

PREVIEW MEN'S DOWNHILL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS – Sunday 14 Feb 2021

Beat Feuz

- Beat Feuz won the men's downhill world title in St. Moritz in 2017. He could join six men on a record two world titles in this event: Aksel Lund Svindal, Bernhard Russi, Jean-Claude Killy, Toni Sailer, Walter Prager and Zeno Colò.
- Feuz also claimed a bronze medal in the downhill at the world championships, in 2015. The record number of world championships medals won in this event is three, set by Svindal (G2-S1-B0), Russi (G2-S1-B0), David Zogg (G1-S2-B0), Émile Allais (G1-S2-B0) and Peter Müller (G1-S2-B0).
- If Feuz claims silver in this race, he will become the first man to complete the medal set of gold-silver-bronze in this event at the world championships.
- Feuz won the downhill crystal globe in each of the last three seasons. He also won Olympic bronze in the men's downhill in Pyeongchang in 2018.

Kjetil Jansrud

- Kjetil Jansrud is the reigning world champion in the men's downhill as he emerged victorious in Åre in 2019. The Norwegian can become the first man to successfully defend his downhill world title since Bernhard Russi in 1970-1972.
- Jansrud could join six men on a record two world titles in this event: Aksel Lund Svindal, Russi, Jean-Claude Killy, Toni Sailer, Walter Prager and Zeno Colò.
- In 2019, Jansrud became the oldest man to win the downhill world title at the age of 33 years and 165 days.
- Jansrud's last three downhill podiums at world level came at the Olympic Games in Pyeongchang in 2018 (2nd), at the world championships in Åre in 2019 (1st) and at the World Cup Finals in Soldeu in 2019 (2nd).

Dominik Paris

- Dominik Paris is hoping to become the second Italian man to win the downhill world title, after Zeno Colò who won in 1950 and at the Olympic Games in 1952 (also counted as a world title).
- Paris already collected a silver medal in this event at the world championships, in Schladming in 2013.
- Paris won the super-G world title in Åre in 2019. He can become the fifth man to complete the speed double at the world championships, after Pirmin Zurbriggen, Hermann Maier, Erik Guay and Bode Miller.
- Paris can become the first Italian man to win a world title on Italian snow. Three Italian men have achieved a world championship medal in Italy, all bronze: Kristian Ghedina (downhill) and Alberto Tomba (slalom) in Sestriere in 1997, and Giorgio Rocca (combination, slalom) in Bormio in 2005.
- Paris could join Gustav Thöni (5), Zeno Colò (3) and Tomba (2) as the only Italian men on multiple world titles.

Other contenders

- **Matthias Mayer** won Olympic gold in the men's downhill in Sochi in 2014. He can become the eighth man to win both the Olympic and world title in the men's downhill, and the third Austrian after Patrick Orlieb and Toni Sailer.
- **Max Franz** (bronze in 2017) and **Vincent Kriechmayr** (bronze in 2019) both finished on the downhill podium for Austria at the most recent two world championships.
- The last Austrian man to win the downhill world title was Michael Walchhofer in 2003.
- Kriechmayr won the men's super-G on Thursday 11 February, his first gold medal at the world championships. Only Herman Maier (1999) and Bode Miller (2005) won both men's speed events in the same year. Pirmin Zurbriggen and Erik Guay also won both world titles, but at separate world championships.
- Austria has won 16 world titles in the men's downhill, joint most for a country in a single event as Austria also won the men's slalom world title 16 times.
- The 40-year-old **Johan Clarey** already holds the record of oldest medallist, male or female, at the world championships as he grabbed silver in the men's super-G in 2019 at age 38y-29d. In the men's downhill, Patrik Järbyn is the oldest medallist as he finished third in 2007 at age 37y-301d.
- Clarey could break the record of oldest world champion in Alpine Skiing, set by Julien Lizeroux (37y-162d) in the team event in 2017. The oldest man to win the downhill world title is Kjetil Jansrud who won in 2019 at age 33y-165d.
- Clarey can become the first Frenchman to win a world championship medal in both the super-G and downhill.
- The last Frenchman to win the downhill world title was Jean-Claude Killy at the Olympic Games in 1968 (also counted as world title). Since 1968, only two Frenchmen claimed a world championship medal in this event: Luc Alphand (bronze) in 1996 and David Poisson (bronze) in 2013.
- **Romed Baumann** and **Andreas Sander** are hoping to claim Germany's first world championship medal in the men's downhill since 2001, when Florian Eckert collected bronze. The last German man to win the downhill world title was Hansjörg Tauscher in 1989 (for West Germany).
- Baumann claimed silver in the super-G on Thursday 11 February and can become the first German man to claim a medal in both speed events at the world championships.

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