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## SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 64TH ARIMA KINEN (G1)

Established in 1956 under the name “Nakayama Grand Prix,” the race was renamed to Arima Kinen (Arima Memorial) a year later after the sudden passing of the second JRA president, Yoriyasu Arima. Arima initiated the idea of holding an attractive event at Nakayama Racecourse, where a new grandstand had just been completed at that time, in an attempt to create a race that would receive as much attention as the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby) held at Tokyo Racecourse. The Arima Kinen was designed to be a season-end Grand Prix, in which the runners are selected by fan poll—an “All-Star” event in Japanese racing. 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. Foreign runners that won the Japan Cup (G1, 2,400m) became eligible to race in the Arima in 2000, then the race was designated as an international G1 race and open to a maximum of six foreign runners in 2007.

Recent Arima Kinen victors such as Orfevre (JPN, by Stay Gold; '13), Gentildonna (JPN, by Deep Impact; '14) and Kitasan Black (JPN, by Black Tide; '17) have capped off their stellar racing careers with an impressive win in the race.

This year's contenders that were among the top ten in the poll were: **Almond Eye** (1st) who claimed her sixth G1 title in the Tenno Sho (Autumn) (G1, 2,000m; Oct.27); **Lys Gracieux** (2nd), coming off a win in the Cox Plate (G1, 2,040m; Oct.26); 2017 Kikuka Sho (Japanese St. Leger, G1, 3,000m) winner **Kiseki** (3rd), making his first start since the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (G1, 2,400m; Oct.6); Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, 2,000m) champion **Saturnalia** (4th) who was sixth in the Tenno Sho (Autumn); Tenno Sho (Spring) (G1, 3,200m) victor **Fierement** (6th), also back from the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe; **World Premiere** (7th), winner of the Kikuka Sho (Oct.20); **Suave Richard** (8th) who registered his second G1 victory in the Japan Cup (Nov.24) and 2018 Tenno Sho (Autumn) winner **Rey de Oro** (9th) who was 11th in the Japan Cup.

Other notable contenders included; Osaka Hai (G1, 2,000m) victor **Al Ain** (12th); 2017 Japan Cup champion **Cheval Grand** (13th); Satsuki Sho runner-up **Velox** (17th) and 2017 NHK Mile Cup (G1, 1,600m) victor **Aerolith** (18th).

Horses that were ranked among the top ten but passed up their entry were Blast Onepiece (JPN, C4, by Harbinger; 5th) and Wagnerian (JPN, C4, by Deep Impact; 10th).

The race record of 2:29.5 was set by Zenno Rob Roy (JPN, by Sunday Silence) in 2004.

### THE 64TH ARIMA KINEN (G1)

3-year-olds & up, 2,500 meters (about 12.5 furlongs), turf, right-handed

Sunday, December 22, 2019 Nakayama Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:25

Total prize money: ¥ 648,000,000 (about US\$ 5,635,000 <US\$1=¥115>)

3-y-o: 55kg (about 121 lbs), 4-y-o & up: 57kg (about 126 lbs),

2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares, 2kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2016

Safety factor: 16 runners

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	3	6	Lys Gracieux (JPN)	M5	55.0	Heart's Cry Liliside	D. Lane Y. Yahagi	U. Carrot Farm Northern Farm	2:30.5 (34.7)	6.7 (2)
2	5	10	Saturnalia (JPN)	C3	55.0	Lord Kanaloa Cesario	C. Soumillon K. Sumii	U. Carrot Farm Northern Farm	5 (35.4)	7.8 (3)
3	4	7	World Premiere (JPN)	C3	55.0	Deep Impact Mandela	Y. Take Y. Tomomichi	Ryoichi Otsuka Northern Racing	Neck (35.0)	13.4 (4)
4	3	5	Fierement (JPN)	C4	57.0	Deep Impact Lune d'Or	K. Ikezoe T. Tezuka	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing	1-1/2 (36.0)	18.4 (6)
5	6	11	Kiseki (JPN)	H5	57.0	Rulership Blitz Finale	R. Moore K. Sumii	Tatsue Ishikawa Shimokobe Farm	Neck (35.8)	27.1 (7)
6	8	16	Cheval Grand (JPN)	H7	57.0	Heart's Cry Halwa Sweet	Y. Fukunaga Y. Tomomichi	Kazuhiro Sasaki Northern Racing	1-3/4 (35.8)	135.4 (14)
7	4	8 B	Rey de Oro (JPN)	H5	57.0	King Kamehameha La Dorada	K. Miura K. Fujisawa	U. Carrot Farm Northern Racing	1-1/4 (36.0)	35.8 (9)
8	7	14	Velox (JPN)	C3	55.0	Just a Way Selkis	Y. Kawada M. Nakauchida	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	1 (36.7)	33.7 (8)

9	5	9	Almond Eye (JPN)	F4	55.0	Lord Kanaloa Fusaichi Pandora	C. Lemaire S. Kunieda	Silk Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing	Nose (36.9)	1.5 (1)
10	2	3 B	Etario (JPN)	C4	57.0	Stay Gold Hot Cha Cha	N. Yokoyama Y. Tomomichi	G Riviere Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	Neck (37.2)	85.0 (10)
11	7	13	Al Ain (JPN)	H5	57.0	Deep Impact Dubai Majesty	K. Matsuyama Y. Ikee	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	2-1/2 (38.0)	160.6 (15)
12	1	2	Suave Richard (JPN)	H5	57.0	Heart's Cry Pirramimma	O. Murphy Y. Shono	NICKS Co., Ltd. Northern Racing	5 (38.3)	17.5 (5)
13	2	4	Stiffelio (JPN)	H5	57.0	Stay Gold Serious Attitude	G. Maruyama H. Otonashi	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm	2-1/2 (39.9)	133.4 (13)
14	8	15	Aerolithe (JPN)	M5	55.0	Kurofune Asterix	A. Tsumura T. Kikuzawa	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing	6 (42.1)	107.1 (12)
15	1	1	Scarlet Color (JPN)	F4	55.0	Victoire Pisa Ventus	Y. Iwata R. Takahashi	Koji Maeda North Hills Co., Ltd.	1-3/4 (39.8)	104.6 (11)
16	6	12	Crocsmia (JPN)	M6	55.0	Stay Gold Developee	Y. Fujioka K. Nishiura	Ryoichi Otsuka Hideo Takadaru	Neck (40.6)	207.1 (16)

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: 2:30.5

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Cloudy

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 46,889,714,600

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 59,339,791,000

ATTENDANCE: 90,374

#### PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.6	¥ 670	BRACKET QUINELLA	3-5	¥ 300	QUINELLA	6-10	¥ 2,990
PLACE	No.6	¥ 210	QUINELLA PLACE	6-10	¥ 850	EXACTA	6-10	¥ 6,130
	No.10	¥ 270		6-7	¥ 1,450	TRIO	6-7-10	¥ 10,750
	No.7	¥ 390		7-10	¥ 2,000	TRIFECTA	6-10-7	¥ 57,860

#### 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

22 Starts, 7 Wins

Added money: ¥ 303,402,000 Career earnings: ¥ 1,217,200,100

#### 2. Saturnalia (JPN), dark bay or brown, colt, 3-year-olds

Lord Kanaloa / Cesario (Special Week)

Owner: U. Carrot Farm Breeder: Northern Farm

Trainer: Katsuhiko Sumii Jockey: Christophe Soumillon

#### 3. World Premiere (JPN), dark bay or brown, colt, 3-year-olds

Deep Impact / Mandela (Acatenango)

Owner: Ryoichi Otsuka Breeder: Northern Racing

Trainer: Yasuo Tomomichi Jockey: Yutaka Take

#### Lys Gracieux Defeats Strong All-Star Field in Her Last Run at Arima Kinen

Second pick **Lys Gracieux** claimed this year's Arima Kinen following the Takarazuka Kinen in spring to become the 14th horse and the first mare to dominate both Grand Prix races (10th horse to win both races in the same year). The Heart's Cry mare, who registered her first G1 title in last year's Queen Elizabeth II Cup, will be retiring with a remarkable achievement of scoring three consecutive G1 wins—Takarazuka Kinen in June, Australia's prestigious Cox Plate in October and the Arima Kinen. Trainer Yoshito Yahagi marked his eighth JRA-G1 victory since the Takarazuka Kinen and jockey Damian Lane, who was riding under a one-day short-term license, scored his third JRA-G1 win following the Victoria Mile in May with Normcore and the Takarazuka Kinen in June with this mare.

Five-year-old **Lys Gracieux** broke smoothly from stall six and hugged the rails around 10-11th from the front while eyeing race favorite **Almond Eye** traveling on the outside. Jockey Damian Lane steered his mount to the outside rounding the last corner and urged her to go at the top of the stretch, to which the Heart's Cry mare responded willingly, taking the front 200 meters out and flying past the cheering crowds while leaving the field behind for a five-length victory.

“Obviously, I went into the race thinking Almond Eye would be hard to beat but I just had so much confidence in this horse, the way she improved out of the Takarazuka Kinen into the Cox Plate and Yahagi-san said she's improved again. I just knew she was going to run a big race. It was a really good pace and I found a lovely spot back in the rail. I didn't know what sort of track I was going to get but a space opened up and she did the rest,” commented jockey Damian Lane.

Third favorite **Saturnalia** traveled wide toward the rear, around fourth from last. The Lord Kanaloa colt improved position while taking a wide trip through the last corners, surged out behind **Lys Gracieux** in the last 200 meters with a strong late kick and, though unable to keep up with the powerful speed of the winner, held off the strong challenge of **World Premiere** by a neck.

Fourth choice **World Premiere** trailed in the very rear through most of the trip, circled the widest around the last two corners and dislodged an impressive late charge that timed the second fastest last three furlongs to close in on the runner-up by a neck at the wire.

Odds-on-favorite **Almond Eye** traveled in mid-division, around ninth from the front, edged forward through the last corners and was among the front horses passing the 200-meter pole but weakened thereafter to finish ninth.

“She was physically fit and in good condition but she couldn't keep her calm before the crowd in the first lap and lost her rhythm. She was unable to relax and was tired as it was a 2,500-meter race,” commented Christophe Lemaire.

#### Other Horses:

4th: (5) **Fierement**—ran outside eventual winner around 10th, advanced after 3rd corner, rallied briefly with top 2 finishers, weakened in last 100m

5th: (11) **Kiseki**—broke poorly, hugged rails around 12th, turned wide, showed belated charge

6th: (16) **Cheval Grand**—saved ground 3rd from rear, angled out, improved position

7th: (8) **Rey de Oro**—was off slow, trailed in rear, circled wide, passed tired rivals

8th: (14) **Velox**—raced inside favorite around 8th, even paced

10th: (3) **Etario**—took economic trip in 5th, lacked needed kick at stretch

11th: (13) **Al Ain**—traveled in 4th, ran gamely until 200m marker, weakened thereafter

12th: (2) **Suave Richard**—settled around 6th, found little room at final corner, never fired

13th: (4) **Stiffelio**—tracked leader in 2nd or 3rd, led briefly at early stretch, fell back after 200m pole

14th: (15) **Aerolithe**—set fast pace, opened gap, ran out of steam at final corner

15th: (1) **Scarlet Color**—hugged rails around 7th, outrun after 3rd corner

16th: (12) **Crocsmia**—chased leader in 2nd or 3rd, faded after 3rd corner

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 6.9 - 11.1 - 11.4 - 11.4 - 11.5 - 12.2 - 12.3 - 12.1 - 11.7 - 12.3 - 13.4 - 12.2 - 12.0  
Last 4 furlongs: 49.9    Last 3 furlongs: 37.6

Positions at each corner:    1st corner                    15=(4,12)13,3,2,1(14,9)(6,5)11,10-16(7,8)  
   2nd corner                    15=4,12,13,3(1,2)(14,9)(6,5)11,10-(16,8)7  
   3rd corner (2nd lap)    15=4-(12,13)-3,2(1,9)(14,5)(6,11,10)(16,8)7  
   4th corner (2nd lap)    15,4-13-(3,9,5)(2,10)(6,14,11)12(1,16,8)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.