

## PREVIEW Men INDIVIDUAL - LARGE HILL – Sunday 20 Jan 2019

### Kobayashi eyeing 10th victory

- Ryoyu Kobayashi claimed his sixth successive individual World Cup victory in Val de Fiemme, but finished in seventh place on the second day.
- In total, Kobayashi has won nine of the 13 individual World Cup events this season. Last season, Stoch (9) won most individual World Cup events. The last jumper with more than nine individual victories in a World Cup season was Peter Prevc (15) in 2015/16.
- Kobayashi (9) already is the first Japanese jumper to claim more than six individual World Cup victories in a single season. Only three Japanese jumpers have won nine or more individual World Cup events in total: Noriaki Kasai (17), Kazuyoshi Funaki (15) and Masahiko Harada (9).
- Kobayashi has finished on the podium in 11 of the 13 individual World Cup events this season, with the exception of seventh places in the first event in Engelberg on 15 December 2018 and the second event in Val di Fiemme on 12 January. Last season, Stoch had 13 podium finishes in the World Cup.
- Only Funaki in 1998/99 (15) and Kasai in 1998/99 (14) had more than 11 podium finishes within a World Cup season representing Japan.
- Kobayashi (22 years old) could become the first jumper younger than 23 to win at least 10 individual events in a World Cup season since Schlierenzauer in 2008/09 (13).
- In the World Cup standings, Kobayashi (1092 points) has a lead of more than 400 points over second-placed Kamil Stoch (624). Funaki has the best result in the overall World Cup among Japanese ski jumpers. He finished second in 1997/98, 19 points behind Primož Peterka.

### Stoch hoping to win on home snow again

- Kamil Stoch is in second place in the World Cup standings, but has yet to claim his first individual win this season.
- Stoch has won 31 individual World Cup events, two short of equalling Jens Weißflog (33) in fifth place all-time for most individual World Cup wins.
- Stoch claimed the third place in both events in Val di Fiemme. He could now claim three successive individual World Cup podiums for the first time since December 2017-January 2018 (6 in a row).
- Stoch has claimed more individual World Cup wins (6) and podium finishes (9) than any other ski jumper in Poland.
- Stoch (4) is level with Adam Malysz (4) for second-most individual World Cup wins in Zakopane. Only Gregor Schlierenzauer (5) won more in the Polish city.
- Stoch has only claimed more podium finishes in individual World Cup events in Engelberg (8), than in Zakopane (5). His four victories are already most for him in a single ski resort.

- Last year in Zakopane, Stoch finished in 38th place. His worst finish since he did not qualify in Lahti on 21 February 2016 (normal hill).
- Stoch was born in Zakopane.

### **Kubacki looking for more success**

- Dawid Kubacki has claimed a podium spot in each of the last three individual World Cup events, including his first ever victory in the second event in Val de Fiemme.
- Kubacki could become the first man other than Kobayashi to win successive individual World Cup events, since Stoch won the last two events in 2017/18 in Planica.
- Kubacki could become the fifth man representing Poland to claim multiple individual World Cup victories, after Adam Malysz (39), Stoch (31), Piotr Fijas (3) and Maciej Kot (2).
- Kubacki's best individual result in Poland is a seventh place in Zakopane last season.

### **Other contenders**

- **Stefan Kraft** finished on the podium in three of the last four individual World Cup events, but has yet to claim his first victory since Planica (ski flying) on 26 March 2017.
- That Kraft victory in Planica 2017 was Austria's last victory. The country now has a winning drought of 35 individual World Cup events. Austria have had only one longer winless run in individual World Cup events: 45 successive jumps without a victory between February 2000 and January 2002.
- Since the start of the 2017/18 season, Kraft has claimed 12 podium finishes in individual World Cup events, without claiming a victory. Only Kamil Stoch (18) has claimed at least 12 podium finishes in this span, including nine victories.
- Next to Kraft, two Austrians have finished on the podium of an individual event since the start of last season: Michael Hayböck in Oslo on 11 March 2018 (third, large hill) and Daniel Huber in Engelberg on 15 December 2018 (third, large hill).
- **Piotr Zyla** (5) and Kamil Stoch are the only ski jumpers other than Ryoyu Kobayashi (11) to claim at least five podium finishes in individual events this World Cup season.
- Zyla has won one individual World Cup event in his career: the large hill event in Oslo on 17 March 2013.
- **Johann André Forfang** is the only Norwegian jumper to win an individual World Cup event this season as he won in Nizhny Tagil on 1 December 2018.
- The last time **Roman Koudelka** finished on the podium of an individual World Cup event was in Wisla (large hill) on 4 March 2016, when he won.
- **Timi Zajc** could become the first jumper born after 1 January 2000 to finish on the podium of an individual World Cup event.



- The last teenager to claim a podium finish in the World Cup was Zajc's compatriot Domen Prevc in the 2016/17 season.

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