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SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 78TH SATSUKI SHO (JAPANESE 2000 GUINEAS, G1)



The Satsuki Sho, which is the first of the three legs of JRA's Triple Crown Classics for three-year-olds including the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby, G1, 2,400m) and the Kikuka Sho (Japanese St. Leger, G1, 3,000m), is comparable to British Two Thousand Guineas. The "Yokohama Norinsho Shoten Yonsai Yobiuma", the precursor of the Satsuki Sho, was first run over 1,850 meters at Yokohama Racecourse in 1939 then moved its venue to Tokyo Racecourse four years later before given its current name and shifted again to Nakayama Racecourse in 1949—the distance was also altered to 2,000 meters in the following year.

Seven of the past Satsuki Sho champions since 2005 subsequently received the JRA Best Three-Year-Old Colt Award, in recognition of their outstanding performances throughout the year—*Deep Impact* (JPN, *Sunday Silence*) in 2005, *Meisho Samson* (JPN, by *Opera House*) in 2006, *Victoire Pisa* (JPN, by *Neo Universe*) in 2010, *Orfevre* (JPN, by *Stay Gold*) in 2011, *Gold Ship* (JPN, by *Stay Gold*) in 2012, *Isla Bonita* (JPN, by *Fuji Kiseki*) in 2014 and *Duramente* (JPN, by *King Kamehameha*) in 2015. Triple Crown winners *Deep Impact* and *Orfevre* were also named the Horse of the Year.

This year's key runners that came off three trial races were: from the Yayoi Sho (G2, 2,000m; Mar.4), Tokyo Sports Hai Nisai Stakes (G3, 1,800m; Nov.18) winner **Wagnerian** (2nd) and Hopeful Stakes (G1, 2,000m; Dec.28) runner-up **Gendarme** (3rd); from the Wakaba Stakes (2,000m; Mar.17), **Aithon** (1st), **Double Sharp** (2nd) and Hopeful Stakes champion **Time Flyer** (5th); and from the Spring Stakes (G2, 1,800m; Mar.18), Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (G1, 1,600m; Dec.17) runner-up **Stelvio** (1st), **Epoca d'Oro** (2nd) and **Meiner Fanrong** (3rd). The field also included **Generale Uno**, **Oken Moon** and **Kitano Commandeur**, winners of the Keisei Hai (G3, 2,000m; Jan.14), the Kyodo News Service Hai (G3, 1,800m; Feb.11) and the Sumire Stakes (2,200m; Feb.25), respectively. 2017 Best Two-Year-Old Colt Danon Premium (JPN, by *Deep Impact*) who won the Yayoi Sho decided to avoid the Satsuki Sho due to lameness in his right foreleg and aim for a comeback in the Tokyo Yushun.

Al Ain (JPN, by *Deep Impact*) renewed the race record to 1:57.8 last year.

THE 78TH SATSUKI SHO (JAPANESE 2000 GUINEAS, G1)

3-year-old Colts & Fillies, 2,000 meters (about 10 furlongs), turf, right-handed

Sunday, April 15, 2018 Nakayama Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 238,600,000 (about US\$ 2,170,000 <US\$1=¥110>)

3-y-o: 57kg (about 126 lbs), 2kg allowance for Fillies, 2kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2015

Safety factor: 18 runners

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	4	7	Epoca d'Oro (JPN)	C3	57.0	Orfevre Daiwa Passion	K. Tosaki H. Fujiwara	K. Hidaka Breeders Union Toru Tagami	2:00.8 (35.1)	14.5 (7)
2	7	14	Sans Rival (JPN)	C3	57.0	Rulership Un Fil Rouge	Y. Fujioka K. Fujioka	Kyoko Habata Y. S. Stud	2 (35.2)	24.6 (9)
3	5	10	Generale Uno (JPN)	C3	57.0	Screen Hero Shanghai Rock	H. Tanabe E. Yano	G Riviere Racing Co., Ltd. Shinsei Farm	1-3/4 (37.6)	17.8 (8)
4	8	15	Stelvio (JPN)	C3	57.0	Lord Kanaloa L'Archetto	C. Lemaire T. Kimura	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	Neck (34.8)	3.7 (2)
5	3	5	Kitano Commandeur (JPN)	C3	57.0	Deep Impact Venenciador	M. Demuro Y. Ikee	DMM Dream Club Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	Nose (34.8)	6.3 (3)
6	6	12	Grail (JPN)	C3	57.0	Heart's Cry Platina Chalice	Y. Iwata K. Nonaka	Kanayama Holdings Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	Nose (34.8)	25.1 (10)
7	1	2	Wagnerian (JPN)	C3	57.0	Deep Impact Miss Encore	Y. Fukunaga Y. Tomomichi	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd. Kaneko Makoto Holdings Inc.	1-1/2 (35.2)	3.5 (1)
8	3	6	Aithon (JPN)	C3	57.0	King's Best Special Dinner	K. Kokubun T. Igarashi	Tomiro Fukami Niikappu Tagano Farm Ltd	1 (38.3)	70.7 (12)
9	2	3	Gendarme	C3	57.0	Kitten's Joy	Y. Take	Koji Maeda	Head	9.6

			(USA)			Believe	Y. Ikee	North Hills Co., Limited	(35.4)	(4)
10	1	1	Time Flyer (JPN)	C3	57.0	Heart's Cry Time Traveling	H. Uchida K. Matsuda	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Oiwake Farm	3/4 (35.8)	12.3 (6)
11	4	8	K T Clever (JPN)	C3	57.0	Harbinger Molto Felice	S. Hamanaka S. Yasuda	Kazuyoshi Takimoto Shadai Farm	Neck (36.1)	54.3 (11)
12	5	9	Oken Moon (JPN)	C3	57.0	Oken Bruce Lee Moon Phase	H. Kitamura S. Kunieda	Akira Fukui Northern Farm	1-1/4 (35.8)	9.7 (5)
13	6	11	Meiner Fanrong (JPN)	C3	57.0	Stay Gold Meine Theresia	D. Shibata T. Tezuka	K. Thoroughbred Club Ruffian Big Red Farm	3/4 (36.3)	151.8 (13)
14	7	13	Double Sharp (JPN)	C3	57.0	Behkabad Mejiro Ruchbah	R. Wada K. Watanabe	Tadahiro Amahori Masanori Murakami	1 (36.4)	159.5 (14)
15	8	16	Jun Valerot (JPN)	C3	57.0	New Approach Wake Me Up	T. Ono Y. Tomomichi	Junji Kawai Northern Farm	4 (39.3)	315.0 (15)
16	2	4	Three Helios (JPN)	C3	57.0	Henny Hughes La Vie en Rose	Y. Shibata A. Murayama	Nagai Shoji Tsuji Bokujo	8 (38.1)	410.4 (16)

FP=Final Position / BK=Bracket Number / PP=Post Position / Wgt=Weight / L3F=Time of Last 3 Furlongs (600m)

NOTE 1: No foreign contenders

NOTE 2: Figures quoted under Odds are Win Odds, which show the amount of money you get back per single unit (100yen), and Fav indicates the order of favorites.

WINNING TIME: 2:00.8

GOING: Good

WEATHER: Cloudy

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 17,833,374,400

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 26,366,673,800

ATTENDANCE: 42,970

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.7	¥1,450	BRACKET QUINELLA	4-7	¥9,520	QUINELLA	7-14	¥12,880
PLACE	No.7	¥430	QUINELLA PLACE	7-14	¥3,250	EXACTA	7-14	¥23,570
	No.14	¥580		7-10	¥3,010	TRIO	7-10-14	¥53,410
	No.10	¥530		10-14	¥4,290	TRIFECTA	7-14-10	¥372,080

1. Epoca d'Oro (JPN), dark bay or brown, colt, 3-year-old

Orfevre / Daiwa Passion (Forty Niner)

Owner: K. Hidaka Breeders Union Breeder: Toru Tagami

Trainer: Hideaki Fujiwara Jockey: Keita Tosaki

5 Starts, 3 Wins

Added money: ¥ 134,871,000 Career earnings: ¥ 174,212,000

2. Sans Rival (JPN), bay, colt, 3-year-old

Rulership / Un Fil Rouge (Agnes Tachyon)

Owner: Kyoko Habata Breeder: Breeder: Y. S. Stud

Trainer: Kenichi Fujioka Jockey: Yusuke Fujioka

3. Generale Uno (JPN), dark bay or brown, colt, 3-year-old

Screen Hero / Shanghai Rock (Rock of Gibraltar)

Owner: G Riviere Racing Co., Ltd. Breeder: Shinsei Farm

Trainer: Eiichi Yano Jockey: Hironobu Tanabe

Seventh Pick Epoca d'Oro Dominates the Field to Win This Year's Satsuki Sho

This year's Satsuki Sho was won by seventh favorite **Epoca d'Oro** followed by ninth pick **Sans Rival** in second and eighth choice **Generale Uno** in third, causing an upset in the first leg of the Triple Crown. **Epoca d'Oro**, finishing third in his debut start last October, marked two consecutive wins entering this season and was qualified to race in the Satsuki Sho by coming in second in the previous Spring Stakes. This win was the ninth JRA-G1 victory for trainer Hideaki Fujiwara and seventh for jockey Keita Tosaki—first since the 2016 Victoria Mile with *Straight Girl* for both. This win marked the father-and-son victory as his sire, *Orfevre*, was a Triple Crown winner in 2011. One of *Orfevre* fillies, Lucky Lilac, has also won the 2017 Hanshin juvenile Fillies.

Epoca d'Oro, breaking sharply from stall seven, rallied for the lead but eventually settled in fourth and traveled at his own pace while the first three runners led by **Aithon** set a fast pace. With over a ten-length gap between the frontrunners, the son of *Orfevre* continued to lead the remaining field at a sound pace down the backstretch, diligently closed the gap turning the last two corners and, though with still some gap at the top of the stretch, unleashed a powerful drive in the lane to overtake the front 100 meters out and pulled away to a two-length victory.

"I was able to position him as planned. He ran in good rhythm and responded well rounding the final corner. He's a smart horse and is developing with each race. His powerful run today shows that he will have no problem handling the extra distance in the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby)," commented Keita Tosaki.

Ninth choice **Sans Rival**, also breaking smoothly from stall 14, settled right behind **Epoca d'Oro** in fifth and continued to stalk the eventual winner until the wire with an impressive late charge to finish second.

Eighth favorite **Generale Uno** made a good break and pressed the fast pace set by **Aithon** in second. The son of *Screen Hero* briefly inherited the lead 200 meters out but was soon dislodged by **Epoca d'Oro** then **Sans Rival** in the last 100 meters while managing to hold off the strong challenge by second-pick **Stelvio** by a neck.

Odds-on-favorite **Wagnerian** broke smoothly and eased back towards the rear. Driven after the third corner, the *Deep Impact* colt turned wide but was unable to display his trademark late charge at the homestretch and finish seventh.

Other Horses:

- 4th: (15) **Stelvio**—ran near rear, turned wide, quickened and tied fastest over last 3 furlongs, was too late
5th: (5) **Kitano Commandeur**—raced wide near rear, showed belated charge, tied fastest over last 3 furlongs
6th: (12) **Grail**—trailed in rear, accelerated between horses, tied fastest over last 3 furlongs
8th: (6) **Aithon**—set pace, led until 200m out, overtaken by rivals in last 100m
9th: (3) **Gendarme**—traveled around 11-12th, showed effort, weakened in last 100m
10th: (1) **Time Flyer**—positioned around 9th, even paced
11th: (8) **K T Clever**—ran in 5-6th behind eventual winner, sustained bind until 100m out
12th: (9) **Oken Moon**—sat near rear early, made headway after 3rd corner, lacked needed kick
13th: (11) **Meiner Fanrong**—raced wide in 7th, ran willingly until 200m out, weakened
14th: (13) **Double Sharp**—traveled wide around 10th, failed to respond at stretch
15th: (16) **Jun Valerot**—chased leaders in 3rd from widest draw, fell back at stretch
16th: (4) **Three Helios**—saved ground in 8-9th, faded after 3rd corner

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 12.6 - 11.0 - 11.9 - 11.5 - 12.2 - 11.9 - 12.4 - 12.4 - 12.7 - 12.2
Last 4 furlongs: 49.7 Last 3 furlongs: 37.3

Positions at each corner:

1st corner	6(10,16)= <u>7</u> (8,14)11(4,1,13)(3,2,5)(9,15)12
2nd corner	6(10,16)= <u>7</u> (8,14)11(4,1,13)(9,3,2)(12,15,5)
3rd corner	6(10,16)= <u>7</u> (8,14,11)(1,13)(4,9,3,2)(12,15,5)
4th corner	6,10,16= <u>7</u> (8,14)(9,1,13,11)3,2(12,15,5)4

NOTE 1: Underlined bold number indicates the winning horse.

NOTE 2: Horse numbers are indicated in the order of their positions at each corner, with the first position listed first. Two or more horses inside the same parentheses indicate that they were positioned side by side. Hyphens between the horse numbers indicate that there is distance between the former and the latter. The asterisk indicates a slight lead.