

PREVIEW WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS – Thursday 18 Feb 2021

Marta Bassino

- Marta Bassino can become the second Italian world champion in the women's giant slalom, after Deborah Compagnoni who won in 1996 and 1997.
- Bassino won the parallel giant slalom on Tuesday 16 February. She became the fourth Italian woman to win an individual world title on Italian snow, after Paula Wiesinger in the downhill in Cortina d'Ampezzo in 1932, Compagnoni in the slalom and giant slalom in Sestriere in 1997, and Isolde Kostner in the super-G in Sestriere in 1997.
- Bassino can become the third Italian woman to claim multiple world titles, after Compagnoni (3) and Kostner (2). Only Compagnoni won multiple gold medals in the same year among Italian women: two in Sestriere in 1997.
- Bassino won four of the six women's giant slalom events this World Cup season.
- Bassino's best result in a giant slalom in a world championships is an 11th place in St. Moritz in 2017.

Mikaela Shiffrin

- In the Alpine combined earlier this week, Mikaela Shiffrin won her sixth gold medal at the world championships. Only Christel Cranz (12), Marielle Goitschel (7), Anja Pärson (7), Marcel Hirscher (7) and Toni Sailer (7) have claimed more gold medals at the world championships.
- Shiffrin is already the US skier, male or female, on most world titles (6) and on most world championship medals (9).
- Shiffrin has already won world titles in the slalom (4), super-G (1) and Alpine combined (1). She can join three woman on winning a gold medal in at least four different disciplines in the world championships: Goitschel (combination, giant slalom, downhill, slalom), Pärson (giant slalom, super-G, slalom, Alpine combined, downhill) and Tina Maze (giant slalom, super-G, downhill, Alpine combined).
- Shiffrin can become the fourth woman to win the giant slalom world title as the reigning Olympic champion in this event, after Deborah Compagnoni (1996, 1997), Vreni Schneider (1989) and Goitschel (1966).
- The only US women to have won the giant slalom world title are Mead-Lawrence (1952, at the Olympic Games) and Diann Roffe-Steinrotter (1985).
- Shiffrin claimed silver (2017) and bronze (2019) in the giant slalom at world championships. Only Pärson, Maze and Tessa Worley (all 3) collected at least three world championship medals in this event.

Tessa Worley

- Tessa Worley won the world title in the women's giant slalom in 2013 and 2017. She can become the first woman to win the giant slalom world title on three occasions. She now shares the record of two with Anja Pärson, Deborah Compagnoni, Vreni Schneider and Marielle Goitschel.
- Worley has collected three world championships medals in the women's giant slalom, a joint record alongside Pärson and Tina Maze. Apart from her two gold medals, she took bronze in 2011.
- Worley, 31 years and 137 days old on 18 February, can become the oldest world champion in the women's giant slalom. Only one woman was older than 30 when she became world champion in this event: Ossi Reichert (30y-33d) when she won the giant slalom at the 1956 Olympic Games.

Other contenders

- **Petra Vlhová** won the giant slalom at the last world championships, in 2019. She can become the fifth woman to successfully defend her giant slalom world title, after Anja Pärson (2003-2005), Deborah Compagnoni (1996-1997), Vreni Schneider (1987-1989) and Marielle Goitschel (1964-1966).
- **Federica Brignone** (silver in 2011) could join Compagnoni (2 gold) and Denise Karbon (1 silver, 1 bronze) on multiple world championship medals in this event among Italian women.
- Brignone can become the second Italian world champion in the women's giant slalom, after Deborah Compagnoni who won in 1996 and 1997.
- **Lara Gut-Behrami** won the super-G earlier these world championships. The last Swiss women to win multiple individual world titles at a single championships were Erika Hess and Maria Walliser (both 2 gold in 1987).
- Only three women won the super-G and giant slalom world title in the same year: Alexandra Meissnitzer (1999), Anja Pärson (2005) and Anna Veith (2015).
- Gut-Behrami has collected eight medals in total at the world championships (excluding team event on 17 February). Among Swiss skiers, only Pirmin Zurbriggen (9) has achieved more.
- **Michelle Gisin** can become the third Swiss woman to win individual gold at these world championships, after Lara Gut-Behrami (super-G) and Corinne Suter (downhill).
- Excluding team events, only twice a country had three different female world champions at a single world championships: Switzerland in 1987 (Hess, Walliser and Schneider) and Austria in 2011 (Elisabeth Görgl, Anna Veith and Marlies Schild).
- **Alice Robinson**, 19 years and 79 days old on 18 February, can become the youngest world champion in the women's giant slalom in 36 years, since Diann Roffe-Steinrotter's win in 1985 at age 17.

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