

## PREVIEW WOMEN'S SPRINT CLASSIC STYLE RUKA – Friday 26 Nov 2021

### Anamarija Lampic

- Anamarija Lampic won last season's sprint World Cup, despite not winning a single World Cup sprint event.
- Lampic claimed four World Cup individual sprint podiums last season, three times runner-up and one third place. She also won bronze in the women's sprint classic style at the 2021 World Championships.
- Lampic's last World Cup win in an individual sprint event came in Val di Fiemme in the Tour de Ski on 4 January 2020 (classic style).
- Lampic has claimed nine World Cup individual sprint podiums. Her first three of these podiums were victories, followed by five second places and one third place.

### Swedes

- Swedish skiers won two of the last three women's sprint World Cups: Stina Nilsson in 2018/19 and Linn Svahn in 2019/20.
- Svahn claimed four sprint victories in the 2020/21 World Cup, but will miss the start of this season following a shoulder surgery.
- Svahn won four of the last five World Cup sprint events held in the classic style, including each of the last three. The most recent woman to claim four successive World Cup wins in the sprint classic was Justyna Kowalczyk from February to December 2013 (5 in a row).
- **Maja Dahlqvist** won the most recent individual sprint event held in the World Cup, in the freestyle in Ulricehamn on 6 February. It marked her first individual World Cup victory, after six second places and five third places.
- Jonna Sundling won the sprint classic style at the 2021 World Championships, but will miss the season opener in Ruka due to injury.
- In the sprint opener in Ruka last season, Svahn won the event ahead of compatriots Dahlqvist (2nd) and Sundling (3rd).

### Other contenders

- **Maiken Caspersen Falla** won the sprint World Cup on three occasions, from 2015/16 to 2017/18. Only Bente Skari and Marit Bjørgen (both 5) won the women's sprint World Cup more than three times,
- Falla's only result in the 2020/21 World Cup was a 13th place in the sprint classic in Falun on 31 January. She won the silver medal in the sprint classic at the 2021 World Championships.
- Falla has achieved 21 World Cup wins in individual sprint events, ranking her in second place on the all-time women's list behind Bjørgen (40).
- **Rosie Brennan** (Davos) and **Nadine Fähndrich** (Dresden) both claimed an individual sprint win in last season's World Cup, but both victories came in the freestyle.

- Brennan could join Sophie Caldwell Hamilton as the only non-European woman to achieve a World Cup sprint win in both the freestyle and classic style.
- Fähndrich (1 in freestyle) and **Laurien van der Graaff** (2 in freestyle) could claim Switzerland's first World Cup win in a sprint classic style.
- **Natalia Nepryaeva** has claimed six individual career podium finishes in World Cup sprint events. Her sole win was in the sprint classic in Oberstdorf on 26 January 2020.
- Nepryaeva reached the final in six of her last eight appearances in World Cup sprint events in the classic style. In that run, she only failed to reach the final in Ruka on 29 November 2019 (7th) and in Ruka on 27 November 2020 (9th).

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