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DATE: December 26, 2015

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 138TH NAKAYAMA DAISHOGAI (J-G1)



The history of the Nakayama Daishogai dates back to 1934 when the biggest jump race in Japan was established in the aim of providing equal excitement to the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby), which was the most popular race in flat racing. The highest level of steeplechase racing was originally held as a biannual event held in April and December until the spring version was renamed the Nakayama Grand Jump (J-G1, 4,250m) in 1999. Still, the two jump races continued to position itself as the only two obstacle races of J-G1 level of equal standard and its results serving as a decisive factor in the selection of the seasonal JRA Award for Best Steeplechase Horse. In addition to the Nakayama Grand Jump, which was designated an international race in 2000, the Nakayama Daishogai became an international steeplechase event open to foreign contenders in 2011.

The Nakayama Daishogai features 11 jumps over the figure-of-eight-shaped course which includes six up-and-downs over the banks. The first half resembles that of the Nakayama Grand Jump while the Nakayama Daishogai does not include the movable hurdles along the outside turf track and the total distance being 150 meters shorter. The 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 champion Red Kingdom (JPN, by Deep Impact) retired this spring as he was found to have a bowed tendon after finishing seventh in this year's Nakayama Grand Jump in April. **Up to Date**, who claimed the Nakayama Grand Jump with record time, came off a five-month break after scoring another win in the Kokura Summer Jump (J-G3, 3,390m) held in August.

Contenders coming off the Illumination Jump Stakes (3,570m) held on December 5 were: winner **Sanacion** who marked a five-race winning streak, which also included the Tokyo High-Jump (J-G2, 3,110m) in October; runner-up **Ashvin**; third-place finisher and 2013 & 2014 Best Steeplechase Horse **Apollo Maverick** who was the Nakayama Daishogai champion in 2013; fourth-place **Oju Chosan** who had scored three wins a second and a third out of nine starts since switching to steeplechase racing.

Other contenders included: **Dantsu Mutant** and **Makio Bowler** who came off a win in the Kyoto Jump Stakes (J-G3, 3,170m) on November 14 and Shuyo Jump Stakes (3,110m) on November 23, respectively; and **Tyrian Purple**, winner of the Niigata Jump Stakes (J-G3, 3,250m) in August.

Symboli Montreux (JPN, by Mogami) set the record when winning the 1991 Nakayama Daishogai (Autumn) in 4:37.2.

THE 138TH NAKAYAMA DAISHOGAI (J-G1)

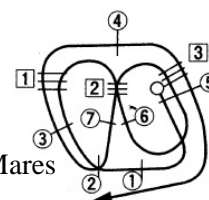
3-year-old & up, 4,100 meters (about 2.56 miles), turf

Saturday, December 26, 2015 Nakayama Racecourse 10th Race Post time: 14:45

Total prize money: ¥ 135,000,000 (about US\$ 1,125,000 <US\$1=¥120>)

3-y-o: 61kg (about 134-135 lbs), 4-y-o & up: 63kg (about 139 lbs), 2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares

Safety factor: 16 runners



FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin	Odds (Fav)
1	8	13	Up to Date (JPN)	H5	63.0	Kurofune Linear Muse	M. Hayashi S. Sasaki	Kazuo Imanishi North Hills Co., Ltd.	4:37.9	3.5 (2)
2	3	4	Acorn Path (JPN)	H6	63.0	Time Paradox Acorn Ring	J. Takada H. Matsuda	Kazuko Yoshida Shadai Corporation Inc.	1/2	20.2 (5)
3	5	8	Sanacion (JPN)	H6	63.0	Symboli Kris S Jadeite	M. Nishitani M. Matsunaga	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	2	1.7 (1)
4	6	9	Dantsu Mutant (JPN)	H6	63.0	Meiner Love Umeno Roman	K. Mori M. Honda	Tetsuji Yamamoto Nozaka Bokujo	DS	43.8 (9)
5	4	6	Tyrian Purple (JPN)	M5	61.0	Jungle Pocket Make History	K. Yamamoto T. Kanari	Masatake Iida Chiyoda Farm Shizunai	4	121.1 (12)
6	1	1	Oju Chosan (JPN)	C4	63.0	Stay Gold Shadow Silhouette	S. Ishigami S. Wada	Chosan Co., Ltd. Naoyoshi Nagayama	7	21.3 (6)
7	7	12	Ashvin (IRE)	G6	63.0	Giant's Causeway Crazy Volume	M. Nakamura K. Nakatake	Koji Maeda Lynch Bages Ltd & Samac Ltd	3/4	39.4 (7)

8	6	10	Wanted (JPN)	H5	63.0	Tanino Gimlet Tanino Holo Holo	S. Kitazawa K. Matsuda	Y. Tanimizu Country Bokujo	5	41.9 (8)
9	7	11	Tanino Tuxedo (JPN)	H5	63.0	Tanino Gimlet Tanino Sister	T. Kosaka K. Sumii	Y. Tanimizu Country Bokujo	Neck	60.2 (10)
10	5	7	Dream Sailing (JPN)	H8	63.0	Kurofune Global Peace	N. Hamanoya T. Tajima	Lion Race Horse Co., Ltd. Chiyoda Farm Shizunai	DS	67.9 (11)
11	4	5	Makio Bowler (JPN)	H5	63.0	Meisho Bowler Partition	K. Hirasawa T. Igarashi	Masato Inoke Shigeki Umamichi	1-3/4	11.6 (4)
12	8	14	Tamamo Chopin (JPN)	H6	63.0	Admire Moon Nocturne	S. Kumazawa K. Minai	Tamamo K. Tamamo Co., Ltd.	1/2	188.8 (13)
13	3	3	Shigeru Kyokucho (JPN)	H7	63.0	On Fire Pleiades	T. Ueno S. Yukubo	S. Morinaka Take Bokujo	DS	228.5 (14)
	2	2	Apollo Maverick (JPN)	H6	63.0	Apollo Kingdom Omega Fastar	Y. Igarashi M. Horii	Apollo Thoroughbred Club Apollo Thoroughbred Club	FF	11.1 (3)

FP=Final Position / BK=Bracket Number / PP=Post Position / Wgt=Weight / DS=Distance / FF=Fail to Finish

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: 4:37.9

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Fine

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE:

¥ 1,663,439,100

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY:

¥ 9,892,973,500

ATTENDANCE: 39,401

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.13	¥350	BRACKET QUINELLA	3-8	¥5,140	QUINELLA	4-13	¥4,720
PLACE	No.13	¥130	QUINELLA PLACE	4-13	¥1,140	EXACTA	13-4	¥9,330
	No.4	¥300		8-13	¥190	TRIO	4-8-13	¥2,850
	No.8	¥110		4-8	¥590	TRIFECTA	13-4-8	¥28,680

1. Up to Date (JPN), gray, horse, 5-year-old

Kurofune / Linear Muse (Tony Bin)

Owner: Kazuo Imanishi

Breeder: North Hills Co., Ltd.

Trainer: Shozo Sasaki

Jockey: Mitsuaki Hayashi

23 Starts, 7 Wins (8 Starts, 5 Wins *steeplechases only)

Added money: ¥ 65,497,000

Career earnings: ¥ 224,248,000 (¥ 193,200,000 *steeplechases only)

Principal Race Performances:

'15 Nakayama Grand Jump (J-G1, 4,250m) 1st

'15 Kokura Summer Jump (J-G3, 3,390m) 1st

2. Acorn Path (JPN), chestnut, horse, 6-year-old

Time Paradox / Acorn Ring (Jade Robbery)

Owner: Kazuko Yoshida

Breeder: Shadai Corporation Inc.

Trainer: Hiroyoshi Matsuda

Jockey: Jun Takada

3. Sanacion (JPN), bay, horse, 6-year-old

Symboli Kris S / Jadeite (Sunday Silence)

Owner: Sunday Racing Co., Ltd.

Breeder: Northern Farm

Trainer: Mikio Matsunaga

Jockey: Makoto Nishitani

Up to Date Wins the Nakayama Daishogai to Capture both J-G1 Jump Titles in 2015

Second pick **Up to Date** claimed this year's Nakayama Daishogai, marking a three grade-race winning streak since winning the Nakayama Grand Jump in April to ensure his JRA Award Best Steeplechase Horse title for 2015. He is the first horse to win both JRA-G1 races in the same year since the grading system was introduced to steeplechase racing in 1999. This win marked trainer Shozo Sasaki's second steeplechase G1 title following this year's

Nakayama Grand Jump and seventh JRA-G1 win overall (including five titles in flat racing). This also marked jockey Mitsuaki Hayashi's second steeplechase G1 title following the Nakayama Grand Jump and 12th steeplechase grade-race title overall.

Up to Date broke alertly from stall 13 and advanced to third behind **Sanacion** after the first jump. Stalking behind the race favorite for most of the journey, the son of Kurofune progressed to second after **Sanacion** overtook the front at the tenth obstacle (fence 4). The five-year-old gray closed in on the leader and dueled strongly in the last 200 meters but pulled away in the last strides while fending off the strong challenge by **Acorn Path** before the wire for his second G1 victory.

"We were marking Sanacion throughout the trip but the pace was fast. We were challenged by Acorn Pass before the wire but the horse managed to fend him off," commented Mitsuaki Hayashi. "Up to Date was injured when he had won the Kokura Summer Jump and it took some time to bring him back to his form. We were worried about the transportation but he had gained six kilos and grown up mentally since the last race. He seems to become stronger with longer distance and he's a really tough horse," added Shozo Sasaki.

Fifth choice **Acorn Path** settled in midfield and gradually improved his position to fourth around the seventh obstacle (fence 7) and raced behind **Up to Date** all the way to the homestretch, threatening the winner in the last strides, but finishing 1/2 length short in second.

Race favorite **Sanacion** broke sharply and settled behind frontrunner **Dream Sailing** in second. The Illumination Jump Stakes winner made an early bid, drew even with the frontrunner at the tenth obstacle (fence 4) and led the field until the homestretch. The Symboli Kris S bay dueled strongly with **Up to Date** in the stretch but was overtaken by the first two finishers in the last strides.

Other Horses:

4th: (9) **Dantsu Mutant**—raced 3 lengths behind winner in 5th, passed **Tyrian Purple** at stretch, but finished more than 12 lengths behind **Sanacion**

5th: (6) **Tyrian Purple**—traveled in mid-pack, advanced after 9th obstacle (fence 3), entered 4th to lane but outrun by **Dantsu Mutant** passing 200m marker

6th: (1) **Oju Chosan**—raced near rear, passed tired rivals at stretch

7th: (12) **Ashvin**—sat 3rd-4th from rear, lacked needed kick

8th: (10) **Wanted**—positioned back in mid-division, unable to reach contention

9th: (11) **Tanino Tuxedo**—ran in mid-group, stayed on same pace

10th: (7) **Dream Sailing**—set pace, led until 10th obstacle (fence 4), ran out of steam thereafter

11th: (5) **Makio Bowler**—traveled in mid-pack, sustained bid until stretch, then outrun

12th: (14) **Tamamo Chopin**—raced in mid-division, gradually dropped back after 2nd corner (2nd lap)

13th: (3) **Shigeru Kyokucho**—far rear throughout trip, no factor

Fail to Finish: (2) **Apollo Maverick**—pulled up before 6th obstacle (fence 5) due to fracture in left foreleg

Fractional Time (sec./furlong): Last 4 furlongs: 52.6 Last 3 furlongs: 39.2 (1 mile: 1:48.5)

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

2nd corner 7,8,**13**-4-(9,5)6,14,11,10,12-1=3

3rd corner 8,**13**-4-(7,6)-5,9,11,10,12(14,1)=3

4th corner 8,**13**,4=6-9=5,10(7,11)12,1=14=3

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.