

PREVIEW WOMEN'S SPRINT FREESTYLE DRESDEN – Saturday 18 Dec 2021

Maja Dahlqvist

- Maja Dahlqvist won each of the last four individual women's sprint events held in the World Cup, including all three this season.
- The Swede became the third woman to win the opening three World Cup sprint events of a season, after Marit Bjørgen (2004/05) and Petra Majdic (2008/09). Bjørgen also won the fourth sprint event of the season.
- **Dahlqvist can become the second woman to win five successive individual sprint events in the World Cup, after Bjørgen who won 11 in a row from December 2003 to January 2005.**
- Each of the last seven individual women's sprint events in the World Cup (all in 2021) have been won by cross-country skiers representing **Sweden**: three by Linn Svahn and four by Dahlqvist. The only country to win eight successive women's World Cup sprint events is Norway: 11 from December 2003 to January 2005 (all by Bjørgen) and eight from March 2014 to January 2015.
- Sweden can become the second country to achieve more than seven individual World Cup sprint wins in a single calendar year, after Norway (9 in 2004, 8 in 2016).
- Dahlqvist can become the first woman to claim more than four individual World Cup sprint victories in a single calendar year since compatriot Stina Nilsson (6 in 2017).
- Of the previous four individual women's World Cup sprint events held in Dresden, three were won by Swedish skiers: Hanna Falk (2017/18), Nilsson (2018/19) and Svahn (2019/20). Nadine Fähndrich won the Dresden sprint in the 2020/21 World Cup.

Nadine Fähndrich

- Nadine Fähndrich is ranked second in the women's sprint standings. She finished second in the most recent sprint event, on home snow in Davos on 11 December.
- Fähndrich is the most recent non-Swedish woman to win an individual World Cup sprint event. The Swiss won last season's sprint freestyle held in Dresden on 19 December 2020, to date her only individual World Cup win.
- Fähndrich reached the final in six of the last eight individual sprint freestyle events held in the World Cup. The only exceptions were a 12th place in Ulricehamn on 6 February and a seventh place in Lillehammer on 3 December.
- Fähndrich (4) and **Laurien van der Graaff** (5) have collected all nine of Switzerland's individual World Cup podiums in women's sprint events. Of those nine podiums, eight came in the freestyle (including all three wins) and one in the classic style.

Other contenders

- **Anamarija Lampic**, ranked third in the sprint standings, has claimed 10 individual World Cup sprint podiums. Her first three of these podiums were victories, followed by five second places and two third places.
- Lampic finished on the podium in the last two individual sprint events held in Dresden: second on 11 January 2020 and third on 10 December 2020.
- **Jessica Diggins** (Cogne 2018/19) and **Rosie Brennan** (Davos 2020/21) are both looking for their second individual World Cup sprint win. The only women representing United States to have already collected multiple individual sprint victories in the World Cup are Kikkan Randall (12) and recently retired Sophie Caldwell Hamilton (2).
- **Tiril Udnes Weng** (3rd in Lillehammer) and **Maiken Caspersen Falla** (3rd in Ruka) both finished on a World Cup sprint podium this season. Norway's most recent individual World Cup sprint victory was achieved by Falla in Trondheim in the Tour de Ski on 22 February 2020.
- Norway's most recent individual World Cup win in a sprint freestyle event was Therese Johaug's win in an uphill event in Åre in the Ski Tour on 18 February 2020.
- **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.
- **Germany's** most recent individual World Cup podium in a women's sprint event was a second place by Sandra Ringwald in Cogne on 16 February 2019.

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