

## PREVIEW MEN'S SPRINT FREESTYLE DRESDEN – Saturday 18 Dec 2021

### Federico Pellegrino

- Federico Pellegrino is level with Emil Jönsson (both 16) in the men's list for most individual World Cup wins in the sprint, behind Johannes Høsflot Klæbo (27).
- Only Klæbo (35) has claimed more World Cup podiums in individual men's sprint events than Pellegrino (33). The Italian's 31 World Cup sprint podiums in the freestyle are at least 11 more than any other man (20 by Tor Arne Hetland).
- Pellegrino (15) is one short of equalling Klæbo on a record 16 individual World Cup wins in the men's sprint freestyle.
- Pellegrino won two of the previous four individual World Cup sprint events held in Dresden, in 2017/18 and in 2020/21.
- Pellegrino finished respectively 29th (Ruka), 16th (Lillehammer) and 13th (Davos) in the three individual sprint events held this season.

### Richard Jouve

- Richard Jouve (11) currently holds the men's record for most individual World Cup sprint podiums without ever winning. Of those 11 podiums, nine came in the freestyle.
- Jouve finished in the top-four in each of the last four individual sprint events held in the World Cup: fourth places in Ulricehamn and Ruka, and third places in Lillehammer and Davos.
- Jouve could claim France's fourth World Cup win in an individual men's sprint event. Baptiste Gros won in Quebec in the Ski Tour on 4 March 2016, while **Lucas Chanavat** achieved the wins in Planica on 21 December 2019 and in Dresden on 11 January 2020.

### Other contenders

- Johannes Høsflot Klæbo, leader in the men's sprint standings, won the two most recent sprint events in the World Cup, but will not participate in the races in Dresden.
- Since the start of the 2016/17 season, **Sindre Bjørnestad Skar** is the only Norwegian man other than Klæbo to claim an individual World Cup win in the sprint freestyle. Skar won in Toblach on 14 January 2017 and in Dresden on 12 January 2019.
- **Alexander Terentev** won the opening individual World Cup sprint event of the season, in the classic style in Ruka. Besides that victory, Terentev's best result in an individual World Cup event was a seventh place in Davos last weekend.

- **Sergey Ustiugov** finished second behind Klæbo in the most recent sprint event, in Davos on 11 December. It was the Russian's first World Cup sprint podium since a second place in Val di Fiemme in the Tour de Ski on 4 January 2020.
- All five of Ustiugov's individual sprint victories in the World Cup came in the freestyle, most recently in Lenzerheide in the Tour de Ski on 30 December 2017.
- **JC Schoonmaker** can become the first man representing United States to record a podium finish in an individual World Cup sprint event since 14 January 2017, when Simeon Hamilton finished second in the sprint freestyle event in Toblach.
- **Germany's** most recent individual World Cup podium in a men's sprint event was a third place by Josef Wenzl in Toblach on 2 February 2014.

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