

## Preview Ski Jumping 2019/2020 Four Hills Tournament

### Ryoyu Kobayashi

- Ryoyu Kobayashi won the Four Hills Tournament in 2018/19, becoming the second Japanese jumper to win the tournament overall. Kazuyoshi Funaki won in 1997/98.
- Kobayashi won all four events in the 2018/19 Four Hills Tournament. Sven Hannawald (2001/02) and Kamil Stoch (2017/18) are the only other jumpers to have achieved this in a Four Hills Tournament.
- In Oberstdorf, Kobayashi could become the fourth jumper to win a record five successive Four Hills Tournament events, after Helmuth Recknagel (1958-1959), Hannawald (2001-2002) and Stoch (2017-2018).
- Kobayashi could become the first jumper to win more than five consecutive events in Four Hills Tournaments.
- Kobayashi (4) is one shy of equalling Funaki on a record five Four Hills Tournament event wins among Japanese jumpers.
- Kobayashi has been victorious in Klingenthal and Engelberg this season and wears the yellow bib as the leader in the World Cup standings.

### Kamil Stoch

- Kamil Stoch won the Four Hills Tournament in 2016/17 and 2017/18 and could become the fifth man to win the competition at least three times, after Janne Ahonen (5), Jens Weißflog (4), Björn Wirkola (3) and Helmuth Recknagel (3).
- Stoch has won five Four Hills events: Bischofshofen in 2016/17 and all four events in 2017/18. Among active jumpers, only Gregor Schlierenzauer has more (9).
- Stoch needs one more to equal Recknagel and Sven Hannawald in sixth-place all-time on six wins. Matti Nykänen (7) is in fifth place.
- Stoch, or one of his compatriots, could give Poland their fourth overall Four Hills victory, after Stoch's two victories and Adam Malysz's victory in 2000/01.
- Stoch won one individual World Cup event this season, in Engelberg on 21 December.

### Stefan Kraft

- Stefan Kraft was the last Austrian to win the Four Hills Tournament, back in 2014/15. He claimed the overall crown by winning the opening event in Oberstdorf, finishing sixth in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, second in Innsbruck and third in Bischofshofen.
- Kraft's overall win in 2014/15 was the last of seven successive Austria wins in the Four Hills Tournament. This is still the longest run of wins for a country in the tournament's history.

- Austria could win the Four Hills Tournament for a record 17th time. The country currently leads the way alongside Finland and Germany (11 for East Germany, 3 for Germany, 2 for West Germany) on 16.
- No Austrian reached the overall podium in the Four Hills Tournament since Michael Hayböck finished third in 2015/16. This three-season run is the country's longest podium drought since 1988-1990 (also 3). Their last longer run was four seasons in 1982-1985.
- Kraft has won two Four Hills events, in Oberstdorf in both 2014/15 and in 2016/17. He has nine podium finishes to his name in the tournament – two wins, two second and five third places.
- Kraft is currently in second place in the World Cup standings, behind Kobayashi. Kraft claimed a win (in Nizhny Tagil) and two second places (Klingenthal, Engelberg) this season.

### Noriaki Kasai

- For the first time since 1994/95, Noriaki Kasai will not feature in the Four Hills Tournament.
- On 30 December 1989, Kasai took part in his first ever Four Hills event. He finished 26th in Oberstdorf on his debut.
- Since his debut in 1989/90, Kasai only missed the Four Hills Tournament in 1991/92 and 1994/95.
- The 47-year-old has won three Four Hills events in the past, Garmisch-Partenkirchen on 1 January 1993, Innsbruck on 3 January 1999 and Garmisch-Partenkirchen on 1 January 2001. Many of today's top contenders, like Ryoyu Kobayashi, Stefan Kraft and Daniel-André Tande were not born yet when Kasai won his first ever Four Hills event.

### Other contenders

- **Peter Prevc** (winner in 2015/16) is looking for his second overall Four Hills victory. Currently, 12 men have won the Four Hills trophy twice.
- **Gregor Schlierenzauer** can win his third overall title. He would become the fifth man to achieve this, after Janne Ahonen (5), Jens Weißflog (4), Björn Wirkola (3) and Helmuth Recknagel (3).
- Schlierenzauer has won nine individual Four Hills events: three in Garmisch-Partenkirchen and two each in Oberstdorf, Innsbruck and Bischofshofen. Wirkola and Weißflog (10 each) are outright record holders in individual Four Hills events.
- **Karl Geiger** heads a German squad that hopes to deliver the first German winner of the Four Hills Tournament since Sven Hannawald in 2001/02. Germany's current winning drought of 18 seasons is the longest for the country (incl. East and West Germany).
- Germany's **Markus Eisenbichler** (second) and **Stephan Leyhe** (third) finished on the Four Hills podiums last season.



- **Daniel-André Tande** won the first two individual events this season, in Wisla and Ruka. He is the last Norwegian winner of an individual Four Hills events, when he won back-to-back in Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Innsbruck in 2017.
- The last Norwegian to win the Four Hills Tournament was Anders Jacobsen in 2006/07.

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