

PREVIEW MEN'S INDIVIDUAL NORMAL HILL OBERSTDORF – Saturday 27 Feb 2021

Halvor Egner Granerud

- Halvor Egner Granerud can become the first Norwegian man to win a ski jumping world title in the Nordic world championships since 2015, when Rune Velta won this event and Norway won the men's team event.
- In total four Norwegian men won the world title in the individual normal hill in the Nordic world championships. Beside Velta in 2015, Toralf Engan won in 1962, Björn Wirkola in 1966 and Anders Bardal in 2013.
- A fifth world title in the men's normal hill would put Norway on par with Austria (5) as the most successful nation in this event in the Nordic world championships.
- Granerud has never participated in the men's normal hill at Nordic world championships before. This century, only two men claimed a medal on their debut in a normal hill event at the Nordic world championships: Velta (gold in 2015) and Markus Eisenbichler (bronze in 2017).
- Granerud has won 11 individual World Cup events this season, at least eight more than any other man.

Dawid Kubacki

- Dawid Kubacki is the reigning world champion in the men's normal hill event.
- Kubacki can become the second ski jumper to successfully defend his title in this event at the Nordic world championships, after compatriot Adam Malysz (2001-2003).
- Kubacki could join Malysz (3) and Jens Weißflog (2) as the only ski jumpers to win multiple world titles in the men's normal hill event in the Nordic world championships.
- Only Austria (5) have won more world titles in this event in the Nordic world championships than Poland (4).
- Kubacki, 30 years and 352 days old on 27 February, can become the oldest ski jumper to win the normal hill world title. Currently, Anders Bardal holds this record as he was 30 years and 183 days old when he won the gold medal in 2013.

Other contenders

- **Stefan Kraft** (2017) is one of five men who won both individual men's events at a single edition of the Nordic world championships. The others are Björn Wirkola (1966), Gari Napalkov (1970), Hans-Georg Aschenbach (1974) and Adam Malysz (2003).
- Kraft could join Malysz (3) and Jens Weißflog (2) as the only ski jumpers to win multiple world titles in the men's normal hill event at the Nordic world championships.

- Besides his world title in this event in 2017, Kraft also claimed a bronze medal on the normal hill in 2015 and 2019. Only Malysz (4, G3-S0-B1) has won at least four medals in the men's normal hill at the Nordic world championships.
- **Ryoyu Kobayashi** could become the fourth Japanese ski jumper to win the men's normal hill at the Nordic world championships, after Masahiko Harada (1993), Takanobu Okabe (1995) and Kazuyoshi Funaki (1999).
- The last Japanese ski jumper to win a medal in this event at the Nordic world championships was Noriaki Kasai. He finished third in Val di Fiemme in 2003.
- **Kamil Stoch** (33) and **Piotr Zyla** (34) are among the ski jumpers who could become the oldest winners on the normal hill at Nordic world championships. Currently, Anders Bardal holds this record as he was 30 years old when he won the gold medal in 2013.
- Stoch and Zyla are hoping to become the third Polish man to win the normal hill world title, after Malysz (2001, 2003 and 2007) and Dawid Kubacki (2019).
- Stoch could become the fourth ski jumper in this century to win the Four Hills Tournament and the normal hill world title in the same calendar year, after Malysz in 2001, Wolfgang Loitzl in 2009 and Thomas Morgenstern in 2011.
- **Markus Eisenbichler** and **Karl Geiger** could become the first ski jumper representing a German nation to win the world title in this event since Jens Weißflog proved victorious in 1989 while representing East Germany.
- **Anze Lanisek** can become the third Slovenian to claim a medal in this event at the Nordic world championships, after Rok Benkovic (gold in 2005) and Peter Prevc (bronze in 2013).
- **Robert Johansson**, **Daniel-Andre Tande** and **Marius Lindvik** can become the fifth Norwegian man to win the world title in this event at the Nordic world championships, after Toralf Engan (1962), Björn Wirkola (1966), Anders Bardal (2013) and Rune Velta (2015).

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