

## PREVIEW Men's GIANT SLALOM SÖLDEN – Sunday 18 Oct 2020

### Henrik Kristoffersen

- Last season, Henrik Kristoffersen became the fourth Norwegian to win the giant slalom crystal globe, after Ole Christian Furuseth (1988/89, 1989/90), Kjetil André Aamodt (1992/93) and Aksel Lund Svindal (2006/07).
- Marcel Hirscher had won each of the previous five crystal globes in the giant slalom. The last man other than Hirscher to win successive giant slalom globes was Ted Ligety in 2012/13 and 2013/14.
- Kristoffersen has won four giant slalom events in the World Cup: in Méribel (2015), Bansko (2019), Kranjska Gora (2019) and Alta Badia (2019). He also picked up the giant slalom world title in 2019.
- Kristoffersen could become the second Norwegian to win at least five giant slalom events in the World Cup, after Kjetil André Aamodt (6). He now shares second place with Aksel Lund Svindal (4) and Erik Håker (4).
- The only Norwegian man to win the Sölden giant slalom was Svindal on 28 October 2007.
- Kristoffersen's best result in the giant slalom in Sölden was a sixth place on 25 October 2015.

### Alexis Pinturault

- Alexis Pinturault finished on the podium in the giant slalom standings in each of the last eight seasons, but has yet to win the crystal globe in this event.
- Only Ingemar Stenmark (11) finished in the top-three of the men's giant slalom classification more often. The Swede won the giant slalom a record eight times.
- Pinturault can become the fourth Frenchman to win the giant slalom crystal globe, after Jean-Claude Killy (1966/67, 1967/68), Patrick Russel (1970/71) and Frederic Covili (2001/02).
- Pinturault (29) is one shy of becoming the 10th male skier to claim 30 World Cup wins (any discipline). Bode Miller (33) currently holds ninth place all-time.
- Pinturault has won 14 World Cup giant slalom events, equal to Benjamin Raich and Hermann Maier in sixth place all-time among men. Alberto Tomba (15) is in fifth place.
- Pinturault won the most recent giant slalom in the World Cup, in Hinterstoder on 2 March 2020. The last man to win successive World Cup giant slalom events was Pinturault himself when he won the last of the 2018/19 season (Soldeu) and the first of the 2019/20 season (Sölden).
- Pinturault won the last two giant slalom events held in Sölden, on 23 October 2016 and on 27 October 2019. The event was cancelled in both 2017/18 and 2018/19.
- Only Ted Ligety (4) and Hermann Maier (3) achieved three men's World Cup giant slalom wins in Sölden.

## Other contenders

- **Filip Zubcic** achieved all three of his World Cup podiums in giant slalom events in 2020. He won in Naeba (22 February) and finished second in both Adelboden (11 January) and Hinterstoder (2 March).
- Zubcic is one of only three skiers representing Croatia to win a World Cup event, alongside siblings Janica (30) and Ivica Kostelic (26).
- **Žan Kranjec** has won two career World Cup events, both in the giant slalom. He won in Saalbach-Hinterglemm on 19 December 2018 and in Adelboden on 11 January 2020.
- Kranjec could equal Jure Kosir's record for most World Cup wins among male skiers representing Slovenia (3).
- **Tommy Ford** won the Beaver Creek giant slalom on 8 December 2019, his first ever World Cup podium. He also finished third in the Naeba giant slalom on 22 February 2020.
- **Ted Ligety** has won 24 giant slalom events in the World Cup, but not since his victory in Sölden on 25 October 2015. Only Ingemar Stenmark (46) and Marcel Hirscher (31) have won more men's World Cup events in the giant slalom.
- Ligety (4) holds the record for most World Cup wins in Sölden, winning the giant slalom in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2015.
- **Marco Odermatt, Loic Meillard** or any other Swiss skier can become the first Swiss skier to win a men's giant slalom event in the World Cup since Carlo Janka in Kranjska Gora on 5 March 2011.
- Last season, **Austria** failed to win a single men's giant slalom event for the first time since the 1992/93 season. The last Austrian other than Marcel Hirscher to win a men's giant slalom in the World Cup was Philipp Schörghofer in Hinterstoder on 6 February 2011.

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