

## PREVIEW Men INDIVIDUAL - LARGE HILL – Sunday 6 Jan 2019

### Grand Slam beckons for Kobayashi

- Ryoyu Kobayashi can become the third ski jumper to win all four events of the Four Hills Tournament in a single season, after Sven Hannawald in 2001/02 and Kamil Stoch in 2017/18.
- Kobayashi became the 11th man to win the first three Four Hills events, after Olav Bjørnstad (1953/54), Helmut Recknagel in (1958/59), Max Bolkart (1959/60), Toralf Engan (1962/63), Bjørn Wirkola (1968/69), Yukio Kasaya (1971/72), Kazuyoshi Funaki (1997/98), Hannawald (2001/02), Janne Ahonen (2004/05) and Stoch (2017/18).
- Of these previous 10 ski jumpers, only Kasaya did not win the overall title that season (1971/72). He did not take part in the final Bischofshofen event, because he had to go back to Japan to prepare for the Olympic Winter Games.
- In the last 19 seasons, only once the leader after the Innsbruck event failed to win the Golden Eagle - in 2016/17, Daniel-André Tande (NOR) led after three events but was surpassed by Stoch and Piotr Zyla in the final event.
- Kobayashi can become the second Japanese jumper to win the Four Hills Tournament, after Kazuyoshi Funaki in 1997/98.
- In the overall standings after three events, Kobayashi (815.9) has a lead of 45.5 points over runner-up Markus Eisenbichler (770.4).
- Last season, Kamil Stoch won with a margin of 69.6 points over second-placed Andreas Wellinger. Only twice, there was a bigger margin between the winner and the runner-up: in 1987/88, Matti Nykänen won by 99.0 points over Jens Weißflog and in 2000/01, Adam Malysz had an all-time record winning margin of 104.4 over Janne Ahonen.
- Japan has won 14 events in the Four Hills Tournament, but a Japanese jumper has yet to win in Bischofshofen (Innsbruck 6, Garmisch-Partenkirchen 5, Oberstdorf 3).
- Kobayashi has won three events in total in the Four Hills Tournament, equal to Noriaki Kasai and Yukio Kasaya. The only Japanese man with more victories is Kazuyoshi Funaki (5).
- The Kobayashi brothers Ryoyu and Junshiro have yet to finish on the podium together in the same individual World Cup event. Junshiro finished in fifth place in the event in Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

### Kraft closes in on Austrian win

- Stefan Kraft finished third in Oberstdorf and second in Innsbruck and he could hand Austria its first win in the Four Hills Tournament since his own victory in Oberstdorf in 2016/17.
- Austria have not won any of the last 10 events in the Four Hills Tournament, the longest winless run for Austria since 19 events in a row from Oberstdorf 2000 to Innsbruck 2005. That run was ended by a victory for Martin Höllwarth in Bischofshofen on 6 January 2005.

- The last Austrian victory in Bischofshofen was in 2015, when Michael Hayböck emerged victorious.
- Kraft has claimed eight podium finishes in a Four Hills event. Only four Austrians have claimed more podium finishes - Andreas Goldberger (17), Gregor Schlierenzauer (15), Thomas Morgenstern (15) and Martin Höllwarth (9).
- Kraft finished third in Bischofshofen in 2013 and 2015. He only has more podium finishes in Oberstdorf (2 wins, 1 third place).
- Austrian ski jumpers have won 23 times in Bischofshofen, the most for one country at a single hill as Germany (including East & West) have won 21 times in Oberstdorf.
- Austria have claimed 50 podium finishes in Bischofshofen, second-most of all the hills behind 52 in Oberstdorf (Garmisch-Partenkirchen 36, Innsbruck 39).

### Germany seek successor to Hannawald

- Germany have not won in Bischofshofen since Sven Hannawald completed his grand slam here in 2001/02.
- Germany (including East & West) have claimed 10 victories in Bischofshofen. Last season, Andreas Wellinger finished third here.
- Markus Eisenbichler can become the sixth jumper to finish second on three of the four hills in a Four Hills tournament, after Janne Ahonen (1998/99), Andreas Goldberger (1994/95), Jiri Raska (1970/71), Hemmo Silvenoinen (1954/55) and Sepp Bradl (1952/53). All five of these ski jumpers won the overall standings that season.
- The last German jumper to win the overall Four Hills Tournament was Hannawald in 2001/02.

### Other contenders

- **Kamil Stoch** has won five events in the Four Hills Tournament. Bischofshofen is the only hill he has won multiple times, in 2017 and 2018.
- Four athletes have won a record three times in Bischofshofen - Janne Ahonen, Jiri Raska, Björn Wirkola and Jens Weißflog.
- **Timi Zajc** (18 years old) already is the first ski jumper born in this century to finish in the top-10 of a Four Hills event.
- The last ski jumper younger than 19 years old to finish in the top-three of a Four Hills event was Gregor Schlierenzauer with a second place in Innsbruck in 2009 (18 years old).
- **Roman Koudelka** could become the first Czech ski jumper to finish on the podium of a Four Hills event since Jakub Janda in 2005/06 (3rd Oberstdorf, 1st Garmisch-Partenkirchen, 2nd Innsbruck, 2nd Bischofshofen).
- **Killian Peier** hopes to become the first Swiss man to finish on the podium of a Four Hills event since Simon Amman finished third in Innsbruck in 2015.
- Switzerland has claimed one win in Bischofshofen - Walter Steiner in 1977.



- **Norway** have not won in Bischofshofen since Tom Hilde's victory in 2011. Norwegians have recorded 12 wins in total here, equal to the hill in Innsbruck and only one fewer than their 13 wins at Garmisch Partenkirchen (Oberstdorf 10).
- Norway's 14 second places in Bischofshofen, and 37 podium finishes in total here, are most for Norway on any hill in the Four Hills Tournament.

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