

English biography

# Professional freeskier and social media star: Andri Ragettli

Andri Ragettli is a Swiss freeskier and competes in the disciplines Slopestyle and Big Air. He has already won the overall World Cup several times, there are several X-Games medals in his trophy cabinet and he is the current world champion in the discipline slopestyle. Ragettli is currently considered one of the most successful freeskiers in the world. In 2017, he also stood the first-ever Quad Cork 1800, setting a world record. Since 2018, Ragettli has also been active as a vlogger on YouTube.

#### 1998 to 2013

Andri Ragettli (21 August 1998) is a Swiss freestyle skier from Flims, Graubünden. Born right next to the best freestyle resort in the world - LAAX - he (pretty much) came into the world with skis on his feet. At the age of two, he was already on the slopes for the first time as the youngest of three siblings. Andri first raced, but soon discovered his passion for jumping. At the age of seven, he attended his first freestyle course in Laax. By the time he was eight, he had already taken part in events such as the Salomon Jib Academy - although he had to adjust his age slightly upwards to be admitted.

By the time he turned ten, Andri had already competed in the most famous ski destinations in Europe, including the Junior X-Games in Tignes. At 13, he was invited to America by the Swiss Freeski Team to train with the Swiss pros. The training was intensive, successful and brought him further medals. Just two days after his 15th birthday, Andri celebrated his World Cup debut in New Zealand in August 2013 - perfect timing, as the minimum age required is 15.

#### 2014 to 2016

Unfortunately, Andri was not competing at the 2014 Winter Olympics. Although he fulfilled the qualification criteria, he was not selected, which of course fuelled his ambition even more. Already in spring of the same year, the then fifteen-year-old ensured that his name would not be forgotten so quickly in the freestyle scene: At the Nine Knights in Livigno, he managed his first triple! After this event, Andri's name was on everyone's lips. He was the only Swiss freestyle skier to be invited to the Dew Tour, where he made his breakthrough in Breckenridge, Colorado: Despite the most adverse weather conditions, a lot of snow and a lot of excitement, his performance was precise and solid as most of the time. His consistency is one of his great strengths. He put in a great second run and came fourth in his first big competition. After these excellent results, Andri was invited to the X-Games in January 2015 as an alternate. Although he was not



allowed to start, he was able to train and learn a lot. And just a few weeks later - in March 2015 - he achieved his first World Cup podium finish in Silvaplana.

Andri improved steadily until he made history in 2016: at the X-Games, he became the first freestyle skier ever to achieve a back-to-back triple during a competition. In 2016, not only the X-Games were a highlight - Andri also won medals in Andorra, Boston, New Zealand and Silvaplana. And it got even better: at the age of just 17, Andri Ragettli won the overall World Cup ranking in slopestyle and took home the crystal globe.

Andri also makes a name for himself off the slopes: his wicked indoor training videos regularly go viral - his most famous clip made him famous as Swiss Ninja Warrior and became an internet hit with over 40 million views. The biggest Facebook and news sites shared the post, including Sportbible, People are Awesome and even CNN and BBC.

## 2017 to 2019

In the 2016/2017 season, Andri raised the bar again and became the first skier in history and only 18 years old - to manage the "Quad Cork 1800", a quadruple with five turns on its own axis. The 2017/2018 season was a particularly successful one. He took home medals from every World Cup race in which he took part. After becoming the first Swiss to win a slopestyle medal at the X-Games, he crowned his season by winning the FIS Slopestyle World Cup again. At the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, Andri qualified for the final, where he came seventh and received an Olympic diploma. In the summer, he then completed his "Matura" at the sports school in Engelberg.

The 2018/2019 season got off to a promising start with the World Cup opener in Cardrona in New Zealand. There, Andri achieved first place in the Big Air discipline - the first World Cup victory in this discipline! Only a short time later, another highlight followed. However, in the gymnasium in Engelberg. After 53 attempts, the 2018 parcour video was in the can and went viral again. This is already the fourth video that has reached several million people worldwide (around 80 million views per video). In Italy (Modena), Andri then managed another podium finish in the Big Air. It was enough for third place. And there was also a medal in Spain at the Slopestyle World Cup. Unfortunately, he injured his knee at the X-Games in January and had to take several weeks off. In March, he made his comeback in Canada and later in the Engadin - and what a comeback it was. In his last competition, he just managed to secure the overall World Cup in Big Air.

## 2019/2020

In the winter of 2019/20, things continued promisingly for Andri. The season started well, but at the Big Air test event for the Olympics in China Andri crashed heavily and got a concussion. After a short break he returned. He enjoyed a few powder days in the Engadin and shot a documentary about his sports career for Real Madrid during this



time. Competitions followed in North America - in Mammoth and in Calgary, Andri won two World Cups in the slopestyle discipline. He came third at the X-Games in Aspen and won gold in slopestyle in Norway. The season only lasted until March - then the lockdown came as a surprise. The abrupt end of the season meant that the World Cup final in Silvaplana was cancelled. Since Andri was the World Cup leader up to this point, he won another overall World Cup crystal globe - the fourth. But Andri continued to challenge himself away from winter sports: In addition to his "Stay at Home Parcour", he also managed a 100-kilometre run from Flims to Zurich in spring. He has published over 100 vlogs (video blogs) at this point and gives his fans exciting insights into his life.

# 2020/2021

The 2020/2021 season started well and ended with an injury. In autumn, another version of the parcour video goes viral and is followed by victory at the season opener, the slopestyle World Cup in Stubai. Things went from strength to strength: Andri won his second gold medal at the X-Games in Aspen - this time in the slopestyle discipline. At the World Championships he becomes World Champion in Slopestyle. Shortly afterwards, it's on to the world championship title in Big Air. Andri's goal: double gold. But on the last jump he falls and injures his knee, bringing the season to an abrupt end.

# Photos Andri Ragettli

Further information and pictures for editorial purposes can also be requested via the media contact mentioned below. The best way to find out what else Andri is up to is via his social media channels Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

### **Medienkontakt:**

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