

# Racecourses

## JRA Racecourses

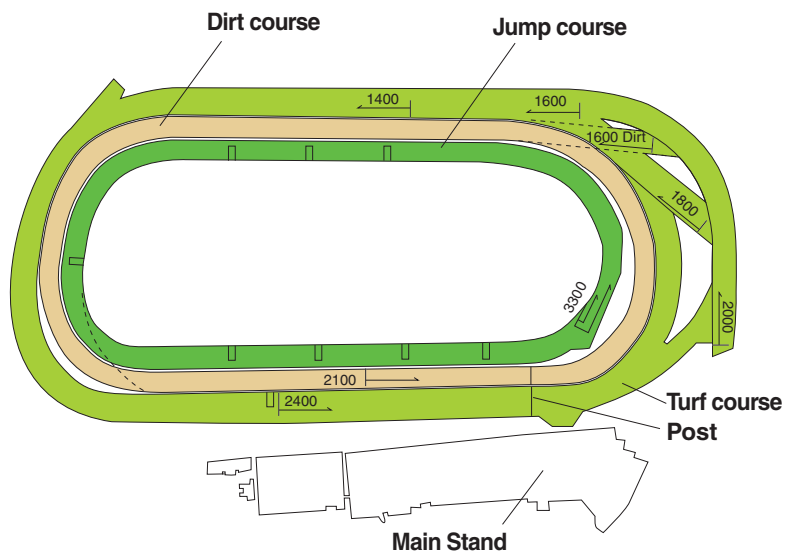
Tokyo, Nakayama, Kyoto and Hanshin are known as the “big four” of the 10 racecourses of JRA, and, along with Chukyo, all GI races are held at these five courses. Three racecourses, Tokyo, Niigata and Chukyo, have counterclockwise courses and the other tracks have right-handed courses.



### Tokyo Racecourse

Offering a view of Mt. Fuji to the southwest, this is JRA's largest racecourse. It is host to the February Stakes (GI), NHK Mile Cup (GI), Victoria Mile (GI), Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks) (GI), Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby) (GI),

Yasuda Kinen (GI), Tenno Sho (Autumn) (GI) and Japan Cup (GI). Thrilling races take place down a 530-meter-long homestretch. The refurbishment of the grandstand was completed in the spring of 2007. This facility can now seat more than 120,000.



#### Main course (turf)

	Length	Width
A Course	2,083.1 m	31–41 m
B Course	2,101.3 m	28–38 m
C Course	2,119.6 m	25–35 m
D Course	2,137.8 m	22–32 m
E Course	2,156.1 m	19–29 m

#### Dirt course

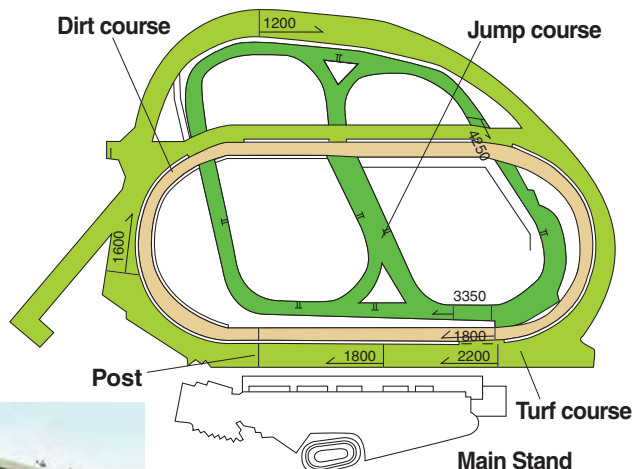
Length	Width
1,899.0 m	25 m

#### Jump course (turf)

Length	Width
1,674.7 m	25 m

## Nakayama Racecourse

This racecourse holds the Nakayama Grand Jump (J-GI), Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas) (GI), Sprinters Stakes (GI), Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (GI), Nakayama Daishogai (J-GI) and Arima Kinen (The Grand Prix) (GI). The rising slope along the final 200 meters of the homestretch adds to the interest of races. The steeplechase course has three inclining steps unique to Nakayama.



### Main course (turf) Oval track:

	Length	Width
Inner oval	1,667.1 m	20–32 m
Outer oval	1,839.7 m	

### Dirt course (Oval)

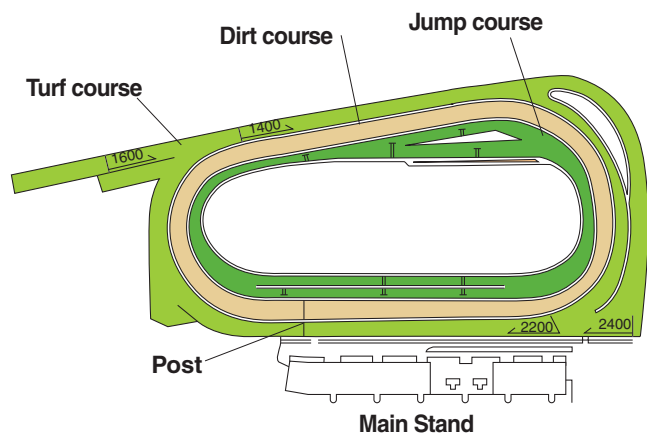
	Length	Width
	1,493.0 m	25 m

### Jump course (turf)

	Length	Width
O-line	1,456.4 m	20–30 m
X-line	447.5 m and 424.3 m	20–30 m

## Kyoto Racecourse

Kyoto features a pond in the infield and an attractive appearance appropriate to Kyoto. This racecourse is host to the Tenno Sho (Spring) (GI), Shuka Sho (GI), Kikuka Sho (Japanese St. Leger) (GI), Queen Elizabeth II Commemorative Cup (GI) and Mile Championship (GI). The ability to overcome the inclination at the third turn of this track is said to be the deciding factor for races at Kyoto.



### Main course (turf)

	Length	Width
<b>Inner oval Outer oval</b>		
A Course	1,782.8 m 1,894.3 m	27–38 m
B Course	1,802.2 m 1,913.6 m	24–35 m
C Course	1,821.1 m 1,932.4 m	21–32 m
D Course	1,839.9 m 1,951.3 m	18–29 m

### Dirt course

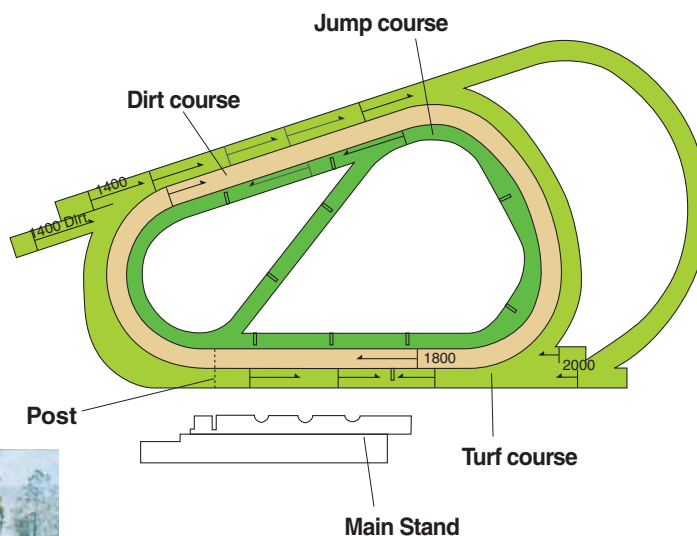
	Length	Width
Oval	1,607.6 m	25 m

### Jump course (turf)

	Length	Width
Normal	1,413.9 m	23 m
Grand	1,399.8 m	20 m

## Hanshin Racecourse

Hanshin Racecourse is host to the Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas) (GI), Takarazuka Kinen (GI), Japan Cup Dirt (GI) and Hanshin Juvenile Fillies (GI). It has a new outer turf track. Around its uniquely long curves, past the fourth pole, down a straightaway that is longer than the one on Kyoto's outer track, a steep rise awaits the runners just before they reach finish line. Fans love to experience the powerful thrusts and parries of the racers trying to get gain the lead in front of the goal.



### Turf course (inner oval)

Course	Length	Width	Homestretch length	Undulation
A	1,689.0 m	24–28 m	356.5 m	1.8 m
B	1,713.2 m	20–25 m	359.1 m	

### Turf course (outer oval)

Course	Length	Width	Homestretch length	Undulation
A	2,089.0 m	24–28 m	473.6 m	2.3 m
B	2,113.2 m	20–25 m	476.3 m	

### Dirt course

Length	Width	Homestretch length	Undulation
1,517.6 m	22–25 m	352.5 m	1.5 m

### Steeplechase track (Turf)

O-line	Length	Width	Homestretch length	Undulation
	1,366.7 m	20.5 m	403.7 m	1.3 m

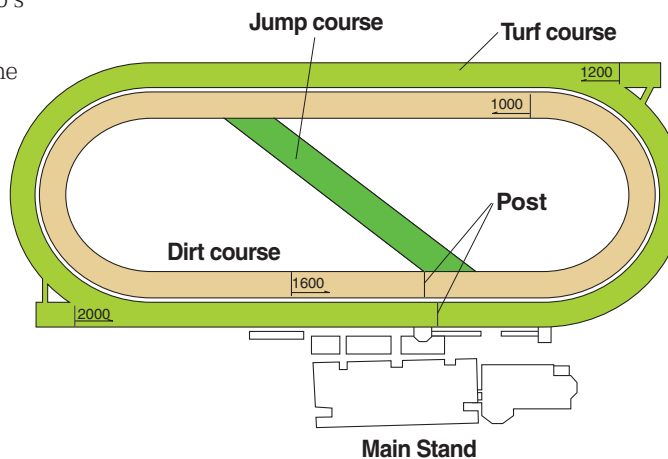
## Chukyo Racecourse

The Takamatsunomiya Kinen (GI) is held on Chukyo's turf track. The elevation of this track varies by a comparatively small three meters, which produces some very fast-paced racing.

Chukyo Racecourse is planning renovations from April 2010 to January 2012.

### Main course (turf)

	Length	Width
A Course	1,600.0 m	28 m
B Course	1,618.8 m	25 m
C Course	1,631.4 m	23 m
Dirt course	Length	Width
	1,417.8 m	25 m
Jump course (turf)	Length	Width
S-line	474.0 m	17 m



## SAPPORO

Main course (turf)	Length	Width
A Course	1,640.9 m	25–27 m
B Course	1,650.3 m	24–26 m
C Course	1,659.8 m	22–24 m
Dirt course	1,487.0 m	20 m

## HAKODATE

(The grandstand renovation is slated to be completed during the spring of 2010.)

Main course (turf)	Length	Width
A Course	1,627.0 m	29 m
B Course	1,652.0 m	25 m
C Course	1,677.0 m	21 m
Dirt course	1,476.0 m	20 m

## FUKUSHIMA

Main course (turf)	Length	Width
A Course	1,600.0 m	25–27 m
B Course	1,614.1 m	23–25 m
C Course	1,628.1 m	20–23 m
Dirt course	1,444.6 m	20–25 m
Jump course (turf)		
S-line	490.9 m	20 m

## NIIGATA

Main course (turf)	Length	Width
	<b>Inner oval</b>	<b>Outer oval</b>
A Course	1,623.0 m	2,223.0 m
B Course	1,648.1 m	2,248.1 m
Dirt course		
	<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>
	1,472.5 m	20 m
Straightaway course	1,000.0 m	

## KOKURA

Main course (turf)	Length	Width
A Course	1,615.1 m	30 m
B Course	1,633.9 m	27 m
C Course	1,652.8 m	24 m
Dirt course	1,445.4 m	24 m
Jump course (turf)		
O-line	1,309.0 m	16–20 m
S-line	415.7 m	

Hakodate Racecourse held its last races in August 2008 before closing for renovations. It is scheduled to reopen with a new look in June 2010.

## NAR Racecourses

There are \*16 flat racecourses nationwide for Racing by Local Governments. All of these courses, with the exception of Morioka Racecourse, have only dirt tracks. The tracks at these racecourses have circumferences of 1,000 to 1,600 meters, widths of 16 to 25 meters, homestretches from 200 to 380 meters and safety factors which range from 12 to 16 horses for a race. These tracks are shorter and run fewer horses, in comparison to those tracks of JRA.

Also, the one Ban-ei track of NAR used for draft horse racing, features one straight 200-meter track with two "humps (1 to 1.7-meter sand mounds)", which must be navigated. (\*Asahikawa racecourse ended racing in November 2008.)

## Ohi Racecourse

Facing Tokyo Bay, this is the largest racecourse in Racing by Local Governments. Ohi holds American-style dirt races. Night races are held from spring through fall, making the track very popular among fans on the way home from work. Racing and the decorative lights can be enjoyed while dining in a spacious restaurant. Ohi holds annual exchange races with Santa Anita Park in the USA.

Dirt course	Length	Width
Right-handed	<b>Inner oval</b>	<b>Outer oval</b>
	1,400.0 m	1,600.0 m
Straightaway	286 m	386 m



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## Morioka Racecourse

Large statues of horses and paintings are on display in the grandstands, which itself, was renovated in 1996. Inside the 1,600 meter dirt track is the only turf course (1,400 meters) in Racing by Local Governments. Also, unusual for NAR racing, this track varies some 4.5 meters in elevation

Main course (dirt)	Length	Width
Left-handed	1,600.0 m	25 m
Straightaway	300 m	
Turf course	Length	Width
Left-handed	1,400.0 m	25 m
Straightaway	300 m	



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## Funabashi Racecourse

The Funabashi Racecourse is located in Funabashi City, a seaside city of Tokyo Bay, which is close to Tokyo Disneyland. This racecourse features an oval dirt course with a large angle of entry and a small angle of exit. It is famous for being the host venue of the first Nad Al Sheba Racecourse Cup organized as a trophy exchange race with the Nad Al Sheba Racecourse in Dubai.

Dirt course	Length		Width
	Left-handed	Inner oval Outer oval	
	1,250.0 m	1,400.0 m	20/25 m
Straightaway	308 m	308 m	



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## Female Jockeys in NAR races

NAR's first female jockey rode in Iwate Prefecture in 1968. Since then, 56 women have acquired NAR jockey's licenses (three for draft horse racing). Twelve female jockeys are currently active in NAR for 2009, two of whom, are in draft horse racing. The Ladies Jockeys Series, established in 2006, are held at three local government racecourses every year.



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## OBIHIRO

Ban-ei course	Length	Width	
	200 m	21 m	

## MOMBETSU

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Right-handed	1,600.0 m	25 m	330 m

## MIZUSAWA

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Right-handed	1,200.0 m	20 m	245 m

## KANAZAWA

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Right-handed	1,200.0 m	20 m	236 m

## URAWA

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Left-handed	1,200.0	16–21.5	220 m

## KAWASAKI

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Left-handed	1,200.0 m	25 m	300 m

## KASAMATSU

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Right-handed	1,100.0 m	20 m	201 m

## NAGOYA

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Right-handed	1,100.0 m	23–25 m	194 m

## SONODA

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Right-handed	1,051.0 m	20–24 m	228 m

## HIMEJI

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Right-handed	1,200.0 m	20–25 m	230 m

## FUKUYAMA

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Right-handed	1,000.0 m	18–25 m	220m

## KOCHI

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Right-handed	1,100.0 m	22–27 m	200 m

## SAGA

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Right-handed	1,100.0 m	19.2–24 m	200 m

## ARAO

Dirt course	Length	Width	Straightaway
Right-handed	1,200.0 m	20–25 m	220 m

JRA's Sapporo and Chukyo racecourses are also used as venues for NAR. (Asahikawa racecourse ended racing in November 2008.)