

PREVIEW MEN'S INDIVIDUAL - SKI FLYING – Thursday 25 Mar 2021

Halvor Egner Granerud

- Halvor Egner Granerud has already secured victory in the the overall World Cup standings. He could return to competition after testing positive for Covid-19 during the world championships in Oberstdorf in February-March.
- Granerud is the fourth Norwegian to win the men's overall World Cup, after Vegard Opaas (1986/87), Espen Bredesen (1993/94) and Anders Bardal (2011/12).
- Granerud has won 11 individual World Cup events this season, at least eight more than any other man.
- Granerud can become the fifth man to claim at least 12 individual victories in a World Cup season, after Peter Prevc (15, 2015/16), Ryoyu Kobayashi (13, 2018/19), Gregor Schlierenzauer (13 in 2008/09) and Janne Ahonen (12, 2004/05).
- By winning the individual World Cup event in Zakopane on 14 February, Granerud equalled Roar Ljøkelsøy (both 11) on most individual World Cup wins among Norwegian men.
- Granerud has yet to win his first individual World Cup event in ski flying. His best individual World Cup result in ski flying is an eight place in Oberstdorf on 1 February 2019.
- The two Norwegian men to have won ski flying World Cups in Planica are Bjørn Einar Romøren (2, March 2005 and March 2006) and Ole Gunnar Fidjestøl (March 1987).
- Granerud finished second at the individual ski flying world championships in Planica on 12 december 2020, behind Karl Geiger.

Stefan Kraft

- Stefan Kraft won the men's individual large hill event at the world championships in Oberstdorf on 5 March. It was his third individual world title.
- Kraft also won the most recent individual World Cup event in ski flying, in Tauplitz/Bad Mitterndorf on 16 February 2020.
- Kraft can become the first man to win successive individual World Cup events in ski flying since Kamil Stoch emerged victorious twice in Planica in March 2018.
- Kraft has won 21 individual World Cup events, including five in ski flying. Gregor Schlierenzauer (14), Peter Prevc (7), Adam Malysz (6), Matti Nykänen (6) and Robert Kranjec (6) are the men to have won more World Cup events in ski flying.
- Kraft won two individual ski flying World Cups in Planica, both in March 2017. He can become the sixth ski jumper to win at least three ski flying World Cup events here. Schlierenzauer leads the list on five victories.

Ryoyu Kobayashi

- Ryoyu Kobayashi won two of the last three individual World Cup events, in Zakopane (13 February) and Râsnov (19 February).
- Kobayashi (18) surpassed Noriaki Kasai (17) on most individual World Cup wins among Japanese men.
- Kobayashi won the most recent individual ski flying World Cup event in Planica on 24 March 2019.
- Kobayashi has won two individual ski flying World Cups. He needs one more to equal Kasai (3) and Takanobu Okabe (3) on most wins among Japanese men.

Other contenders

- **Markus Eisenbichler** won the individual ski flying World Cup event in Planica on 22 March 2019. He finished third in the second event two days later.
- Eisenbichler claimed individual seven podium finishes this World Cup season. He needs one more top-three finish to improve his seven podium finishes in 2018/19.
- **Kamil Stoch** has won 39 individual World Cup events, joint-third most all-time among men alongside compatriot Adam Malysz (39). Only Gregor Schlierenzauer (53) and Matti Nykänen (46) have won more individual men's World Cup events.
- Stoch has won 46 total World Cup events (including team events), which ranks him in joint-second place all-time among men alongside Janne Ahonen (46) and Nykänen (46). Only Schlierenzauer (70) has won more men's World Cup events.
- Stoch has won five individual ski flying World Cups. He needs one more to equal Malysz (6) on most wins among Polish men.
- **Robert Johansson** targets his second win in an individual ski flying World Cup, after he triumphed in Vikersund on 18 March 2018.
- **Karl Geiger** won the ski flying world title in Planica on 12 December 2020, ahead of Halvor Egner Granerud (2nd) and Eisenbichler (3rd).
- Geiger has won seven individual World Cup events, one short of Richard Freitag (8) in sixth place all-time among German ski jumpers (includes East and West Germany).
- **Piotr Zyla** (5) has recorded the most individual podium finishes this World Cup season without winning an event.
- Zyla won the individual ski flying World Cup event in Tauplitz/Bad Mitterndorf on 15 February 2020. He claimed his two other podium finishes in individual ski flying World Cup events, both in Planica (3rd in 2013 and in 2019).
- **Anže Lanišek** (4) and **Bor Pavlovčič** (2) both finished on individual World Cup podiums this season, but have yet to win. Slovenian men have claimed at least one individual victory in each of the previous nine World Cup seasons (since 2011/12).



- Only Gregor Schlierenzauer (14) has won more individual ski flying World cup events than **Peter Prvec** (7).
- **Slovenia** has won seven individual ski flying World Cups on home snow in Planica, but not since Prevc won here on 20 March 2016. Only **Austrian** ski jumpers have won here more often (9).

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