

PREVIEW MEN'S INDIVIDUAL - SKI FLYING – Sunday 17 Mar 2019

Ryoyu Kobayashi

- After the events in Trondheim, Ryoyu Kobayashi, winner of the World Cup overall standings, is only 9.5 points behind leaders Stefan Kraft in the Raw Air tournament, with third-placed Robert Johansson trailing Kobayashi by another 15.2 points.
- Last year after the events in Trondheim, Kamil Stoch led the Raw Air standings with an 87.6 points cushion on number two ranked Johansson.
- Kobayashi (12) could become the third ski jumper to win at least 13 individual World Cup events in a single season, after Peter Prevc (15) in 2015/16 and Gregor Schlierenzauer (13) in 2008/09. Janne Ahonen won 12 events in 2004/05.
- Kobayashi (18) could become the third man to claim 19 individual WC podiums in a single season, after Prevc (22) in 2015/16 and Schlierenzauer (20) in 2008/09. Martin Schmitt had 18 podium finishes in 1998/99.
- Kobayashi could become the second Japanese winner in Vikersund, after Takanobu Okabe on 1 March 1998. Okabe led an all-Japanese podium in the second ski flying event that day as Hiroya Saito finished second and Noriaki Kasai third.
- Kobayashi can become the third Japanese ski jumper to win multiple individual World Cups in ski flying, after Kasai (3) and Okabe (3).

Stefan Kraft

- Stefan Kraft is leading the Raw Air standings after the events in Trondheim. He won the competition in 2017, the first year it was held, and he finished fourth in 2018.
- In 2017, Kraft had a lead of 5.3 points over then second-ranked Andreas Wellinger after the events in Trondheim (first seven events in the tournament).
- Kraft could win five individual World Cup events in one season for the second time, after winning eight in 2016/17.
- Kraft has won four individual ski flying events in the World Cup. The only Austrians to have claimed more victories are Gregor Schlierenzauer (14, overall record) and Andreas Goldberger (5).
- Kraft's best result in an individual ski flying event in Vikersund is a second place in 2016. He could become the fifth Austrian to win a World Cup in ski flying here, after Schlierenzauer (4), Goldberger (2), Andreas Felder (2) and Andreas Widhölzl (1).

Robert Johansson

- Robert Johansson is third in the Raw Air standings coming into the events in Vikersund. Last year, he finished in second place behind Kamil Stoch, after claiming a podium in eight of the 10 events.
- Both of Johansson's individual World Cup victories have come in Norway: in Vikersund (ski flying) on 18 March 2018 and in Oslo (large hill) on 10 March 2019.
- Johansson can become the second Norwegian to win three individual World Cup events in Norway, after Roar Ljøkelsøy (3).
- Johansson could become the first Norwegian to win multiple individual World Cup events in Vikersund.

Kamil Stoch

- Kamil Stoch (33) is level with Jens Weißflog in fifth place all-time for most individual World Cup event victories on the men's side. Janne Ahonen is in fourth place on 36 wins.
- Stoch has won three of the last five individual ski flying World Cup events, including the most recent in Oberstdorf on 3 February.
- Stoch has won five individual ski flying events in the World Cup. Adam Malysz (6) is the only man to have won more for Poland.
- Stoch won the individual ski flying World Cup event in Vikersund in March 2017.
- Last season, Stoch won the Raw Air competition. Stoch won seven of the 10 events included in the competition (qualification, individual events and individual jumps in team events). He is currently in sixth place after the events in Trondheim.

Other contenders

- The 2019 world champion in the men's large hill, **Markus Eisenbichler**, has claimed nine podium finishes in individual World Cup events, but has yet to claim his first victory. The only man to claim more individual World Cup podium finishes without winning is Olav Hansson (11).
- Eisenbichler has claimed three podium finishes in individual ski flying events, including a third and second place in Oberstdorf last February.
- Since the start of 2018, only one German ski jumper has won an individual World Cup event: Karl Geiger in Engelberg on 15 December 2018 and in Willingen on 16 February 2019.
- The last German ski jumper to win an individual ski flying World Cup event was Severin Freund in Vikersund on 15 February 2015.
- **Dawid Kubacki**, the 2019 world champion in the men's individual normal hill, won his first individual World Cup event in Val di Fiemme on 13 January 2019. He could become the fifth Polish man to claim multiple individual World Cup victories, after Adam Malysz (39), Kamil Stoch (33), Piotr Fijas (3) and Maciej Kot (2).

- Kubacki finished second and third in the individual ski flying World Cup events in Oberstdorf last February.
- **Evgeniy Klimov** won the first individual World Cup event this season, in Wisla on 18 November. Since then, he has recorded one more podium finish - a second place in the individual ski flying World Cup event in Oberstdorf on 3 February.
- Klimov could become the first Russian to win an individual ski flying World Cup event.

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