

SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 39TH MILE CHAMPIONSHIP (G1)

The Mile Championship is one of the most prestigious autumn grade-one events for milers together with the Yasuda Kinen (G1, 1,600m) in spring. Horse racing in Japan had been focusing on long distance racing for a long time, regarding stamina and strength as the most important quality of horses. However, with modern racing having increased its attention to speed horses suited to a mile or shorter distance races, the Mile Championship was established in 1984 in conjunction with Japanese races adopting the grading system. The current racing program now provides races for short, middle and long-distance racehorses. The race was temporarily shifted to Hanshin Racecourse due to renovations taking place at Kyoto Racecourse from 2020.

After being designated an international race in 1998, the race welcomed several foreign contestants, including Sahpresa (USA, by Sahm) who ran three consecutive years—third in 2009 and 2011, fourth in 2010—but none has taken part since 2012.

Last year, Gran Alegria (JPN, by Deep Impact) became the first back-to-back winner since Daiwa Major (JPN, by Sunday Silence; 2006-07), and sixth overall to accomplish the feat, and was consecutively chosen JRA's Best Sprinter or Miler in both 2020 and 2021.

At the gate this year was Victoria Mile (G1, 1,600m) victor **Sodashi** who was entered off a second in the Fuchu Himba Stakes (G2, 1,800m, Oct.15), 2019 Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (G1, 1,600m) winner **Salios** who landed the Mainichi Okan (G2, 1,800m, Oct.9) title along with **Justin Cafe** who followed in second and 2020 Best Two-Year-Old Colt **Danon the Kid** in third. Coming off one of the Mile Championship trials, the Fuji Stakes (G2, 1,600m, Oct.22), were winner **Serifos** and this year's Milers Cup (G2, 1,600m) winner **Soul Rush** and NHK Mile Cup (G1, 1,600m) champion **Danon Scorpion**, who were second and third, respectively.

The field also included last year's runner-up of this race, **Schnell Meister** who aimed to bounce back from a ninth in the Sprinters Stakes (G1, 1,200m, Oct.2), and **Win Carnelian** and **Falconia**, respective winners of the Sekiya Kinen (G3, 1,600m, Aug.14) and the Keisei Hai Autumn Handicap (G3, 1,600m, Sep.11).

THE 39TH MILE CHAMPIONSHIP (G1) – Japan Autumn International -

3-year-olds & up, 1,600 meters (about 8 furlongs), right-handed, turf

Sunday, November 20, 2022 Hanshin Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 388,800,000 (about US\$ 3,381,000 <US\$1=¥115>)

3-y-o: 56kg (about 123-124 lbs), 4-y-o & up: 57kg (about 126 lbs),

2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares, 1kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2019

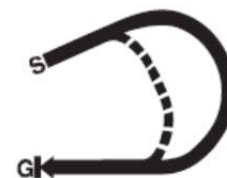
Course Record: 1:31.1

Race Record: 1:31.5 [Danon Shark (JPN, by Deep Impact), Kyoto, 2014]

Safety factor: 18 runners

Going: Good to Firm

Weather: Cloudy



| FP | BK | PP | Horse Jockey | S&A Color Wgt | Odds (Fav) | Margin (L3F) | Sire Dam (Dam's Sire) | Owner Breeder Trainer |
|----|----|---------|---|---------------------|---------------|------------------|--|--|
| 1 | 5 | 10 | Serifos (JPN) Damian Lane | C3 ch. 56.0 | 9.2 (6) | 1:32.5 (33.0) | Daiwa Major Sea Front (Le Havre) | G1 Racing Co., Ltd. Oiwake Farm Mitsumasa Nakauchida |
| 2 | 2 | 3 | Danon the Kid (JPN) Yuichi Kitamura | C4 b. 57.0 | 26.0 (8) | 1-1/4 (33.5) | Just a Way Epic Love (Dansili) | Danox Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Takayuki Yasuda |
| 3 | 3 | 6 | Sodashi (JPN) Hayato Yoshida | F4 w. 55.0 | 4.4 (2) | 1/2 (33.8) | Kurofune Buchiko (King Kamehameha) | Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd. Kaneko Makoto Holdings Inc. Naosuke Sugai |
| 4 | 6 | 11 B | Soul Rush (JPN) Kohei Matsuyama | C4 d.b. 57.0 | 7.7 (5) | Nose (33.7) | Rulership Eternal Bouquet (Manhattan Cafe) | Tatsue Ishikawa Shimokobe Farm Yasutoshi Ikee |
| 5 | 2 | 4 | Schnell Meister (GER) Christophe Lemaire | C4 b. 57.0 | 3.6 (1) | Neck (33.5) | Kingman Serienholde (Soldier Hollow) | Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Takahisa Tezuka |

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---------|--|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|---|--|
| 6 | 4 | 7 | Justin Cafe (JPN) Yuichi Fukunaga | C4 b. 57.0 | 18.9 (7) | Neck (33.2) | Epiphaneia Casino Boogie (Workforce) | Masahiro Miki Shadai Farm Shogo Yasuda |
| 7 | 7 | 13 | Air Lolonois (JPN) Yutaka Take | H5 b. 57.0 | 54.1 (11) | Nose (33.6) | King Kamehameha Air One Piece (Rock of Gibraltar) | Lucky Field Co., Ltd. Tsunebumi Yoshihara Kazuhide Sasada |
| 8 | 4 | 8 | Lotus Land (USA) Mirai Iwata | M5 b. 55.0 | 108.0 (15) | Neck (33.9) | Point of Entry Little Miss Muffet (Scat Daddy) | Kobayashi Eiichi Holdings LLC. Dr. Aaron Sones & Dr. Naoya Yoshida Yasuyuki Tsujino |
| 9 | 5 | 9 | Piece of Eight (JPN) Cristian Demuro | C3 d.b. 56.0 | 57.1 (12) | Neck (34.3) | Screen Hero Treasure State (Oasis Dream) | Silk Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Yutaka Okumura |
| 10 | 1 | 1 | Matenro Orion (JPN) Norihiro Yokoyama | C3 d.b. 56.0 | 53.9 (10) | 1-1/4 (33.8) | Daiwa Major Parthenon (King Kamehameha) | Chiyono Terada Murakami Farm Mitsugu Kon |
| 11 | 8 | 15 | Danon Scorpion (JPN) Yuga Kawada | C3 b. 56.0 | 7.3 (4) | Neck (34.2) | Lord Kanaloa Lexie Lou (Sligo Bay) | Danox Co., Ltd. K. I. Farm Takayuki Yasuda |
| 12 | 1 | 2 | Win Carnelian (JPN) Kosei Miura | H5 ch. 57.0 | 26.0 (9) | 1/2 (34.3) | Screen Hero Cosmo Crystal (Meiner Love) | Win Co., Ltd. Cosmo View Farm Yuichi Shikato |
| 13 | 8 | 17 | Falconia (JPN) Kenichi Ikezoe | H5 b. 57.0 | 76.1 (13) | 1-1/4 (35.1) | Deep Impact Cambina (Hawk Wing) | Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Tomokazu Takano |
| 14 | 3 | 5 | Salios (JPN) Ryan Moore | H5 ch. 57.0 | 6.2 (3) | Nose (34.1) | Heart's Cry Salomina (Lomitas) | Silk Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Noriyuki Hori |
| 15 | 6 | 12 | Ho O Amazon (JPN) Ryusei Sakai | C4 ch. 57.0 | 84.1 (14) | 1/2 (34.9) | King Kamehameha Hikaru Amaranthus (Agnes Tachyon) | Yoshihisa Ozasa Northern Racing Yoshito Yahagi |
| 16 | 8 | 16 | Happy Hour (JPN) Kenji Kawamata | H6 b. 57.0 | 435.6 (16) | 2 (34.3) | Harbinger Success Silhouette (Deep Impact) | Sachiko Takashima Key West Inc. Yoshiaki Sugiyama |
| 17 | 7 | 14 B | Besten Dank (JPN) Yusuke Fujioka | H10 ch. 57.0 | 441.0 (17) | 1-1/4 (34.4) | Taiki Shuttle Yukino Mermaid (Special Week) | Ichikawa Yoshimi Holdings Co., Ltd. Hattori Bokujo Akio Adachi |

FP: Final Position / BK: Bracket Number / PP: Post Position / B: Blinker / S&A: Sex & Age / Wgt: Weight (kg) / L3F: Time of Last 3 Furlongs (600m)
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: ¥ 19,289,584,300 Turnover for the Day: ¥ 27,597,813,100 Attendance: 20,725

Pay-off (for ¥100)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|------------------|------|---------|----------|--------|-----------|
| Win | No.10 | ¥ 920 | Bracket Quinella | 2-5 | ¥ 1,410 | Quinella | 3-10 | ¥ 11,870 |
| Place | No.10 | ¥ 330 | Quinella Place | 3-10 | ¥ 2,980 | Exacta | 10-3 | ¥ 19,920 |
| | No.3 | ¥ 520 | | 6-10 | ¥ 1,170 | Trio | 3-6-10 | ¥ 20,530 |
| | No.6 | ¥ 220 | | 3-6 | ¥ 2,240 | Trifecta | 10-3-6 | ¥ 142,650 |

Winner= 8 starts: 5 wins, 1 second / Added money: ¥ 183,570,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 395,706,000

Three-Year-Old Serifos Beats Favorites in Mile Championship

Sixth favorite **Serifos** landed his first G1 victory in this year's Mile Championship and has become the first three-year-old to win the race since Stelvio in 2018. Sired by Daiwa Major, who won the Mile Championship in 2006 and 2007, the chestnut colt marked three consecutive wins from his debut including the Niigata Nisai Stakes (G3, 1,600m) and the Daily Hai Nisai Stakes (G2, 1,600m) and capped off his first season with a runner-up effort in the G1 Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (G1, 1,600m), half a length behind subsequent Derby winner Do Deuce. The colt then turned in a fourth in the NHK Mile Cup (G1,

1,600m) in May this year before his first challenge against older foes in the Yasuda Kinen (G1, 1,600m), in which he was fourth again. **Serifos** had just come off his Fuji Stakes (G2, 1,600m) win on October 22. Since the 2020 Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes victory with Grenadier Guards, trainer Mitsumasa Nakauchida pocketed his fourth JRA-G1 title while jockey Damian Lane, who is riding in Japan under a short-term license, also registered his fourth G1 victory and first since the 2019 Arima Kinen with Lys Gracieux.

Breaking from stall number 10, **Serifos** traveled fourth from the rear and three wide in the backstretch, was unhurried under Damian Lane in shifting out wide into the lane still near the rear and with the fastest closing speed in the 17-horse field, stormed down the stretch to grab the lead 50 meters out and win by a growing 1-1/4-lengths.

“I’m very happy, the horse was super today. He’s very consistent and I knew he would improve after watching his videos. I wanted to show how really competitive he is. The pace was good and he was a bit keen early but I was always confident,” commented Damian Lane after the race.

Eighth choice **Danon the Kid** settled around seventh early, slightly dropped position rounding the final corners, met traffic but squeezed through horses and just while digging in to grab the lead, was overtaken by the winner in the final strides for runner-up.

Second pick **Sodashi** sat in fourth to fifth in the early going, persistently showed effort to rally for the lead in the straight but failed to keep up with the top two finisher’s late speed, while holding off the fast-closing rivals by a nose for third place.

Race favorite **Schnell Meister** camped in mid-pack, struggled briefly for room in early stretch and found his best stride late, but dug in the last half furlong to finish fifth.

Other Horses:

4th: (11) **Soul Rush**—ran 4-wide around 9th, made headway after 3rd corner, quickened but needed more in last 50m

6th: (7) **Justin Cafe**—unhurried in 15th, showed 2nd fastest late kick while met traffic 200m out

7th: (13) **Air Lolonois**—traveled 4-wide around 11th, showed belated charge

8th: (8) **Lotus Land**—raced forwardly in 4th on rails, took command 200m out, outrun in last 100m

9th: (9) **Piece of Eight**—set pace early, entered lane in 2nd, weakened in last 100m

10th: (1) **Matenro Orion**—hugged rails in 11-12th, showed effort until 100m out, outrun thereafter

11th: (15) **Danon Scorpion**—ran 3-wide in 6th, failed to respond, fell back

12th: (2) **Win Carnelian**—restless in stall but broke sharply, eased back to 7th, was bumped 200m out

13th: (17) **Falconia**—advanced to take command before 3rd corner, showed tenacity until 200m pole

14th: (5) **Salios**—settled around 11th in front of winner, even paced at stretch

15th: (12) **Ho O Amazon**—tracked leaders in 3rd, was bumped 200m out, faded

16th: (16) **Happy Hour**—traveled 2nd from rear, unable to reach contention

17th: (14) **Besten Dank**—trailed in rear, no factor

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 12.2 - 11.2 - 11.7 - 11.5 - 11.9 - 11.6 - 10.8 - 11.6

Last 4 furlongs: 45.9 Last 3 furlongs: 34.0

Positions at each corner: 3rd corner (*9,17)12(8,6)15(2,3)(4,11)(1,5,13)**10**,7,16,14

4th corner 17,9,12(8,6)(2,15,11)(3,4,13)1(5,**10**)(7,16)14

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.