

## PREVIEW MEN'S DOWNHILL COURCHEVEL – Wednesday 16 Mar 2022

### Downhill crystal globe

- The four male skiers still in the race for this season's downhill crystal globe are Aleksander Aamodt Kilde (570 points), Beat Feuz (547), Matthias Mayer (486) and Dominik Paris (482).
- Kilde could become the fourth Norwegian man to win the downhill crystal globe, after Lasse Kjus (1998/99), Aksel Lund Svindal (2012/13, 2013/14) and Kjetil Jansrud (2014/15).
- Kilde has already secured this season's super-G crystal globe. He could become the ninth man to win both speed globes in a single season, and the first since Jansrud (2014/15).
- Feuz is eyeing his fifth successive downhill crystal globe. The only other man to collect five downhill globes is Franz Klammer, but the Austrian did not achieve this in successive seasons (1974/75 to 1977/78 and in 1982/83).
- Mayer is hoping to become the first Austrian winner of the men's downhill crystal globe since Klaus Kröll (2011/12). Austrian skiers have won the downhill globe a record 23 times in the men's World Cup (21 by Switzerland).
- Paris could join Peter Fill (2015/16, 2016/17) as only Italian winners of the men's downhill crystal globe. Paris, winner of the 2018/19 super-G crystal globe, can become the first Italian skier, male or female, to win both speed globes.

### Aleksander Aamodt Kilde

- Aleksander Aamodt Kilde (3) is the only man to record more than two World Cup downhill wins this season, claiming the win in Beaver Creek, Wengen and Kitzbühel.
- The most recent man to win more than three World Cup downhill wins in a season was Dominik Paris (4 in 2018/19).
- Kilde claimed seven World Cup wins in total this season, equal to the Norwegian record by Kjetil Jansrud (7 in 2014/15) and Aksel Lund Svindal (7 in 2015/16).
- Kilde can become the fourth Norwegian man to claim a World Cup downhill win on French snow, after Kjetil André Aamodt (1994 Chamonix), Lasse Kjus (1998 Val d'Isère) and Jansrud (2015 Méribel, 2016 Val d'Isère).

### Dominik Paris

- Dominik Paris (2) is one of two men to have collected multiple World Cup downhill victories this season, alongside Aleksander Aamodt Kilde (3). The Italian won the race in Bormio and the most recent downhill, in Kvitfjell.
- Paris (17) is one shy of equalling Stephan Eberharter (18) in third place on the men's list for most World Cup downhill wins. Franz Klammer (25) and Peter Müller (19) are in first and second place.

- The last time Paris won back-to-back downhill events in the World Cup was in December 2019, when he claimed a double win in Bormio.
- Paris won two of the last three downhill events contested at the World Cup Finals, in Aspen in 2017 and in Soldeu in 2019.

### Other contenders

- **Marco Odermatt** could officially collect the overall crystal globe in this race. He would be the fifth Swiss man to win the overall, after Peter Lüscher (1978/79), Pirmin Zurbriggen (1983/84, 1986/87, 1987/88, 1989/90), Paul Accola (1991/92) and Carlo Janka (2009/10).
- Odermatt can become the first man to record World Cup wins in the giant slalom, super-G and downhill in a single season since Didier Cuche (2009/10).
- **Beat Feuz** (13) is one shy of equalling Michael Walchhofer and Aksel Lund Svindal (both 14) in seventh place on the men's list for most World Cup downhill wins.
- Feuz (46) holds the men's record for most World Cup downhill podium finishes. The Swiss only collected more World Cup downhill podiums in 2017/18 (7) and 2019/20 (7) than in current seasons (6).
- **Matthias Mayer** collected two downhill victories at the World Cup Finals, in Lenzerheide in 2014 (first career World Cup win) and in Åre in 2018 (shared win with **Vincent Kriechmayr**).
- **Johan Clarey**, silver medallist in this event at the Beijing Winter Games, has collected eight World Cup podiums in the downhill, but failed to win one. Only Heinrich Messner (10) and Mario Scheiber (8) have claimed as many World Cup downhill podiums without ever winning.
- Clarey (41 years) could break the record for oldest man to win a World Cup event, set by Didier Cuche (37y-192d) in the Crans-Montana super-G on 24 February 2012.
- **France's** last World Cup downhill victory was achieved by Adrien Théaux in Santa Caterina on 29 December 2015.
- The most recent Frenchman to win a World Cup downhill event in France was Pierre-Emmanuel Dalcin in Val d'Isère on 20 January 2007.
- **Bryce Bennett**, winner of the Val Gardena downhill on 18 December, could become the first male skier representing United States to claim multiple wins in this discipline in a single World Cup season since Bode Miller (3 in 2007/08).
- **Niels Hintermann** and **Cameron Alexander** shared the win in the Kvitfjell downhill on 4 March. Hintermann can become the first Swiss man other than Beat Feuz to claim multiple World Cup downhill wins in a season since Didier Cuche (3 in 2011/12). Alexander can become the second Canadian man in the last 39 seasons to achieve multiple World Cup downhill victories, after Erik Guay (2 in 2013/14).

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