

## Preview 2021/2022 World Cup - Men

### Alexander Bolshunov

- Alexander Bolshunov won the overall World Cup in each of the past two seasons. He could become the third man to win the overall in three successive seasons, after Gunde Svan (1983/84-1985/86) and Bjørn Dæhlie (1994/95-1996/97).
- The four male skiers to have won the overall World Cup at least three times are Dæhlie (6), Svan (5), Dario Cologna (4) and Martin Johnsrud Sundby (3).
- Bolshunov won the distance World Cup classification in the last three seasons. He could equal Cologna on a record four men's distance crystal globes.
- In only two of the last five seasons in which the Olympic Winter Games were held, the winner of the overall World Cup that season also picked up an Olympic gold medal in that same campaign: Petter Northug in 2010 and Johannes Høsflot Klæbo in 2018.
- Bolshunov has won 27 individual World Cup events. There are six men to have won more individual World Cup events: Dæhlie (46), Klæbo (40), Northug (38), Svan (30), Vladimir Smirnov (30) and Sundby (30).

### Johannes Høsflot Klæbo

- Johannes Høsflot Klæbo won the overall World Cup in 2017/18 and 2018/19. He can join Bjørn Dæhlie (6), Gunde Svan (5), Dario Cologna (4) and Martin Johnsrud Sundby (3) as men to win the overall World Cup at least three times in total.
- Klæbo won the men's sprint World Cup classification a record four times, from 2016/17 to 2019/20. On the women's side, only Marit Bjørgen (5) and Bente Skari (5) won the sprint World Cup more than four times.
- Klæbo has won 40 individual World Cup events, ranking him in second place on the all-time men's list behind Dæhlie (46).

### Other contenders

- **Russia** had six men in the top-10 of the 2020/21 overall World Cup standings.
- **Ivan Yakimushkin** finished second in the overall and distance World Cup standings in 2020/21. Alexander Bolshunov (overall and distance) and Alexander Legkov (distance) are the only men representing Russia to have won these World Cup crystal globes.
- Yakimushkin has yet to claim his first win in an individual World Cup event.
- **Federico Pellegrino** was fourth in the 2021/21 overall World Cup. He hopes to become the first Italian man to win the overall crystal globe.
- Pellegrino won the sprint World Cup classification twice, in 2015/16 and 2021/21. Only Johannes Høsflot Klæbo (4), Emil Jönsson (3) and Ola Vigen Hattestad (3) won the men's sprint trophy at least three times.
- All of Pellegrino's 16 individual World Cup wins were in sprint events - 15 in the freestyle and one in the classic style.



- **Maurice Manificat** has won 10 individual World Cup events, joint-most with Vincent Vittoz (10) among French male cross-country skiers.
- **Oskar Svansson** could become the first Swedish winner of the sprint World Cup since Emil Jönsson (2012/13).
- **Gus Schumacher** hopes to become the fourth USA man to win an individual World Cup event, after Bill Koch (5, 1982-1983), Noah Hoffman (1, December 2013) and Simeon Hamilton (1, December 2013).

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