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SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 60TH TAKARAZUKA KINEN (G1)



The Takarazuka Kinen, established in 1960, opened its doors to foreign-trained horses in 1997 and became the first international grade-one race designated by the International Cataloguing Standards Committee (ICSC) held in western Japan in 2001. The race joined the Breeders' Cup Challenge Series in 2011, enabling its winner to earn automatic starting position in the Breeders' Cup Turf (G1, 2,400m). The winner will also be eligible to start in the Australian G1 Cox Plate (2,040m) beginning this year. Last year's race welcomed Hong Kong's 2015/16 Horse of the Year *Werther* (NZ, by *Tavistock*) who finished a neck second. He was the second foreign contender to challenge the race since Australian-trained *Seto Stayer* (AUS, by *Bellotto*; 9th) in 1997.

It is a Grand Prix (All-Star) race, along with the year-end Arima Kinen (G1, 2,500m), in which the runners are selected by a fan poll. Fans can cast their votes at JRA racecourses and off-track betting sites as well as through mail or online to select the ten most popular runners. Among the horses entered in the race, ten runners with the most votes are entitled to run in the race while the rest of the field is determined in order of earnings.

This year's contenders that were among the top ten horses voted included: **Rey de Oro** (2nd) and **Suave Richard** (7th) who respectively finished sixth and third in the Dubai Sheema Classic (G1, 2,410m; Mar.30); **Kiseki** (3rd) and **Al Ain** (4th) who was second and first, respectively, in the Osaka Hai (G1, 2,000m; Mar.31); and **Lys Gracieux** (9th) who came off a third in Hong Kong's Queen Elizabeth II Cup (G1, 2,000m; Apr.28).

Other notable contenders included **Etario** (13th) and **Makahiki** (15th), who both came off a fourth in the Tenno Sho (Spring) (G1, 3,200m; Apr.28) and the Osaka Hai, respectively.

Horses that were ranked among the top ten but passed up their entry were: 2018 Horse of the Year *Almond Eye* (JPN, F4, by *Lord Kanaloa*; 1st); Tenno Sho (Spring) winner *Fierement* (JPN, C4, by *Deep Impact*; 5th); 2018 Arima Kinen winner *Blast Onepiece* (JPN, C4, by *Harbinger*; 6th); 2016-18 Best Steeplechase Horse *Oju Chosan* (JPN, H8, by *Stay Gold*; 8th); and 2018 Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby) champion *Wagnerian* (JPN, C4, by *Deep Impact*; 10th).

The race record of 2:10.1 was set by *Earnestly* (JPN, by *Grass Wonder*) in 2011.

THE 60TH TAKARAZUKA KINEN (G1)

3-year-olds & up, 2,200 meters (about 11 furlongs), turf, right-handed

Sunday, June 23, 2019 Hanshin Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 325,000,000 (about US\$ 2,826,000 <US\$1=¥115>)

3-y-o: 53kg (about 117 lbs), 4-y-o & up: 58kg (about 128 lbs), 2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares,

1kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2015,

3kg 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	12	Lys Gracieux (JPN)	M5	56.0	Heart's Cry Liliside	D. Lane Y. Yahagi	U. Carrot Farm Northern Farm	2:10.8 (35.2)	5.4 (3)
2	1	1	Kiseki (JPN)	H5	58.0	Rulership Blitz Finale	Y. Kawada K. Sumii	Tatsue Ishikawa Shimokobe Farm	3 (35.8)	3.6 (1)
3	8	11	Suave Richard (JPN)	H5	58.0	Heart's Cry Pirramimma	M. Demuro Y. Shono	NICKS Co., Ltd. Northern Racing	2 (35.7)	8.8 (6)
4	4	4 B	Al Ain (JPN)	H5	58.0	Deep Impact Dubai Majesty	Y. Kitamura Y. Ikee	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	2 (36.1)	8.4 (5)
5	2	2	Rey de Oro (JPN)	H5	58.0	King Kamehameha La Dorada	C. Lemaire K. Fujisawa	U. Carrot Farm Northern Racing	3/4 (36.0)	3.9 (2)
6	7	10	Noble Mars (JPN)	H6	58.0	Jungle Pocket I and You	R. Takakura H. Miyamoto	Nobuhiko Yoshiki Tagami Farm	1-3/4 (36.0)	79.5 (10)
7	5	6	Stiffelio (JPN)	H5	58.0	Stay Gold Serious Attitude	G. Maruyama H. Otonashi	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm	Neck (36.3)	26.8 (8)
8	7	9	Clincher (JPN)	H5	58.0	Deep Sky The Fates	K. Miura H. Miyamoto	Koji Maeda Hirayama Bokujo	3/4 (36.4)	34.0 (9)

9	3	3 B	Etario (JPN)	C4	58.0	Stay Gold Hot Cha Cha	N. Yokoyama Y. Tomomichi	G Riviere Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	Neck (36.4)	7.8 (4)
10	6	8	Shonan Bach (JPN)	H8	58.0	Stay Gold Sugar Heart	Y. Yoshida H. Uehara	Tetsuhide Kunimoto Yanagawa Bokujo	Head (35.9)	92.1 (11)
11	6	7	Makahiki (JPN)	H6	58.0	Deep Impact Wikiwiki	Y. Iwata Y. Tomomichi	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd. Kaneko Makoto Holdings Inc.	1-1/2 (36.3)	11.8 (7)
12	5	5	Tatsu Gogeki (JPN)	H7	58.0	Marvelous Sunday Nishino Plumeria	S. Akiyama I. Sameshima	Takayuki Suzuki Kawakami Bokujo	6 (37.5)	140.6 (12)

FP=Final Position / BK=Bracket Number / PP=Post Position / B=Blinker / 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: 2:10.8

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Cloudy

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 19,464,574,300

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 28,043,575,400

ATTENDANCE: 62,368

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.12	¥ 540	BRACKET QUINELLA	1-8	¥ 620	QUINELLA	1-12	¥ 970
PLACE	No.12	¥ 180	QUINELLA PLACE	1-12	¥ 340	EXACTA	12-1	¥ 2,210
	No.1	¥ 140		11-12	¥ 760	TRIO	1-11-12	¥ 2,720
	No.11	¥ 260		1-11	¥ 630	TRIFECTA	12-1-11	¥ 14,560

1. Lys Gracieux (JPN), dark bay or brown, mare, 5-year-olds

Heart's Cry / Liliside (American Post)

Owner: U. Carrot Farm

Breeder: Northern Farm

Trainer: Yoshito Yahagi

Jockey: Damian Lane

20 starts, 5 Wins

Added money: ¥ 152,562,000 Career earnings: ¥ 681,039,500

2. Kiseki (JPN), dark bay or brown, horse, 5-year-olds

Rulership / Blitz Finale (Deep Impact)

Owner: Tatsue Ishikawa

Breeder: Shimokobe Farm

Trainer: Katsuhiko Sumii

Jockey: Yuga Kawada

3. Suave Richard (JPN), chestnut, horse, 5-year-olds

Heart's Cry / Pirramimma (Unbridled's Song)

Owner: NICKS Co., Ltd.

Breeder: Northern Racing

Trainer: Yasushi Shono

Jockey: Mirco Demuro

Lys Gracieux Outruns Male Rivals in This Year's Grand-Prix Takarazuka Kinen

Third favorite **Lys Gracieux**, the only female in a field of 12 strong runners, claimed the 60th running of the all-star Takarazuka Kinen to become the fourth filly/mare to claim the spring Grand-Prix since *Marialite* in 2016. Capturing her first G1 title in last year's Queen Elizabeth II Cup (G1, 2,200m) at Kyoto in November, she was runner-up in both the following Hong Kong Vase (G1, 2,400m) in December and the Kinko Sho (G2, 2,000m) in March and came off a third in Hong Kong's Queen Elizabeth II Cup (G1, 2,000m) in April. This win marked trainer Yoshito Yahagi's seventh JRA-G1 win following his Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks) title with Loves Only You in May. For jockey Damian Lane, this marked his second JRA-G1 title following his win in the Victoria Mile with Normcore in May. Lane registered 37 victories including six graded titles riding in JRA races under a short-term license between the end of April and this weekend.

Quick out of the gate, **Lys Gracieux** rushed out from the outermost draw and settled unusually toward the front to press the pace behind **Kiseki**. Turning the last corner outside the frontrunner, still in second, the 5-year-old

daughter of *Heart's Cry* made bid immediately after entering the lane, dueled strongly with the race favorite until overtaking the front 200 meters out and shifted into higher gear to easily pull away for a clean three-length victory.

“The horse turned out in perfect condition. I was very lucky to be able to board her today. She broke well and I thought I might as well use that to my advantage. I was very confident turning in that she had plenty left in the tank and I was worried that there were a lot of good horses chasing and I thought that they would challenge but she was just too strong,” commented Damian Lane.

Race favorite **Kiseki**, though breaking somewhat slowly from the innermost draw, took the front as usual to set the pace and continued to hold on well even after entering the homestretch. The son of *Rulership*, however, ran out of fuel in the last 200 meters while still managing to come in second.

Sixth pick **Suave Richard** traveled wide behind **Lys Gracieux**, around fourth from the front, and continued to chase the eventual winner until the wire, nailing **Al Ain** along the way to finish two lengths behind **Kiseki** in third.

Other Horses:

4th: (4) **Al Ain**—tracked leaders in 3rd, overtaken by **Suave Richard** 200m out, no match for top finishers

5th: (2) **Rey de Oro**—saved ground in 6th, entered 5th to straight, failed to close in on front runners

6th: (10) **Noble Mars**—ran in 8th, circled wide, passed tired rivals

7th: (6) **Stiffelio**—raced in 5th, entered 6-7th to lane, even paced

8th: (9) **Clincher**—traveled in 7th, driven after 3rd corner, failed to respond

9th: (3) **Etario**—settled in 10th, made headway after 3rd corner, lacked needed kick at straight

10th: (8) **Shonan Bach**—sat 2nd from last along rails, never fired at stretch

11th: (7) **Makahiki**—trailed in far rear, struggled to find clear path, unable to reach contention

12th: (5) **Tatsu Gogeki**—hugged rails in 9th, showed little at stretch

Fractional time (sec/furlong): 12.6 - 11.4 - 11.5 - 12.4 - 12.1 - 11.9 - 12.0 - 11.6 - 11.5 - 11.4 - 12.4
Last 4 furlongs: 46.9 Last 3 furlongs: 35.3

Positions at each corner: 1st corner (*1,**12**)4(6,11)(2,9)10,5,3,8-7
2nd corner 1(4,**12**)(6,11)2,9(5,10)-3,8-7
3rd corner 1,**12**(4,11)(2,6,9)(5,10,3)8-7
4th corner 1,**12**(4,11)(2,6,9)3(5,10)(8,7)

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.