

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

Johannes Høsflot Klæbo

- Johannes Høsflot Klæbo has won the sprint World Cup a record four times among male skiers, from 2016/17 to 2019/20. The only women to have won this World Cup more often are Bente Skari (5) and Marit Bjørgen (5).
- Klæbo has won a men's record 25 World Cup sprint events, at least nine more than any other male skier (16 by Emil Jönsson and Federico Pellegrino).
- Klæbo has equalled Jens Arne Svartedal on a men's record 11 World Cup victories in the sprint classic style.
- Klæbo claimed victory in 17 of the last 18 individual World Cup sprint events he participated in, with a second place in last season's sprint event in Ruka as the exception.
- Only Pellegrino (33) and Ola Vigen Hattestad (32) have claimed as many World Cup podiums in men's sprint events as Klæbo (32).
- Klæbo has collected 42 World Cup victories in all events, ranking him in fourth place all-time on the men's list behind Petter Northug (47), Bjørn Dæhlie (46) and Martin Johnsrud Sundby (44).

Federico Pellegrino

- Federico Pellegrino won the sprint World Cup last season, his second win in this discipline after 2015/16.
- Pellegrino can become the fourth male skier to win the sprint World Cup more than twice, after Johannes Høsflot Klæbo (4), Emil Jönsson (3) and Ola Vigen Hattestad (3).
- Pellegrino has won 16 World Cup sprint events, equal to Jönsson (16) in second place all-time on the men's list. Only Klæbo (25) has claimed more sprint victories in the World Cup.
- Of Pellegrino's 16 World Cup sprint wins, only one came in the classic style: in Canmore in the Ski Tour Canada on 8 March 2016.
- Since that win in Canmore on 8 March 2016, Pellegrino failed to reach the podium in each of his 18 World Cup appearances in the sprint classic style.

Other contenders

- Last season's overall World Cup winner **Alexander Bolshunov** has won one World Cup sprint event, in the classic style in Ruka on 24 November 2018.
- Of Bolshunov's 10 podium finishes in World Cup sprint events, seven came in the classic style. His most recent top-three finish in a sprint event was a third place in a sprint classic in Val di Fiemme (Tour de Ski) on 9 January 2021.
- **Oskar Svendsen** won two of the last three World Cup sprint events, in Val di Fiemme (classic) on 9 January and in Ulricehamn (freestyle) on 6 February. He finished second in the sprint event in-between those wins, in Falun (classic) on 31 January 2021.



- **Erik Valnes** won last season's sprint opener in Ruka, to date his only individual World Cup win. The most recent man to win the Ruka sprint in successive seasons was Eirik Brandsdal (2013/14-2014/15).
- Valnes (2020), Bolshunov (2018) and **Pål Golberg** (2016) can join Brandsdal, Johannes Høsflot Klæbo and Ola Vigen Hattestad (all 2) on multiple sprint wins in Ruka.

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