

PREVIEW Men's DOWNHILL – Saturday 1 Dec 2018

Svindal set for third successive win in Beaver Creek

- Aksel Lund Svindal has won a record four World Cup downhill races in Beaver Creek, including the last two.
- Didier Cuche holds the men's record for most World Cup downhill wins in a single ski resort: five in Kitzbühel.
- Svindal has also claimed a record six World Cup downhill podiums in Beaver Creek. Four men have claimed more in a single ski resort: Peter Müller (9 in Val Gardena), Cuche (7 in Kitzbühel), Kristian Ghedina (7 in Val Gardena) and Michael Walchhofer (7 in Bormio).
- Svindal can become the first man to win three successive World Cup downhill events in Beaver Creek.
- Svindal has won 14 downhill races in the World Cup, one shy of equalling Franz Heinzer (15) and Hermann Maier (15) in fourth place all-time among men.
- Svindal has finished on the podium in eight of his last 12 downhill appearances in the World Cup. The exceptions are two fourth places and two eighth places.

Austria hoping to continue winning streak

- The last two World Cup downhill races were won by Austrian skiers: Matthias Mayer and Vincent Kriechmayr shared the win Åre and Max Franz won in Lake Louise.
- For **Franz**, it was his second win in the downhill after winning in Val Gardena in 2016.
- The last Austrian man to win back-to-back World Cup races in the downhill was Hannes Reichelt in February to March 2015 (Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Kvitfjell).
- February-March 2015 was also the last time Austria won three successive downhill races in the World Cup. Matthias Mayer won in Saalbach-Hinterglemm ahead of Reichelt's back-to-back wins.
- The last World Cup season in which Austria won the opening two downhill events was 2002/03, when Stephan Eberharter won in Lake Louise and Beaver Creek.
- **Reichelt** will be 38 years and 149 days old on the day of the race. The oldest man to claim a downhill podium in the World Cup is Marco Büchel who finished third in Wengen in 2010 at 38 years and 73 days.
- The oldest man to win a World Cup downhill race is Didier Cuche who was 37 years and 165 days old when he won in Garmisch-Partenkirchen in 2012.
- Reichelt is the last Austrian to reach the podium in a World Cup downhill race in Beaver Creek as he finished second in 2013. The last Austrian to win the downhill in the US ski resort was Michael Walchhofer in 2007.

Other contenders

- **Beat Feuz** was the only man to win three downhill races in last World Cup season. He won in Lake Louise, Wengen and Garmisch-Partenkirchen.
- In 2015, Feuz claimed the bronze medal in the downhill at the World Championships in Beaver Creek.
- Feuz finished second in the World Cup downhill race in Beaver Creek in 2011, 2014 and 2017. No man has recorded more World Cup downhill podiums without winning in Beaver Creek.
- **Kjetil Jansrud** failed to win a World Cup downhill race last season. He had won at least one every season from 2013/14 to 2016/17.
- Jansrud has won eight downhill races in the World Cup, third-most among Norwegian men behind Aksel Lund Svindal (12) and Lasse Kjus (10).
- **Christof Innerhofer** (2nd) and **Dominik Paris** (3rd) both finished on the downhill podium in Lake Louise last week.
- Innerhofer has won four World Cup downhill races: Bormio in 2008, Beaver Creek in 2012, Wengen in 2013 and Garmisch-Partenkirchen in 2013.
- Paris has won eight downhill events in the World Cup, second-most among Italian men behind Kristian Ghedina (12).
- **Thomas Dessen** (2) was one of three men to win multiple World Cup races in the downhill last season, alongside Feuz (3) and Svindal (2).
- Dessen could become the first German skier to win three downhill events in the World Cup. Sepp Ferstl and Markus Wasmeier both won two in this event.

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