

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 144TH 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. The two jump races continue to be the only two J-G1-level obstacle races of equal standard with their results serving as decisive factors 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 is 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 victor Meisho Dassai (JPN, H8, by Suzuka Mambo) went on to claim his second J-G1 title in the Nakayama Grand Jump (Apr.17) but is currently sidelined from racing after sustaining a ligament injury (desmitis) to his left foreleg during training towards his fall comeback. He is hoped to resume racing next season. 2016-18 Best Steeplechase Horse **Oju Chosan**, who came off a third in the Tokyo High-Jump (J-G2, 3,110m, Oct.17), was aiming for his third Nakayama Daishogai title following 2016 and 2017. **Love and Pop** came off back-to-back graded wins in the Tokyo Jump Stakes (J-G3, 3,110m, Jun.27) and the Tokyo High-Jump, the latter in which he beat legendary **Oju Chosan** by two lengths. Two-time J-G1 third-place finishers **Tagano Espresso** and **Meiner Prompt** came off a second and fifth, respectively, in the Kyoto Jump Stakes (J-G3, 3,140m, Nov.13). The Nakayama Daishogai field also included **Leo Beyond** and Kokura Summer Jump (J-G3, 3,390m, Aug.28) victor **Asakusa Genki** who came off a first and a second, respectively, in the Illumination Jump Stakes (3,570m, Dec.4) as well as **Baby Step**, winner of Seishu Jump Stakes (3,210m, Sep.25) and **Thinking Dancer**, runner-up in the 2019 Nakayama Grand Jump.

THE 144TH NAKAYAMA DAISHOGAI (J-G1)

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

Saturday, December 25, 2021 Nakayama Racecourse 10th Race Post time: 14:45

Total prize money: ¥ 142,660,000 (about US\$ 1,296,909 <US\$1=¥110>)

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

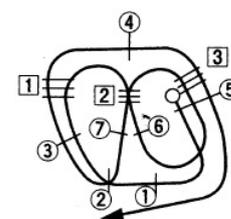
Course Record: 4:36.1

Race Record: 4:36.1 [Oju Chosan (JPN, by Stay Gold), 2017]

Safety factor: 16 runners

Going: Good

Weather: Fine



FP	BK	PP	Horse Jockey	S&A Color Wgt	Odds (Fav)	Margin	Sire Dam (Dam's Sire)	Owner Breeder Trainer
1	3	3	Oju Chosan (JPN) Shinichi Ishigami	H10 b. 63.0	3.3 (2)	4:46.6	Stay Gold Shadow Silhouette (Symboli Kris S)	Chosan Co., Ltd. Naoyoshi Nagayama Shoichiro Wada
2	6	10	Blason d'Amour (JPN) Makoto Nishitani	H6 d.b. 63.0	116.6 (10)	3	Deep Impact Medaglia d'Amour (Medaglia d'Oro)	G1 Racing Co., Ltd. Oiwake Farm Mikio Matsunaga
3	2	2	Leo Beyond (JPN) Takaya Ueno	H5 b. 63.0	7.9 (4)	5	Dunkirk Watashi Matteruwa (Orewa Matteruze)	Leo Co., Ltd. Nakajima Bokujo Daisuke Takayanagi
4	4	5	Love and Pop (JPN) Yuzo Shirahama	H8 b. 63.0	6.3 (3)	1-1/2	Admire Moon Loving Pride (Quiet American)	Godolphin Darley Japan K. K Takaki Iwato
5	8	13	Village Eagle (JPN) Kei Oehara	C4 d.b.	90.1 (9)	1/2	Behkabad Tokino Nastia	Teruo Murayama Kawashima Bokujo

				63.0			(New England)	Masahiro Takeuchi
6	4	6	Meiner Prompt (JPN) Kazuma Mori	G9 d.b. 63.0	30.3 (7)	3	Matsurida Gogh Cosmo Krabbe (Meiner Love)	Takefumi Okada Cosmo View Farm Tomoyasu Sakaguchi
7	3	4	Tagano Espresso (JPN) Kenji Hirasawa	H9 b. 63.0	2.0 (1)	Neck	Black Tide Tagano Reventon (King Kamehameha)	Ryoji Yagi Niikappu Tagano Farm Ltd Tadao Igarashi
8	5	7	Asakusa Genki (USA) Shigefumi Kumazawa	G6 b. 63.0	16.5 (5)	4	Stormy Atlantic Amelia (Dixieland Band)	K. Tahara Alexander - Groves - Matz LLC. Hidetaka Otonashi
9	8	14	Thinking Dancer (JPN) Taro Kusano	G8 ch. 63.0	75.8 (8)	1-1/4	Conduit Spring Board (Assatis)	Yuji Sato Okada Stud Yasuo Takeichi
10	7	11	Kitano Teio (JPN) Yuta Onodera	H6 d.b. 63.0	303.7 (14)	2-1/2	Rulership Tokai Belta (Wild Rush)	Ryotokuji Kenji Holdings Co., Ltd. Nagahama Bokujo Yuji Wada
11	5	8	Earth Dragon (JPN) Yasunori Minoshima	H5 b. 63.0	261.3 (12)	Head	Just a Way Earth Marine (Marienbard)	Masuo Matsuyama Aioi Farm Yasuhiro Nemoto
12	7	12	Haruki Stone (JPN) Yoshiyasu Namba	H6 b. 63.0	147.2 (11)	4	Roses in May Belmont Veronica (Gold Allure)	Wakakusa Club Shuji Fujiharu Hidekazu Asami
13	6	9	Baby Step (JPN) Keita Ban	H7 b. 63.0	20.1 (6)	3	Taiki Shuttle Carte Blanche (Gold Allure)	Ryoichi Otsuka Ryoichi Otsuka Masatatsu Kikukawa
14	1	1	Blue Guardian (JPN) Sho Ueno	H9 d.b. 63.0	283.9 (13)	7	Marvelous Sunday Blue Polaris (Way of Light)	YGG Horse Club Co., Ltd. Kano Bokujo Shintaro Suzuki

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

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: ¥ 2,109,737,200

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 11,427,853,600

Attendance: 5,116

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.3	¥ 330	Bracket Quinella	3-6	¥ 1,130	Quinella	3-10	¥ 18,480
Place	No.3	¥ 190	Quinella Place	3-10	¥ 4,790	Exacta	3-10	¥ 23,340
	No.10	¥ 1,710		2-3	¥ 570	Trio	2-3-10	¥ 26,480
	No.2	¥ 260		2-10	¥ 5,480	Trifecta	3-10-2	¥ 163,900

Winner= 36 starts, 19 wins, 2 seconds, 3 thirds (28 starts, 17 wins, 2 seconds, 3 thirds *steeplechases only)

Added money: ¥ 66,490,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 865,007,000 (¥ 839,087,000 *steeplechases only)

Oju Chosan Reemerge as Champion in Eighth J-G1 Triumph at Nakayama Daishogai

Second favorite and the only proven J-G1 winner among the 14-horse field, **Oju Chosan** reclaimed his status as the champion jumper in this year's Nakayama Daishogai. In his third triumph in this race after his victory in 2016 and 2017, the son of Stay Gold becomes the first horse over nine years of age since Kyoei Warrior in 1989 to claim the Nakayama Daishogai title and with his five victories in the Nakayama Grand Jump combined, the 10-year-old bay now has eight J-G1 titles. The outstanding jumper scored his fifth consecutive victory in the Nakayama Grand Jump and passed up the Nakayama Daishogai with a minor leg problem last year. He made a comeback in this year's Nakayama Grand Jump but was fifth, then made his second start this fall in the Tokyo High-Jump where he finished third. His connections have already announced that **Oju Chosan** will remain in training next season and start in the Hanshin Spring Jump (J-G2) prior to another record making challenge in the 2022 Nakayama Grand Jump. Both trainer Shoichiro Wada and jockey Shinichi Ishigami marked their first J-G1 since last year's Nakayama Grand Jump with **Oju Chosan**. For Wada, the victory this year is his eighth overall while Ishigami is a winner of a total nine J-G1 wins.

Oju Chosan chased the leaders along the rails in fourth from a smooth break, continued to race prominently while changing hands to the left and advanced to second and to the inside as the field changed hands again after the giant hedge (fence no.7). The seven-time J-G1 winner took command after 10th jump (no.4) and while briefly overtaken by **Blason d'Amour** at the last obstacle (no.5), quickly regained his lead turning for home and pulled away with a furlong to go for a three-length victory.

“We were positioned further up than expected as all the other key runners were held back, so I kept my mount off the rails from the second corner (second lap) so as to make my move easier at any given time. Oju Chosan hadn't been able to show his dominance in his recent starts so the trainer and I as well as the stable staff were determined to prove his real strength. I am extremely delighted by his performance today and I can only have words of gratitude for this horse,” commented jockey Shinichi Ishigami.

Tenth favorite **Blason d'Amour**, who had come off a fifth-place finish in the Illumination Jump Stakes, was slow out of the gate and unhurried in the first half of the trip while traveling in a rear position. The son of Deep Impact then advanced rapidly along the backstretch, held a brief lead at the last fence and stayed at the heel of the eventual winner turning for home. Although unable to match the winner in the last furlong, he bested the rest of the field by an impressive five length in his first J-G1 challenge.

Fourth pick **Leo Beyond** was smartly positioned along the rails in mid-field, shifted to the inside again as the field made a left turn, dropped back position as the horses behind began to made headway and shuffled back jumping the last two fences. However, the son of Dunkirk made use of his impressive last kick in the closing stages to make ground over the final stretch and finished third although unable to reach the first two finishers.

Race favorite **Tagano Espresso** broke smoothly and positioned around fifth or sixth with **Oju Chosan** in close view throughout most of the race, but never really cause any threat after falling behind approaching the second last fence (no.4) while holding his position and finishing seventh.

Other Horses:

4th: (5) **Love and Pop**—traveled around 4th near winner, failed to keep up with frontrunners after 10th jump (no.4), overtaken by **Leo Beyond** before wire

5th: (13) **Village Eagle**—set pace, maintained lead until 10th jump (no.4), weakened in stretch

6th: (6) **Meiner Prompt**—chased leader in 2nd, gradually dropped back after 9th jump (no.3)

8th: (7) **Asakusa Genki**—tracked leaders in 3rd early, fell back after 10th jump (no.4)

9th: (14) **Thinking Dancer**—ran in 10-11th, unable to reach contention

10th: (11) **Kitano Teio**—settled around 10th, never threatened

11th: (8) **Earth Dragon**—trailed in rear, passed tired rivals at stretch

12th: (12) **Haruki Stone**—raced around 11th, no factor

13th: (9) **Baby Step**—traveled in 6-7th, dropped back after final jump (no.5)

14th: (1) **Blue Guardian**—was off slow, almost rear throughout trip

Fractional time: Last 1 mile: 1:48.1 Last 4 furlongs: 52.3 Last 3 furlongs: 39.4

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

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.