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2019/20



PRESS RELEASE – Preview for BMW IBSF World Cup Königssee (GER)

22 Jan. 2020

All still to play for in the overall World Cup standings at sixth stop in Königssee Friedrich, Humphries, Dukurs and Lölling currently in the lead

Königssee (RWH) The artificial track at Königssee is the sixth of eight stops in the 2019/2020 BMW IBSF World Cup. The race to the top of the overall standings is particularly exciting in the 2-woman bobsleigh and the two skeleton events.

Penultimate 4-man bobsleigh World Cup, second half of the season for the 2-man bobsleigh

With the race in Königssee, the end of the BMW IBSF World Cup season is in sight for the 4-man bobsleigh teams. Since Lake Placid (USA) and Winterberg (GER) both hosted double races, the 4-man teams are one race ahead and are already on the seventh of this winter's eight World Cups. Following his third win of the season, defending title holder Francesco Friedrich (GER) is currently in the lead. Coincidentally, the pilot hot on his heels is the holder of the only title that Friedrich is missing from his collection: Trailing by just 40 points, the European Champion in the 4-man bobsleigh, Johannes Lochner (GER), is within touching distance of his team-mate.

In contrast, the 2-man bobsleigh will only just be entering the second half of the World Cup season with the race in Königssee. Francesco Friedrich is also leading the field in this event after winning all possible 2-man titles last season. With his recent run of three successive wins and a lead of almost 200 points over Michael Vogt (SUI), Friedrich has a pretty comfortable buffer ahead of the fifth World Cup race. However, there are still 500 World Cup points to be won this winter season.

The race to the top of the overall standings still wide open in the 2-woman bobsleigh

In the 2-woman bobsleigh, just 20 points separate Kaillie Humphries (USA) in first place from Stephanie Schneider (GER) in second. After securing her first win of the World Cup season in Innsbruck, the defending World Cup title holder Mariama Jamanka (GER) made up good ground and is currently 16 points behind her team-mate Schneider in third place. Even a glimpse at past results for Königssee doesn't provide any better insight: All three bobsleigh pilots have already won here. Kaillie Humphries won in 2013 and 2015, Stephanie Schneider in 2018, and Mariama Jamanka in 2019. And in a season full of surprising results in (all) races, also expect the unexpected at the sixth World Cup race of the season.

Both male and female athletes keep onlookers in suspense in the BMW IBSF World Cup

The race to the top of the overall World Cup standings in both the men's and women's skeleton remains even wider open prior to the sixth race of the season. With his 52nd World Cup race in total, the World Champion Martins Dukurs (LAT) was able to put 29 points between himself and the defending title holder Alexander Tretiakov (RUS) in second. The Olympic Champion Sungbin Yun is also close behind in third, trailing by 40 points.

In the women's skeleton, the leader Jacqueline Lölling (GER) currently has 20 points more than the European Champion Janine Flock (AUT) in second. If Lölling manages to win in Königssee, she would become the most successful German athlete in the women's skeleton World Cup with 12 total wins, overtaking Anja Huber-Selbach (11 wins). However, Königssee could also have some surprises in store: For instance, Switzerland's Marina Gilardoni already caused a stir in La Plagne (FRA) by finishing fourth, while Megan Henry (USA) also surprised in Innsbruck with her first podium finish at her fifth ever World Cup appearance. ©RWH2020





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The Königssee timetable

Date/CET time	CET time	Race
Friday, 24 Jan.	11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Women's skeleton, run 1 Women's skeleton, run 2
Friday, 24 Jan.	3:30 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	Men's skeleton, run 1 Men's skeleton, run 2
Saturday, 25 Jan.	12:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m.	2-woman bobsleigh, run 1 2-woman bobsleigh, run 2
Saturday, 25 Jan.	3:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	2-man bobsleigh, run 1 2-man bobsleigh, run 2
Sunday, 26 Jan.	1:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	4-man bobsleigh, run 1 4-man bobsleigh, run 2

On the sidelines

Laura Nolte (GER), the 2016 Youth Olympic Champion in the women's monobob, managed to leave all of the world's elite behind her on what was just her second ever World Cup start. One week after her debut, Laura Nolte and her brake athlete Deborah Levi celebrated the pilot's first victory in the BMW IBSF World Cup. However, Laura Nolte is currently without her speedy team-mate due to illness. In Innsbruck, the 21-year-old pilot raced with Erline Nolte (coincidentally no relation of her pilot) to finish third, which made it three podium finishes out of three World Cup races. ©RWH2020

Ander Mirambell (ESP) has won the overall standings in the IBSF North America Cup for the 2019/2020 season, which is his second win after his victory in 2016. The 37-year-old has thus become the second athlete to have won the IBSF series twice. The USA's Zach Lund won in 2001/2002 and 2003/2004. ©RWH2020

Melissa Lotholz (CAN) made her BMW IBSF World Cup debut as a pilot in Innsbruck (AUT). As Kaillie Humphries' brake athlete, Melissa Lotholz won World Championship silver in both 2016 and 2017. The 27-year-old has finished on the podium 17 times in the BMW IBSF World Cup. Racing with Janine McCue, Melissa Lotholz finished 15th in Innsbruck. ©RWH2020

Susanne Kreher (GER) unexpectedly made her debut appearance at the BMW IBSF World Cup in Innsbruck (AUT). Following Sophia Griebel's withdrawal due to injury, the 21-year-old made it onto the German World Cup team – and finished sixth. After four of eight races this season, Susanne Kreher currently leads the IBSF Intercontinental Cup standings. ©RWH2020

Georgeta Popescu (ROU, women's monobob), Anastasiia Tsyganova (RUS, women's skeleton), Alexander Czudaj and Andrei Robert Nica (GER and ROU, men's monobob) and Lukas Nydegger (GER, men's skeleton) are the 2020 Youth Olympic Champions. The up-and-coming athletes competed against sliders from 27 countries at the YOG races on the St. Moritz-Celerina Olympia Bobrun (SUI). ©RWH2020





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This season's winners in the 2019/2020 BMW IBSF World Cup – Skeleton

	Women's skeleton	Men's skeleton
Lake Placid 1 (USA)	Jacqueline Lölling (GER)	Axel Jungk (GER)
Lake Placid 2 (USA)	Elena Nikitina (RUS)	Alexander Tretiakov (RUS)
Winterberg (GER)	Tina Hermann (GER)	Sungbin Yun (KOR)
La Plagne (FRA)	Elena Nikitina (RUS)	Alexander Tretiakov (RUS)
Innsbruck (AUT)	Jacqueline Lölling (GER)	Martins Dukurs (LAT)
Königssee (GER)		
St Moritz (SUI)		
Sigulda (LAT)		
World Cup leaders	Jacqueline Lölling (GER, 1052 points)	Martins Dukurs (LAT, 1047 points)

This season's winners in the 2019/2020 BMW IBSF World Cup – Bobsleigh pilots

	2-woman bobsleigh	2-man bobsleigh	4-man bobsleigh
Lake Placid 1 (USA)	Kaillie Humphries (USA)	Johannes Lochner (GER)	-
	Kaillie Humphries (USA)	Francesco Friedrich (GER)	-
Lake Placid 2 (USA)		-	Justin Kripps (CAN)
		-	Justin Kripps (CAN)
Winterberg (GER)	Stephanie Schneider (GER)	-	Francesco Friedrich (GER)
			Johannes Lochner (GER)
La Plagne (FRA)	Laura Nolte (GER)	Francesco Friedrich (GER)	Francesco Friedrich (GER)
Innsbruck (AUT)	Mariama Jamanka (GER)	Francesco Friedrich (GER)	Francesco Friedrich (GER)
Königssee (GER)			
St Moritz (SUI)			
Sigulda (LAT)			-
World Cup leaders	Kaillie Humphries (USA, 1034 points)	Francesco Friedrich (GER, 885 points)	Francesco Friedrich (GER, 1277 points)

>> [Athlete profiles on ibsf.org](#) with medals tables, news and photos for all athletes

>> [All results from IBSF races and training sessions](#)

>> [Current rankings](#)

>> [Press accreditation is available from the respective track.](#)

>> Accreditation for BMW IBSF World Championships: <https://altenberg2020.de/presse/>

The action from all races in the 2019/2020 BMW IBSF Bobsleigh & Skeleton World Cup will be available on our [live stream](#) and the live results ticker [ibsf.org](#) as usual. In Latvia, LTV has exclusive broadcasting rights for all events, which will appear either on TV or on its own live stream. NBC/Olympic Channel (USA), CBC (Canada) and SRG (Switzerland) will be showing some races live. In Germany, ARD or ZDF will be broadcasting some races live or with a slight delay. In these countries, the live stream on [ibsf.org](#) and [Youtube](#) will be blocked.

Further information, photos and videos are available on our social media channels / IBSFsliding:

