

PREVIEW WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS MEN'S INDIVIDUAL SKI FLYING – 11-12 Mar 2022

Karl Geiger

- Karl Geiger won the previous individual world title in ski flying in 2020 and can join Walter Steiner (1972, 1977), Sven Hannawald (2000, 2002) and Roar Ljøkelsøy (2004, 2006) as the only men to have won the world title two times.
- Of those three men, Steiner and Hannawald won one of their championships in Vikersund: Steiner in 1977 and Hannawald in 2000.
- Geiger won the last two individual ski flying events in the World Cup, in Planica on 26 and 28 March 2021.

Ryoyu Kobayashi

- Ryoyu Kobayashi can become the third Japanese man to win the ski flying world title, after Noriaki Kasai in 1992 (Harrachov) and Kazuyoshi Funaki in 1998 (Oberstdorf).
- Kobayashi could join five men to have won individual Olympic gold, individual world titles (ski jumping/ski flying), the overall World Cup and the Four Hills tournament: Matti Nykänen, Jens Weißflog, Espen Bredesen, Thomas Morgenstern and Kamil Stoch.
- Kobayashi has won individual Olympic gold (normal hill 2022), the overall World Cup (2019), the ski flying World Cup (2019), the Four Hills tournament (2019, 2022), including all four hills in 2019, the Raw Air competition (2019), the Willingen 5/6 event (2019) and the Planica 7 event (2019), but he has yet to claim his first world title in ski jumping or ski flying.

Other contenders

- **Stefan Kraft** has won three individual world titles in the normal hill and large hill events in ski jumping, but he has yet to win his first world title in individual ski flying. He took bronze in ski flying in 2016.
- Kraft could become the second man to win individual world titles in ski flying and in the normal hill and large hill events in ski jumping, after Hans-Georg Aschenbach (ski flying 1973 - normal hill 1974, 1976 - large hill 1974).
- Kraft holds the world record for longest jump - 253.5 metres, set at the Vikersundbakken on 18 March 2017.
- Austrian men have won four world titles in individual ski flying, but not since Gregor Schlierenzauer in 2008.
- **Daniel-André Tande** won the world title in individual ski flying in Oberstdorf in 2018. He could join Walter Steiner (1972, 1977), Sven Hannawald (2000, 2002) and Roar Ljøkelsøy (2004, 2006) as the only men to have won the world title two times.

- Of those three men, Steiner and Hannawald won one of their championships in Vikersund: Steiner in 1977 and Hannawald in 2000.
- No Norwegian has won the individual ski flying world title on home snow. In 2012, Rune Velta came closest by finishing second in Vikersund, behind Robert Kranjec.
- **Markus Eisenbichler** finished third in the individual ski flying world championship event in 2020. Germany (including East and West) has won the individual world title a record seven times (Austria, Norway next on 4).
- **Anže Lanišek** hopes to become the third man to win the individual world title in ski flying for Slovenia, after Robert Kranjec in 2012 (Vikersund) and Peter Prevc in 2016 (Tauplitz/Bad Mitterndorf).

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