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DATE: April 30, 2017

SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 155TH TENNO SHO (SPRING) (G1)



The forerunner of the Tenno Sho was established in 1905 under the name “Emperor’s Cup”, in which the winner received the silver comport bestowed by the Emperor. The race was renamed to “Teishitsu Goshoten Kyoso” the following year. The race became biannual events—held at Hanshin in spring and at Tokyo in autumn—a year after the establishment of the Japan Racing Society (the forerunner of the Japan Racing Association) in 1936, and was officially named the “Tenno Sho” since the autumn of 1947. The Tenno Sho (Spring) became the ultimate competition to determine the champion stayer, having altered its distance to 3,200 meters in 1938 while its counterpart in autumn run over 2,000 meters is one of the biggest middle-distance event contested between the proven older horses with the addition of the three-year-old hopefuls. The venue of the spring version was also moved to Kyoto Racecourse in 1948.

The Tenno Sho (Spring) was designated as an international race in 2005 and welcomed *Makybe Diva* (GB, by *Desert King*) of Australia as the first foreign contender the same year. She finished seventh to *Suzuka Mambo* (JPN, by *Sunday Silence*) and subsequently went on to make history back home by winning her third consecutive Melbourne Cup (G1, 3,200m). *Red Cadeaux* (GB, *Cadeaux Genereux*) was the latest foreign contender of this race in 2014, running for the second time after finishing third in the 2013 edition, but was unable to perform over the firm turf and finished 14th.

Following his fourth G1 victory in the Osaka Hai (G1, 2,000m; Apr.2), last year’s victor and 2016 Horse of the Year **Kitasan Black** was among this year’s lineup along with 2016 Best Three-Year-Old Colt **Satono Diamond** who came off his Hanshin Daishoten (G2, 3,000m; Mar.19) win where he held off **Cheval Grand**—third-place finisher in both last year’s edition and the Japan Cup (G1, 2,400m)—by 1-1/2 lengths. Other notable contenders were **Sciacchetta** who captured his first grade-race win in the Nikkei Sho (G2, 2,500m; Mar.25), in which last year’s Kikuka Sho (Japanese St. Leger, G1, 3,000m) runner-up **Rainbow Line**, 2015 Arima Kinen (G1, 2,500m) winner **Gold Actor** and 2016 Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, 2,000m) victor **Dee Majesty** finished fourth, fifth and sixth, respectively. For **Albert**—sixth in last year’s Tenno Sho (Spring)—it was his first start since his Diamond Stakes (G3, 3,400m; Feb.18) victory.

THE 155TH TENNO SHO (SPRING) (G1)

4-year-old & up, 3,200 meters (about 16 furlongs), turf, right-handed

Sunday, April 30, 2017 Kyoto Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 325,000,000 (about US\$ 2,826,000 <US\$1=¥115>)

4-y-o & up: 58kg (about 128 lbs), 2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares,

1kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2013

Safety factor: 18 runners

FP	BK	PP	Horse	Sex Age	Wgt (kg)	Sire Dam	Jockey Trainer	Owner Breeder	Margin (L3F)	Odds (Fav)
1	2	3	Kitasan Black (JPN)	H5	58.0	Black Tide Sugar Heart	Y. Take H. Shimizu	Ono Shoji Yanagawa Bokujo	3:12.5 (35.3)	2.2 (1)
2	3	6	Cheval Grand (JPN)	H5	58.0	Heart’s Cry Halwa Sweet	Y. Fukunaga Y. Tomomichi	Kazuhiro Sasaki Northern Racing	1-1/4 (35.2)	12.0 (4)
3	8	15	Satono Diamond (JPN)	C4	58.0	Deep Impact Malpensa	C. Lemaire Y. Ikee	Hajime Satomi Northern Racing	Neck (35.0)	2.5 (2)
4	5	10	Admire Deus (JPN)	H6	58.0	Admire Don Royal Card	Y. Iwata T. Umeda	Riichi Kondo Tsuji Bokujo	Neck (35.2)	100.0 (10)
5	4	7	Albert (JPN)	H6	58.0	Admire Don Folklore	Y. Kawada N. Hori	Masamichi Hayashi Northern Farm	3 (35.3)	22.4 (6)
6	5	9	Dee Majesty (JPN)	C4	58.0	Deep Impact Hermes Tiara	M. Ebina Y. Ninomiya	Masaru Shimada Masaru Shimada	1-1/2 (35.6)	35.8 (8)
7	6	12	Gold Actor (JPN)	H6	58.0	Screen Hero Heilong Xing	N. Yokoyama T. Nakagawa	Hisayo Ishiro Hokusho Farm	3/4 (35.5)	20.7 (5)
8	7	13	Tosen Basil (JPN)	H5	58.0	Harbinger Careless Whisper	H. Shii H. Fujiwara	Takaya Shimakawa Northern Farm	Neck (35.5)	79.6 (9)
9	1	1	Sciacchetta (JPN)	C4	58.0	Manhattan Cafe Samaaha	H. Tanabe K. Sumii	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd. Northern Racing	Neck (36.0)	9.9 (3)

Shimizu and jockey Yutaka Take celebrate their fifth and 73rd JRA-G1 titles, respectively. Take stretched his own record as the jockey with the most Tenno Sho (Spring) titles to eight.

The field got underway with **Yamakatsu Raiden** immediately taking the lead, putting six to seven lengths between the chasing group headed by **Kitasan Black**, **Admire Deus** and **One and Only** as he posted 58.3 in the first 1,000 meters. The front runner galloped more than 10 lengths in front of the trailing field which formed a long line down the backstretch but **Kitasan Black** waited patiently as the leader gradually squandered his huge lead, and shot up front at the 600meter marker. The son of Black Tide unleashed an incredible stretch drive in front of the cheering Kyoto crowds and secured a comfortable 1-1/4 length win.

“It was a really tough race—the pace never slowed down. Although the horse had little left, he showed amazing stamina and tenacity up to the end which only he can do. I never thought Deep Impact’s record would ever be broken. This horse is just so much stronger than he was a year ago,” commented Yutaka Take.

Fourth favorite **Cheval Grand** traveled in a good fifth to sixth position, crept up steadily rounding the final corners to make his bid and entered the straight behind the winner in second. While struggling to catch the winner, last year’s third-place finisher found another gear to shake off the fast closing **Satono Diamond** for a neck second.

Sent off second pick and archrival to **Kitasan Black**, four-year-old **Satono Diamond** was settled in mid-field throughout most of the journey, was steered to the outside before the last corner and chased the leader down the straight fiercely battling with **Cheval Grand** but was beaten while he slimly held third by a neck over **Admire Deus**.

Other Horses:

- 4th: (10) **Admire Deus**—traveled behind winner, sustained bid but weakened in final strides
- 5th: (7) **Albert**—settled in mid-pack, showed response but 3 lengths behind top finishers
- 6th: (9) **Dee Majesty**—raced 3-wide toward rear, advanced at backstretch, quickened, was too late
- 7th: (12) **Gold Actor**—broke poorly, traveled in mid-group, improved position at stretch
- 8th: (13) **Tosen Basil**—sat in mid-division, showed belated charge at stretch
- 9th: (1) **Sciacchetra**—was off slow, made headway to 5th, lacked needed kick at stretch
- 10th: (5) **Fata Morgana**—raced along rails in mid-pack, even paced
- 11th: (14) **One and Only**—ran near winner in 4th, ran gamely until final corner, outrun
- 12th: (16) **Rainbow Line**—trailed in rear, driven from 3rd corner, passed tired rivals thereafter
- 13th: (8) **Tamamo Best Play**—took economic trip in mid-group, failed to respond at stretch
- 14th: (4) **Spirits Minoru**—positioned among rear trio early, turned wide, never fired
- 15th: (17) **Yamakatsu Raiden**—set fast pace, sustained lead before final corner, faded
- 16th: (11) **Proletariat**—ran 2nd from rear, no factor throughout
- 17th: (2) **Labradorite**—hugged rails in mid-division, unable to reach contention

Fractional time: 12.9-11.5-11.2-11.3-11.4-11.6-11.6-13.0-12.5-12.7-12.6-12.5-12.2-11.6-11.7-12.2
(sec./furlong) Last 4 furlongs: 47.7 Last 3 furlongs: 35.5

Positions at each corner: 1st corner 17=3(10,14)(1,6)(5,15)(8,7)-(2,13)(12,9)-4-11-16
2nd corner 17=3(10,14)-(1,6)15,5,7,8(2,13)(12,9)-4-11-16
3rd corner (2nd lap) 17=3,14(10,6)1(15,9)5,7(8,13,12)2,4,11,16
4th corner (2nd lap) 3,17(10,6)(14,1,15)(5,7,9)12-(8,13)(16,2)4,11

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.