

FROM: Junichi Takada

General Manager, Media & Publicity Department, THE JAPAN RACING ASSOCIATION (JRA)

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**SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 22ND 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.

2016-18 Best Steeplechase Horse **Oju Chosan**, who set a new record of registering his fourth back-to-back Nakayama Grand Jump victory last year, commenced this season with the Hanshin Spring Jump (J-G2, 3,900m; Mar.14), which he won with an overwhelming nine-length victory against 2019 Nakayama Daishogai winner and Best Steeplechase Horse **Shingun Michael**. Also coming off the Hanshin Spring Jump were Nakayama Daishogai fourth-place finisher **Thinking Dancer** and runner-up **Bright Quartz** who finished fourth and sixth, respectively.

The Pegasus Jump Stakes (3,350m; Mar.20), another prep for the Nakayama Grand Jump, was won by Nakayama Daishogai third-place finisher **Meisho Dassai**, followed by **Meadowlark** in second and **Le Pere Noel** in third, while **Cosmo Rob Roy** finished seventh in his fourth steeplechase start after marking two wins and a second.

**THE 22ND NAKAYAMA GRAND JUMP (J-G1)**

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

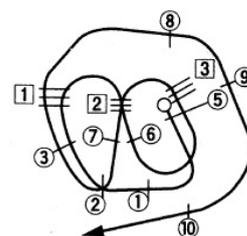
Saturday, April 18, 2020 Nakayama Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 142,660,000 (about US\$ 1,320,926 <US\$1=¥108>)

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

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

Safety factor: 16 runners Going: Soft Weather: Rainy



FP	BK	PP	Horse Jockey	S&A Color Wgt	Odds (Fav)	Margin	Sire Dam (Dam's Sire)	Owner Breeder Trainer
1	6	6	Oju Chosan (JPN) Shinichi Ishigami	H9 b. 63.0	1.1 (1)	5:02.9	Stay Gold Shadow Silhouette (Symboli Kris S)	Chosan Co., Ltd. Naoyoshi Nagayama Shoichiro Wada
2	8	11	Meisho Dassai (JPN) Kazuma Mori	H7 d.b. 63.0	10.2 (3)	3	Suzuka Mambo Suzuka Bloom (Scatter the Gold)	Yoshio Matsumoto Grand Stud Yuji Iida
3	5	5	Bright Quartz (JPN) Makoto Nishitani	H6 b. 63.0	20.4 (4)	DS	Workforce Lace Doll (Kurofune)	Silk Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Yoshiyuki Arakawa
4	6	7	Thinking Dancer (JPN) Yusuke Igarashi	H7 ch. 63.0	28.9 (5)	DS	Conduit Spring Board (Assatis)	Yuji Sato Okada Stud Yasuo Takeichi

5	8	10	Azuma Takkun (JPN) Tadashi Kosaka	H7 br. 63.0	193.1 (10)	8	Black Tide Nature Guide (El Condor Pasa)	Tetsuji Azuma Shimokobe Farm Tadashi Kayo
6	2	2	Hiro Shige Seven (JPN) Jun Takada	H5 b. 63.0	121.4 (8)	8	Deep Brillante Daiichi Botan (Timber Country)	Takashi Yoshioka Go Kitada Yoshihito Kitade
7	3	3	Cosmo Rob Roy (JPN) Taro Kusano	H5 br. 63.0	84.9 (7)	DS	Zenno Rob Roy Viktoria Luise (Symboli Kris S)	Shigeyuki Okada Shigeki Tomimoto Shinichi Ito
8	4	4	Yuino Sindbad (JPN) Kei Oehara	H5 br. 63.0	177.5 (9)	DS	Monterosso Madrigal Score (Dance in the Dark)	Kentaro Yui Shimokobe Farm Masahiro Takeuchi
FF	1	1	Shingun Michael (JPN) Mitsuki Kaneko	G6 b. 63.0	6.1 (2)		Shingun Opera Devena (Tokai Teio)	Shigenori Isaka Hikaru Bokujo Satoshi Oehara
FF	7	8	Meadowlark (JPN) Shinya Kitazawa	H9 b. 63.0	33.5 (6)		Tanino Gimlet Agehibari (Kurofune)	Katsumi Yoshida Northern Racing Mitsuru Hashida
FF	7	9	Seagal Fountain (JPN) Sho Ueno	H10 ch. 63.0	267.3 (11)		Gokai Gitana Fountain (Paradise Creek)	Kosei Yoshihashi Kei Yoshihashi Yoshihiko Ishige

FP: Final Position / BK: Bracket Number / PP: Post Position / S&A: Sex & Age / Wgt: Weight (kg) / FF: Fail to Finish / DS: Distance

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: ¥ 2,269,188,900

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 8,665,343,700

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.6	¥ 110	Bracket Quinella	6-8	¥ 450	Quinella	6-11	¥ 460
Place	No.6	¥ 110	Quinella Place	6-11	¥ 220	Exacta	6-11	¥ 510
	No.11	¥ 160		5-6	¥ 270	Trio	5-6-11	¥ 1,470
	No.5	¥ 190		5-11	¥ 710	Trifecta	6-11-5	¥ 2,710

Winner= 32 starts, 18 wins, 2 seconds, 1 third (24 starts, 16 wins, 2 seconds, 1 third \*steeplechases only)

Added money: ¥ 66,392,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 774,526,000 (¥ 748,606,000 \*steeplechases only)

## **Oju Chosan Renews Own Record Registering Fifth Consecutive Nakayama Grand Jump Title**

Overwhelming favorite **Oju Chosan** renewed his own record to register his fifth back-to-back Nakayama Grand Jump victory and 13th consecutive graded steeplechase title. After winning the Nakayama Grand Jump last year, the 2016-18 Best Steeplechase Horse was raced on three flat races, his best performance being a sixth in the Stayers Stakes (G2, 3,600m) last November. He returned to steeplechase race this year in the Hanshin Spring Jump (J-G2, 3,900m) in March, where he defeated 2019 Best Steeplechase Horse **Shingun Michael** by an overwhelming nine-length victory. This win gave trainer Shoichiro Wada his seventh J-G1 victory, including the 2016 and 2017 Nakayama Daishogai titles he won with this horse. Jockey Shinichi Ishigami marked his eighth J-G1 victory, which includes his win in the Nakayama Daishogai with Nihonpiro Baron in 2018. This is the first five back-to-back victories in the same graded race for the horse, trainer and jockey in JRA history.

Breaking sharply from stall six, nine-year-old **Oju Chosan** settled in second, letting sixth pick **Meadowlark** take the lead after the first jump (fence no.5). Third choice **Meisho Dassai** and second favorite **Shingun Michael** followed in third and fourth, respectively. The first four runners, handling the jumps and dips skillfully, kept their respective positions while closing and widening the gaps. Though slightly losing balance in the ninth jump (no.3), **Oju Chosan** closed in on the frontrunner in the backstretch and took the lead after the 10th jump (no.8). Taking a wide trip rounding the final turn, the odds-on-favorite managed to hold off the challenge by **Meisho Dassai** after clearing the last jump (no.10) and widened the gap in the last 100 meters for

a comfortable three-length victory.

“I was able to race the horse well, traveling behind Meadowlark who set a good pace, though I was careful turning the corners as the ground was very slippery. We took the front earlier than planned as we were challenged by **Bright Quartz**, but the horse held on well until the wire. He’s really a great horse. I’m grateful that he always gives his best performance,” commented jockey Shinichi Ishigami.

“I couldn’t imagine how he will race as he had never raced on such a soft ground. I’m glad that he was able to race well, clearing all the jumps almost perfectly. He was able to show his outstanding power again today,” added trainer Shoichiro Wada.

**Meisho Dassai**, who stalked the race favorite in third throughout most of the race, continued to travel in third behind **Bright Quartz** after **Oju Chosan** took the front in the backstretch. The Pegasus Jump Stakes winner nailed **Bright Quartz** turning the last corner, closed in on the eventual winner after clearing the last jump (no.10) in second but was unable to accelerate in the last 100 meters and crossed the wire in second.

Fourth choice **Bright Quartz**, traveling in fifth during most of the journey, made headway in the backstretch and challenged **Oju Chosan** in second after clearing the 10th jump (no.8) but was overtaken by the eventual runner-up turning the last corner. Though showing fatigue, the Nakayama Daishogai runner-up held on well in the lane to finish third.

Other Horses:

4th: (7) **Thinking Dancer**—traveled around 6th, passed **Meadowlark** after 10th jump (no.8) then **Shingun Michael** at stretch, finished far behind top finishers

5th: (10) **Azuma Takkun**—trailed in rear, made headway after 10th jump (no.8), passed tired rivals

6th: (2) **Hiro Shige Seven**—settled around 7-8th, improved position to 6th after 10th jump (no.8), unable to reach contention

7th: (3) **Cosmo Rob Roy**—was off slow, trailed towards rear, advanced to around 6th after 9th jump (no.3), never threatened

8th: (4) **Yuino Sindbad**—raced around 5th early, gradually dropped position, no factor

FF: (1) **Shingun Michael**—tracked leaders in 4th eyeing on favorite, closed gap between leaders near 10th jump (no.8), weakened thereafter, unseated rider at final jump (no.10)

FF: (8) **Meadowlark**—set pace, led until 10th jump (no.8), fell back thereafter, pulled up at stretch

FF: (9) **Seagal Fountain**—traveled near rear, unseated rider at 7th jump (no.7)

Fractional time: Last 1 mile: 1:53.1 Last 4 furlongs: 55.9 Last 3 furlongs: 41.9

Positions at each corner (2nd lap): 1st corner 8-6-11-1=5=7-(2,3)-4=10  
2nd corner 8-6-11-1-5=(7,3)-2=4=10  
3rd corner (\*6,5)11-1=7=2-8-3,10-4  
4th corner 6-5,11=1=7=2,10=3=4=8

**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.