in 34th and 35th place in the individual World Cup events in Nizhny Tagil.
- On 29 November 2014, Kasai became the oldest ski jumper to win an individual World Cup event as he was 42 years and 176 days old when he won in Ruka. Kasai also holds the record for oldest ski jumper to reach the



podium in an individual World Cup event. He finished in third place in Planica on 26 March 2017, at the age of 44 years and 293 days.

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