

**SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 25TH NAKAYAMA GRAND JUMP (J-G1)**

The Nakayama Grand Jump, the biggest steeplechase event in spring, span off from the biannual Nakayama Daishogai (J-G1, 4,100m) steeplechase races in 1999. The history of the Nakayama Daishogai dates back to 1934 when the two races, one each in spring and autumn, were created for the purpose of making them the most prestigious and attractive races in steeplechase racing, just like the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby) in flat racing.

In 2000, a year after the Nakayama Grand Jump received its current name, the race became an international event. Seven foreign runners from five countries took part and Boca Boca (IRE, by Mandalus) from France finished second to Gokai (JPN, by Judge Angelucci) that year. During 2000 - 2010 when the Nakayama Grand Jump was an invitational event, St. Steven (NZ, by Hula Town) was the first foreign contingent to claim the title in 2002. He finished third the following year while Australian contender Karasi (IRE, by Kahyasi) became the first horse to win three consecutive titles between 2005 and 2007. In 2013, eighth favorite Irish raider Blackstairmountain (IRE, by Imperial Ballet) became the first European contender to claim the title.

The Nakayama Grand Jump features 12 jumps over the figure-of-eight-shaped course, which includes five up-and-downs over the banks and three hurdles set on the outside turf towards the final stretch. The 310-meter uphill stretch before the wire also is quite a test for many of the runners especially after running at a solid pace throughout the race.

Last year's victor Oju Chosan (JPN, by Stay Gold), who was awarded the JRA Award for Best Steeplechase Horse five times in 2016-2018, 2021 and 2022, retired with a sixth-place finish in the Nakayama Daishogai late last year.

The victor of last year's Nakayama Daishogai, **Nishino Daisy**, commenced the current season with a third in the Hanshin Spring Jump (J-G2, 3,900m, Mar.11) with **Mikki Meteo** behind in fourth. Key runners who came off the Pegasus Jump Stakes (3,350m, Mar.18) were the top three finishers—**Village Eagle**, **Daishin Clover** and **Irogotoshi**, in that order, while 2021 Tokyo Jump Stakes (J-G3, 3,110m) winner **Smart Apex** was fifth. The field also included **T O Socrates** who extended his winning streak to three in the Shunrei Jump Stakes (3,390m, Feb.25), and **June Velocity** who finished right behind in second in that race.

**THE 25TH NAKAYAMA GRAND JUMP (J-G1)**

4-year-olds &amp; up, 4,250 meters (about 2 and 2/3 miles), turf

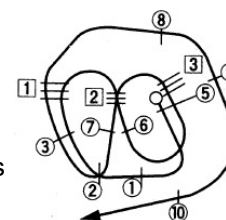
Saturday, April 15, 2023 Nakayama Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 142,660,000 (about US\$ 1,089,008 &lt;US\$1=¥131&gt;)

4-y-o: 62kg (about 137 lbs), 5-y-o &amp; up: 63kg (about 139 lbs), 2kg allowance for Fillies &amp; Mares

Course Record: 4:43.0 Race Record: 4:43.0 [Oju Chosan (JPN, by Stay Gold), 2018]

Safety factor: 16 runners Going: Yielding Weather: Rainy



FP	BK	PP	Horse Jockey	S&A Color Wgt	Odds (Fav)	Margin	Sire Dam (Dam's Sire)	Owner Breeder Trainer
1	2	2	Irogotoshi (JPN) Yu Kuroiwa	H6 b. 63.0	17.1 (6)	4:54.1	Vincennes Irojikake (Kurofuno)	Gensho Uchida Gensho Uchida Kazuya Makita
2	8	10 B	Mikki Meteo (JPN) Yusuke Igarashi	H6 b. 63.0	4.3 (2)	Distance	Rulership Meteorica (Deep Impact)	Mizuki Noda Northern Farm Yuichiro Nishida
3	7	7	Daishin Clover (JPN) Kazuma Mori	G7 d.b. 63.0	11.9 (5)	1-1/2	Kinshasa no Kiseki Hishi Diva (Fusaichi Pegasus)	Nobuyuki Oyagi Kamii Stud Takayuki Yasuda
4	7	8	T O Socrates (JPN)	H6 b.	9.6	Head	Eishin Flash T O Venus	Tomoya Ozasa Yanagawa Bokujo

			Tadashi Kosaka	63.0	(4)		(Deep Impact)	Yutaka Okumura
5	4	4	Smart Apex (JPN) Masayuki Nakamura	H6 br. 63.0	32.4 (8)	2-1/2	Heart's Cry Smart Movie (Sakura Bakushin O)	Toru Okawa Smart Incorporated Naoya Nakamura
6	1	1	June Velocity (JPN) Makoto Nishitani	H5 br. 63.0	27.6 (7)	7	Lord Kanaloa Admire Sabrina (Symboli Kris S)	Jun Yoshikawa Yoshikawa Holdings Hidenori Take
7	5	5	Village Eagle (JPN) Kei Oehara	H6 d.b. 63.0	7.0 (3)	4	Behkabad Tokino Nastia (New England)	Teruo Murayama Kawashima Bokujo Masahiro Takeuchi
8	6	6	Emilio (JPN) Sho Ueno	H9 b. 63.0	166.8 (10)	Neck	Admire Moon Prime of Youth (Deputy Minister)	Makoto Kato Hidaka Taiyo Bokujo Tsuyoshi Tanaka
9	3	3	Nishino Daisy (JPN) Shinichi Ishigami	H7 b. 63.0	1.8 (1)	2-1/2	Harbinger Nishino Hinagiku (Agnes Tachyon)	Shigeyuki Nishiyama Nishiyama Stud Noboru Takagi
10	8	9 B	Kurino Oja (JPN) Yoshiyasu Namba	H7 b. 63.0	59.1 (9)	Distance	Meisho Samson Blue Box Bow (Sunday Silence)	Mamoru Kurimoto Koki Hayashi Yoshitada Takahashi

FP: Final Position / BK: Bracket Number / PP: Post Position / B: Blinker / S&A: Sex & Age / Wgt: Weight (kg)

Color: b.=bay / bl.=black / br.=brown / ch.=chestnut / d.b.=dark bay / d.ch.=dark chestnut / g.=gray / w.=white

NOTE 1: No Foreign Contenders

NOTE 2: Figures quoted under Odds are shown in form of decimal odds (single unit is ¥100), and Fav indicates the order of favorites.

Turnover for the Race alone: ¥ 1,820,028,100

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 9,142,876,800

Attendance: 13,326

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.2	¥ 1,710	Bracket Quinella	2-8	¥ 3,870	Quinella	2-10	¥ 3,520
Place	No.2	¥ 320	Quinella Place	2-10	¥ 1,030	Exacta	2-10	¥ 9,950
	No.10	¥ 180		2-7	¥ 1,290	Trio	2-7-10	¥ 7,760
	No.7	¥ 260		7-10	¥ 640	Trifecta	2-10-7	¥ 78,090

Winner= 28 starts: 5 wins, 1 second & 4 thirds (4 starts: 2 wins & 2 thirds \*steeplechases only)

Added money: ¥ 66,357,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 142,075,000 (¥ 80,400,000 \*steeplechases only)

### **Irogotoshi Shows Stamina Romping to Nakayama Grand Jump Win**

Sixth favorite **Irogotoshi** captured his first graded victory in this year's Nakayama Grand Jump in his fourth start in jump racing, becoming the first horse to do so with the least career starts. The six-year-old debuted in flat racing as a two-year-old and registered 3 wins among 24 starts with a fifth in the 2020 Kyoto Shimbun Hai (G2, 2,200m) as his best finish at the graded level. After switching to steeplechase racing this year, he claimed his first win in his second start and landed a third in his next and latest race, the Pegasus Jump Stakes (3,350m) on March 18. He also marks a milestone in becoming the first Kyushu-born horse to win at the highest level while most are born and bred on the northern island of Hokkaido. For trainer Kazuya Makita, who opened his yard in 2011, this was his first G1 title after claiming three graded wins in flat racing. Jockey Yu Kuroiwa also celebrates his fourth grade-race and first G1 title since his debut in 2002.

The field of ten broke on the rain-soaked track with third favorite **Village Eagle** taking the lead as expected, followed by **T O Socrates** and **Mikki Meteo** while **Irogotoshi** was settled in mid-pack. After taking a wide move into the backstretch coming out of the last dip still in fifth, the son of Vincennes cleared the 10th obstacle (no.8) beside the race favorite in fourth, made rapid headway from the outside to easily take over the lead from the tired pacesetter before the 11th jump (no.9) and showed incredible stamina to pull away comfortably for the win, 3.1 seconds ahead of the next finisher.

“His experience as a jumper is very short but since he prepped here at this same racecourse last month, I had a good feeling he was going to show a better performance today. He has an amazing sense of the game—to run like that against such a strong field nearly as a novice—we have a lot to look forward to in the future,” commented Yu Kuroiwa.

Second favorite **Mikki Meteo** was positioned in fifth early, advanced to run in third from the 3rd jump (no. 2) up to the backstretch, dropped to sixth before the 11th jump (no.9) but found another gear to accelerate and inherit the runner-up seat 100 meters out while never imposing any threat to the winner.

Favored fifth, **Daishin Clover** raced in around seventh, steadily closed the gap with the frontrunners after the 7th jump (no.7), circled wide into the stretch and after clearing the final obstacle (no.10) in fourth, showed a late charge to pass the tiring **T O Socrates** at the wire for third.

Race favorite **Nishino Daisy** missed his break and trailed in the rear but gradually elevated to fifth by the 8th jump (no.2), cleared the 10th obstacle (no.8) in third, but was used up by the last corner and faded to ninth.

#### Other Horses:

4th: (8) **T O Socrates**—tracked leader in 2nd, took brief lead after 10th jump (no.8), soon surrendered lead, overtaken by runner-up 100m out and missed third place just before wire

5th: (4) **Smart Apex**—settled near pace around 4th early, dropped back after 5th jump (no.6), angled out to improve position at stretch

6th: (1) **June Velocity**—ran near rear, passed tired rivals at stretch

7th: (5) **Village Eagle**—set pace until 10th jump (no.8), faded

8th: (6) **Emilio**—raced 2nd from rear, no factor throughout trip

10th: (9) **Kurino Oja**—traveled around 5th early, gradually fell back

Fractional time: Last 1 mile: 1:47.7 Last 4 furlongs: 53.5 Last 3 furlongs: 40.4

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

**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.