

FROM: Junichi Takada

General Manager, Media & Publicity Department, THE JAPAN RACING ASSOCIATION (JRA)

DATE: May 5, 2019

**SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 24TH NHK MILE CUP (G1)**



While races in Japan for three-year-olds had been programmed mainly to facilitate those aiming towards the middle-long distance three-year-old Classics as typified by the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby, G1, 2,400m), the interest in speed races is growing both within and outside Japan, and earning much respect as the traditional Classics. In 1996, JRA reorganized its races in order to accommodate and promote the three-year-olds suited to short distances, and established the NHK Mile Cup which was named after its sponsor Nippon Hoso Kyokai (Japan Broadcasting Corporation)—Japan's only public broadcaster. The race was designated as an international race in 2009.

Past NHK Mile Cup winners include subsequent derby winners *King Kamehameha* (JPN, by *Kingmambo*; '04) and *Deep Sky* (JPN, by *Agnes Tachyon*; '08) while *El Condor Pasa* (USA, by *Kingmambo*; '98) and *Kurofune* (USA, by *French Deputy*; '01) won the Japan Cup (G1, 2,400m) and the Japan Cup Dirt (G1, dirt, 2,100m), respectively.

This year's field included **Wide Pharaoh**, coming off his win in the New Zealand Trophy (G2, 1,600m; Apr.6), one of two official trials for the NHK Mile Cup, with **Wittelsbach** also earning the berth finishing third. In the other trial, the Arlington Cup (G3, 1,600m; Apr.13), the top three finishers **Iberis**, **Catedral** and **Toya Rito Seito** qualified to run in this G1 mile race while the Shinzan Kinen (G3, 1,600m) winner **Val d'Isere** was seen finishing eighth. Those that ran in the Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas, G1, 1,600m; Apr.7) but decided not to step up in distance in the Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks, G1, 2,400m) and opted to aim for a G1 title over a mile against the boys included **Gran Alegria** (1st) and **Pourville** (6th). Also, those who ran the Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, 2,000m) and headed to this race instead of the Tokyo Yushun were **Admire Mars** (4th), **Fantasist** (13th) and **Kurino Gaudi** (16th). Other key runners in the field were the Kisaragi Sho (G3, 1,800m; Feb.3) winner **Danon Chaser**, and the Falcon Stakes (G3, 1,400m; Mar.16) victor **Happy Hour** and runner-up **Groove It**.

The race record is held by *Danon Chantilly* (JPN, by *Fuji Kiseki*) who covered the 1,600 meter distance in 1:31.4 in 2010.

**THE 24TH NHK MILE CUP (G1)**

3-year-old Colts & Fillies, 1,600 meters (about 8 furlongs), turf, left-handed

Sunday, May 5, 2019 Tokyo Racecourse 11th Race Post Time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥226,800,000 (about US\$1,972,000 <US\$1=¥115>)

3-y-o: 57 kg (about 126 lbs), 2 kg allowance for Fillies,

2 kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2016

Safety factor: 18 runners

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	8	17	Admire Mars (JPN)	C3	57.0	Daiwa Major Via Medici	M. Demuro Y. Tomomichi	Riichi Kondo Northern Farm	1:32.4 (33.9)	4.3 (2)
2	8	18	Cadence Call (JPN)	C3	57.0	Lord Kanaloa Inductee	S. Ishibashi T. Yasuda	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	1/2 (33.6)	87.7 (14)
3	5	10	Catedral (JPN)	C3	57.0	Heart's Cry Abyla	B. Avdulla M. Ikezoe	U. Carrot Farm Northern Racing	Nose (33.7)	32.8 (7)
4	2	3	Danon Chaser (JPN)	C3	57.0	Deep Impact Samitar	Y. Kawada Y. Ikee	Danox Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	1-1/4+ Neck (34.2)	10.0 (3)
5	4	7	Gran Alegria (JPN)	F3	55.0	Deep Impact Tapitsfly	C. Lemaire K. Fujisawa	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	DQ&P (34.3)	1.5 (1)
6	4	8	Val d'Isere (JPN)	C3	57.0	Lord Kanaloa Fargo	Y. Kitamura K. Watanabe	G1 Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing	1/2 (34.0)	50.1 (8)
7	7	14	Happy Hour (JPN)	C3	57.0	Harbinger Success Silhouette	H. Yoshida K. Take	Sachiko Takashima Key West Inc.	Nose (33.7)	69.1 (10)
8	8	16	Toya Rito Seito (JPN)	C3	57.0	Dream Journey Jaja Machan	Y. Fukunaga T. Matsushita	Takamitsu Murata Shadai Farm	Nose (34.5)	120.6 (16)
9	6	12	Wide Pharaoh (JPN)	C3	57.0	Henny Hughes Wide Sapphire	H. Uchida K. Sumii	Masanobu Habata Masanobu Habata	Neck (34.6)	62.2 (9)
10	3	6	Groove It	C3	57.0	Lord Kanaloa	D. Lane	U. Carrot Farm	Neck	19.2

			(JPN)			Special Groove	M. Matsunaga	Northern Racing	(34.3)	(4)
11	3	5	Meiner Flap (JPN)	C3	57.0	Victoire Pisa Meine Elena	M. Matsuoka T. Umeda	K. Thoroughbred Club Ruffian Big Red Farm	Neck (34.3)	111.2 (15)
12	1	2	Pourville (JPN)	F3	55.0	Le Havre Kenhope	S. Akiyama Y. Shono	Teruya Yoshida Shadai Farm	Neck (34.9)	85.6 (12)
13	7	13	Fantasist (JPN)	C3	57.0	Lord Kanaloa Deep in Ask	Y. Take T. Umeda	Toshihiro Hiroasaki Toshihiro Hiroasaki	1-3/4 (34.6)	29.7 (6)
14	1	1	Kurino Gaudi (JPN)	C3	57.0	Screen Hero Kurino Billionaire	Y. Fujioka N. Fujisawa	Hiroharu Kurimoto Hiroharu Kurimoto	1-1/4 (35.5)	87.0 (13)
15	7	15	Wittelsbach (JPN)	C3	57.0	Rulership Katie's Gem	K. Tosaki M. Ikegami	U. Carrot Farm Northern Farm	1-1/4 (34.8)	19.9 (5)
16	2	4	Iberis (JPN)	F3	55.0	Lord Kanaloa Celebrar	S. Hamanaka K. Tsunoda	Koji Maeda Doi Bokujo	3/4 (36.0)	77.9 (11)
17	5	9	Mikki Black (JPN)	C3	57.0	Black Tide Malacostumbrada	Y. Iwata H. Otonashi	Mizuki Noda Northern Farm	Nose (34.4)	285.2 (17)
18	6	11	Lord Gladio (JPN)	C3	57.0	King Kamehameha Shimmei Fuji	T. Ono K. Nishiura	Lord Horse Club K. I. Farm	2-1/2 (35.2)	402.7 (18)

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

DQ&P=Disqualified and Placed, or Demoted

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: 1:32.4

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Fine

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 15,831,705,800

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 25,102,507,600

ATTENDANCE: 63,311

#### PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.17	¥ 430	BRACKET QUINELLA	8-8	¥ 6,440	QUINELLA	17-18	¥ 17,200
PLACE	No.17	¥ 210	QUINELLA PLACE	17-18	¥ 3,480	EXACTA	17-18	¥ 22,440
	No.18	¥ 1,270		10-17	¥ 1,840	TRIO	10-17-18	¥ 97,390
	No.10	¥ 750		10-18	¥ 12,620	TRIFECTA	17-18-10	¥ 410,680

#### 1. **Admire Mars (JPN)**, chestnut, colt, 3-year-old

Daiwa Major / Via Medici (Medicean)

Owner: Riichi Kondo Breeder: Northern Farm

Trainer: Yasuo Tomomichi Jockey: Mirco Demuro

7 Starts, 5 Wins

Added money: ¥ 108,906,000 Career earnings: ¥ 273,525,000

#### 2. **Cadence Call (JPN)**, bay, colt, 3-year-old

Lord Kanaloa / Inductee (Heart's Cry)

Owner: Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Breeder: Northern Farm

Trainer: Takayuki Yasuda Jockey: Shu Ishibashi

#### 3. **Catedral (JPN)**, bay, colt, 3-year-old

Heart's Cry / Abyla (Rock of Gibraltar)

Owner: U. Carrot Farm Breeder: Northern Racing

Trainer: Manabu Ikezoe Jockey: Brenton Avdulla

#### **Admire Mars Beats Top Three-Year-Old Milers in NHK Mile Cup**

Winner of the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes, **Admire Mars** captured his second G1 title in this year's NHK Mile Cup after being sent off second favorite. The 2018 Best Two-Year-Old Colt claimed four out of four at the mile last season, and was second in the Kyodo News Service Hai (G3, 1,800m) and fourth in his latest start, the Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, 2,000m), this year. For trainer Yasuo Tomomichi, following his latest G1 triumph in the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes with the colt, this becomes his 11th JRA-G1 victory and second NHK Mile Cup title—his first was in

2015 with *Clarity Sky*. Jockey Mirco Demuro now boasts 29th JRA-G1 wins—his latest was in the Hopeful Stakes with Saturnalia last December.

A touch late at the start breaking from a wide gate, **Admire Mars** traveled three to four-wide in mid division in the backstretch and swerved out to a farther position with nearly half of the field still to beat entering the straight. The *Daiwa Major* chestnut fought hard against a six to seven-horse rally down the long Tokyo straight under steady right-hand encouragement from Demuro and finally burst through 100 meters out while holding off a good challenge from **Cadence Call** and **Catedral** to claim the title.

“Our draw was wide, his start wasn’t so good and we had to race in a lower position than hoped, but he just hates to lose—once another runner came up next to him, he found his second wind. He’s truly an amazing miler,” said Mirco Demuro after the race.

Breaking smoothly from the widest stall and next to **Admire Mars**, **Cadence Call** was reserved in fourth to fifth from the rear. Still near the rear in upper-stretch, the *Lord Kanaloa* colt was switched to an outer path to avoid traffic and from there, unleashed the fastest stretch run to catch all but the winner a half-length behind in second.

**Catedral** sat in fourth to fifth close to **Cadence Call** earlier and as the eventual top two finishers took a wide path towards the finish line, the *Heart’s Cry* bay split horses 150 meters out while displaying the second fastest last three-furlong run but was a nose short at the wire for third.

Race favorite **Gran Alegria** was off a bit slow, sat in fourth and entered the lane behind a wall of horses in seventh to eighth. After bumping **Danon Chaser** while shifting out for a clear path two furlongs out, the Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas) winner couldn’t find her best stride but dug in gamely to clear the wire in fourth, but was demoted to fifth because of interference to a rival.

#### Other Horses:

4th: (3) **Danon Chaser**—ran in 6th along rails, bumped by favorite 400m out, responded inside winner, finished 5th and promoted to 4th

6th: (8) **Val d’Isere**—sat in mid-pack, angled out at early stretch, passed tired rivals

7th: (14) **Happy Hour**—raced 3-wide 2nd from rear, showed belated charge, tied 2nd fastest over last 3 furlongs

8th: (16) **Toya Rito Seito**—traveled in front of winner, led briefly, overtaken by late chargers in last 100m

9th: (12) **Wide Pharaoh**—settled outside favorite, rallied for lead, outrun in last 100m

10th: (6) **Groove It**—took economic route inside winner, failed to find clear path after entering lane

11th: (5) **Meiner Flap**—hugged rails in mid-group, showed effort until 100m out

12th: (2) **Pourville**—chased leaders in 3rd, held well, weakened in last 100m

13th: (13) **Fantasist**—raced 3-wide in mid-division, even paced

14th: (1) **Kurino Gaudi**—tracked leader in 2nd, weakened in last 100m

15th: (15) **Wittelsbach**—saved ground 4th from rear, ran willingly along rails until 200m pole

16th: (4) **Iberis**—set pace, outrun in last 200m

17th: (9) **Mikki Black**—trailed in rear, unable to reach contention

18th: (11) **Lord Gladio**—sat 3rd from rear, never fired

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 12.0 - 10.4 - 11.5 - 11.9 - 12.0 - 11.3 - 11.3 - 12.0  
Last 4 furlongs: 46.6 Last 3 furlongs: 34.6

Positions at each corner: 3rd corner 4,1,2(7,12)(3,16,**17**)(6,8,13)(5,10,18)(15,11)14-9  
4th corner 4,1(2,12)16,7(3,**17**)(5,6)(10,8,13)(15,11,18)14,9

**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.