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SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 18TH 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, one year after the Nakayama Grand Jump received its current name, the race also became an international event. In the same year, seven foreign runners from five countries took part. *Boca Boca* (IRE, by *Mandalus*) from France finished second to *Gokai* (JPN, by *Judge Angelucci*). Between 2000 and 2010 when the Nakayama Grand Jump was an invitational event, *St. Steven* (NZ, by *Hula Town*) became the first foreign contingent to claim the title in 2002. He finished third in the following year while Australian contender *Karasi* (IRE, by *Kahyasi*) became the only horse to win three consecutive titles in 2005, 2006 and 2007. In 2013, eighth favorite Irish raider *Blackstairmountain* (IRE, by *Imperial Ballet*) became the first European contender to claim the title. Although Australian trainer Eric Musgrove for legendary *Karasi* had entered *Thubiaan* (USA, by *Dynaformer*) and *Urban Explorer* (NZ, by *Zabeel*) earlier while Irish trainer William Mullins, who trained *Blackstairmountain*, also had *Arctic Fire* (GER, by *Soldier Hollow*), *Dicosimo* (FR, by *Laveron*) and *Felix Yonger* (IRE, by *Oscar*) entered, both declined later on and the race was uncontested by runners from abroad again this year.

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.

Up to Date (JPN, by *Kurofune*), who set the 4:46.6 race record last year, went on to capture the year-end Nakayama Daishogai and was chosen Best Steeplechase Horse of 2015. However due to a popped splint in his left foreleg after a runner-up effort in his first seasonal start, the Hanshin Spring Jump (J-G2, 3,900m) on March 12, the defending champion was forced to sit out his back-to-back title challenge to seek full recovery towards an autumn comeback.

This year's line-up featured Nakayama Daishogai's third-place finisher **Sanacion** who had come off a five-length victory in the Hanshin Spring Jump where last August's Niigata Jump Stakes (J-G3, 3,250m) winner **Tyrian Purple** was 11th and **Meiner Fiesta** was a 2.9 seconds fifth. Hanshin Spring Jump finishers from second to fourth place were absent in this year's version.

Coming off another lead up race, the Pegasus Jump Stakes (3,350m) on March 26, were; winner **Wonderful World**, runner-up by 1-3/4 lengths **Bright Boy**, tenth-place **Wanted** who secured third in a couple of J-G3 runs last season. **Oju Chosan** was entered in hopes of bettering his sixth-place finish in last year's Nakayama Daishogai.

THE 18TH NAKAYAMA GRAND JUMP (J-G1)

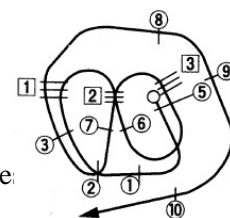
4-year-old & up, 4,250 meters (about 2 and 2/3 miles), turf

Saturday, April 16, 2016 Nakayama Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 142,660,000 (about US\$ 1,188,000 <US\$1=¥120>)

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

Safety factor: 16 runners



FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin	Odds (Fav)
1	7	7	Oju Chosan (JPN)	H5	63.0	Stay Gold Shadow Silhouette	S. Ishigami S. Wada	Chosan Co., Ltd. Naoyoshi Nagayama	4:49.4	6.5 (2)
2	2	2	Sanacion (JPN)	H7	63.0	Symboli Kris S Jadeite	M. Nishitani M. Matsunaga	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm	3-1/2	1.3 (1)
3	3	3	Meisho Arawashi (JPN)	H5	63.0	Storming Home Meisho Ageha	K. Mori A. Adachi	Yoshio Matsumoto Yoshio Matsumoto	9	48.9 (7)
4	8	9	Biko Pililani (JPN)	H6	63.0	King Kamehameha Biko Sophia	T. Tamura H. Tadokoro	U. Legend Kayo Yoshida	1/2	144.2 (10)
5	5	5	Wonderful World (JPN)	H5	63.0	Taiki Shuttle Cat Ali	K. Hirasawa Y. Takahashi	Masahiro Mita Shimokobe Farm	Neck	9.3 (3)

6	8	10	Dantsu Megahit (JPN)	G4	62.0	Taiki Shuttle Eye's Beauty	T. Kosaka K. Yamauchi	Tetsuji Yamamoto Chiyoda Farm Shizunai	4	82.2 (9)
7	4	4	Meiner Fiesta (JPN)	H6	63.0	Symboli Kris S Feriado	T. Ueno H. Nakamura	K. Thoroughbred Club Ruffian Taniguchi Bokujo	4	49.9 (8)
8	7	8 B	Tyrian Purple (JPN)	M6	61.0	Jungle Pocket Make History	K. Yamamoto T. Kanari	Masatake Iida Chiyoda Farm Shizunai	4	33.8 (6)
9	6	6	Bright Boy (JPN)	H7	63.0	Tanino Gimlet Curren Ballerina	T. Kusano M. Ogata	Y. Furukawa Hoyo Farm	1/2	12.2 (4)
1	1	1	Wanted (JPN)	H6	63.0	Tanino Gimlet Tanino Holo Holo	J. Takada K. Matsuda	Y. Tanimizu Country Bokujo	FF	19.0 (5)

FP=Final Position / BK=Bracket Number / PP=Post Position / B=Blinker / Wgt=Weight / 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: 4:49.4

GOING: Firm

WEATHER: Cloudy

TURNOVER FOR THE RACE ALONE: ¥ 1,548,058,400

TURNOVER FOR THE DAY: ¥ 7,653,567,600

ATTENDANCE: 26,369

PAY-OFF (for ¥100)

WIN	No.7	¥650	BRACKET QUINELLA	2-7	¥300	QUINELLA	2-7	¥340
PLACE	No.7	¥150	QUINELLA PLACE	2-7	¥190	EXACTA	7-2	¥1,630
	No.2	¥110		3-7	¥1,860	TRIO	2-3-7	¥3,300
	No.3	¥440		2-3	¥770	TRIFECTA	7-2-3	¥26,490

1. Oju Chosan (JPN), bay, horse, 5-year-old

Stay Gold / Shadow Silhouette (Symboli Kris S)

Owner: Chosan Co., Ltd.

Breeder: Naoyoshi Nagayama

Trainer: Shoichiro Wada

Jockey: Shinichi Ishigami

14 Starts, 4 Wins (12 Starts, 4 Wins *steeplechases only)

Added money: ¥ 66,350,000

Career earnings: ¥ 113,650,000 (¥ 113,650,000 *steeplechases only)

2. Sanacion (JPN), bay, horse, 7-year-old

Symboli Kris S / Jadeite (Sunday Silence)

Owner: Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Breeder: Northern Farm

Trainer: Mikio Matsunaga

Jockey: Makoto Nishitani

3. Meisho Arawashi (JPN), chestnut, horse, 5-year-old

Storming Home / Meisho Ageha (Creator)

Owner: Yoshio Matsumoto

Breeder: Yoshio Matsumoto

Trainer: Akio Adachi

Jockey: Kazuma Mori

Oju Chosan Swoops Past Favorite for Nakayama Grand Jump Victory

Second favorite **Oju Chosan** claimed his first graded victory in the Nakayama Grand Jump this year. Racing twice on the flat immediately after his debut where his best finish was an eighth, he was switched to jumping and claimed his first steeplechase win in his fourth outing after transferring to his present stables from his second race as a jumper. The *Stay Gold* horse finished sixth in his first attempt at the highest level in last year's Nakayama Daishogai and kicked off the present season with a runner-up effort in an open class steeplechase race.

Trainer Shoichiro Wada has now earned his first grade-race title since opening his yard in 2009 and for jockey Shinichi Ishigami, who debuted in 2001, this is his second grade-race and first G1 victory since claiming the Niigata Jump Stakes (J-G3) with *Assatis Boy* in 2013.

The longest race in the country got underway with **Sanacion** taking the front by the first obstacle, **Bright Boy** just off the pace in second and **Wonderful World** in third. **Oju Chosan** took over **Wonderful World** as the jumpers headed for the first dip and the race progressed at an unhurried pace set by the race favorite with the top three leaders struggling to maintain the same order.

After **Wanted** unseated his rider who lost his balance after clearing the fifth obstacle (no.6), the front runners of the remaining nine-jumper field saw **Bright Boy** still chasing the leading race favorite one to two lengths, and **Oju Chosan** trailing another five to six lengths behind. Steadily gaining in down the backstretch, **Oju Chosan** clearly kicked into gear after clearing the 11th, second from last, obstacle three lengths behind, and easily took over **Bright Boy** before the final turn, putting pressure on the leader from the outside. **Sanacion**, still in front at the last jump persistently held on to the lead climbing the stretch however, finally ran out of steam surrendering the victory to the strong closing **Oju Chosan** in the last half-furlong who cleared the wire 3-1/2 lengths in front.

“He raced just as I imagined he would. I kept comparing my horse’s response with **Sanacion** during the race. I knew we had a good chance to overtake the leader from the backstretch with his sharp turn of foot. He was in the best condition I’ve ever seen him in so I was determined to make the most of it,” commented jockey Shinichi Ishigami.

Trainer Shoichiro Wada added, “His jumps were steady and he was positioned comfortably today—it made a big difference. He has matured considerably and his tune-up had gone as planned, and I’m thankful for the jockey who rode him so well. He’s definitely suited to the Nakayama course and we will aim for the year-end Nakayama Daishogai.”

Coming off a fourth in the Pegasus Jump Stakes and sent off seventh favorite, **Meisho Arawashi** reserved his stamina after racing in sixth or seventh up to the last jump and took an inner path to pick off the tiring front runners holding off the fast closing **Biko Pililani** and **Wonderful World** for third.

Other Horses:

4th: (9) **Biko Pililani**—raced in 4-5th, sustained bid, quickened after last jump (no.10), but 1/2-length short for 3rd

5th: (5) **Wonderful World**—sat in 6-7th, made headway after 9th jump (no.3), advanced to 3rd after last jump (no.10), but weakened in last 100m

6th: (10) **Dantsu Megahit**—traveled in 2nd from rear, improved position at stretch

7th: (4) **Meiner Fiesta**—trailed in rear, passed tired rivals after final turn

8th: (8) **Tyrian Purple**—broke poorly, advanced to 4-5th, dropped back after 10th jump (no.8)

9th: (6) **Bright Boy**—chased favorite in 2nd, maintained bid until last jump (no.10), came up empty

Fail to Finish: (1) **Wanted**—settled toward rear, unseated rider at 5th jump (no.6)

Fractional Time (sec./furlong): Last 4 furlongs: 51.8 Last 3 furlongs: 38.9 (1 mile: 1:46.3)

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

 2nd corner 2-6=7(8,9)3,5-10-4

 3rd corner 2,6-7=5(3,9)-8,10,4

 4th corner 2,7-6=5,9-3-10(8,4)

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.