

SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 28TH NHK MILE CUP (G1)

While races in Japan for three-year-olds had been programmed mainly to facilitate those aiming towards the middle-long distance three-year-old Classics as typified by the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby, G1, 2,400m), the interest in speed races is growing both within and outside Japan, and earning much respect as the traditional Classics. In 1996, JRA reorganized its races in order to accommodate and promote the three-year-olds suited to short distances and established the NHK Mile Cup which was named after its sponsor Nippon Hoso Kyokai (Japan Broadcasting Corporation)—Japan's only public broadcaster. The race was designated as an international race in 2009.

Past NHK Mile Cup winners include subsequent derby winners King Kamehameha (JPN, by Kingmambo; '04) and Deep Sky (JPN, by Agnes Tachyon; '08) while El Condor Pasa (USA, by Kingmambo; '98) and Kurofune (USA, by French Deputy; '01) won the Japan Cup (G1, 2,400m) and the Japan Cup Dirt (G1, dirt, 2,100m), respectively. 2019 champion Admire Mars (JPN, by Daiwa Major) went on to claim his third G1 title in the Hong Kong Mile (G1, 1,600m) against strong older foes that year.

This year, among the runners were **Eeyan**, who extended his winning streak to three when claiming one of the two official NHK Mile Cup trials, the New Zealand Trophy (G2, 1,600m, Apr.8), in which he was followed by **Umbrail** in second and **Champagne Color** in third, while 2022 the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (G1, 1,600m) winner and Best Two-Year-Old Colt **Dolce More** was seventh. The top three finishers in other trial race, the Arlington Cup (G3, 1,600m, Apr.15), also earned their tickets to run—**Obamburumai**, **Session** and **Shomon**—who finished in that order. The field also included **Tamamo Black Tie** and **Carro Veloce**, who were first and second, respectively, in the Falcon Stakes (G3, 1,400m, Mar.18) and **Sing That Song**, victor of the Fillies' Revue (G2, 1,400m, Mar.12) and seventh-place finisher in the Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas, G1, 1,600m, Apr.9). **Danon Touchdown**, who turned in a runner-up effort in the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes and was 18th in the Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, 2,000m, Apr.16) was also in the field.

THE 28TH NHK MILE CUP (G1)

3-year-olds, Colts & Fillies, 1,600 meters (about 8 furlongs), turf, left-handed

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Tokyo Racecourse

11th Race

Post Time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 281,800,000 (about US\$ 2,152,000 <US\$1=¥131>)

3-y-o: 57 kg (about 126 lbs), 2 kg allowance for Fillies, 2 kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2020

Course Record: 1:30.5

Race Record: 1:31.4 [Danon Chantilly (JPN, by Fuji Kiseki), 2010]

Safety factor: 18 runners

Going: Good

Weather: Rainy



FP	BK	PP	Horse Jockey	S&A Color Wgt	Odds (Fav)	Margin (L3F)	Sire Dam (Dam's Sire)	Owner Breeder Trainer
1	6	11	Champagne Color (JPN) Hiroyuki Uchida	C3 ch. 57.0	22.2 (9)	1:33.8 (34.4)	Duramente Memorial Life (Reckless Abandon)	Yoichi Aoyama Yoichi Aoyama Tsuyoshi Tanaka
2	2	3 B	Umbrail (JPN) Takeshi Yokoyama	F3 b. 55.0	12.9 (8)	Head (34.0)	Lord Kanaloa L'Archetto (Falbrav)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Tetsuya Kimura
3	5	10	Obamburumai (JPN) Yutaka Take	C3 b. 57.0	6.1 (3)	1-1/4 (34.4)	Discreet Cat Pink Gerbera (Deep Impact)	Koji Oka Sunday Hills Keiji Yoshimura
4	8	18	Danon Touchdown (JPN) Yuga Kawada	C3 b. 57.0	9.5 (6)	1-1/4 (35.2)	Lord Kanaloa Epic Love (Dansili)	Danox Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Takayuki Yasuda
5	7	15	Carro Veloce (JPN) Damian Lane	C3 b. 57.0	5.7 (1)	Nose (35.2)	Silver State Susana Tosho (Rock of Gibraltar)	Teruo Ono Northern Farm Naosuke Sugai
6	1	2	Moryana (JPN) Norihiro Yokoyama	F3 b. 55.0	8.0 (5)	1/2 (35.1)	Epiphaneia Garder le Sourire (Daiwa Major)	Fumio Takahashi Northern Racing Yoshinori Muto
7	8	17	Mississippi Tesoro (JPN)	F3 b.	101.2	1/2	Danon Ballade Happiness for You	Ryotokuji Kenji Holdings Co., Ltd. Ryoken Farm

			Daichi Shibata	55.0	(16)	(35.2)	(A.P. Indy)	Yoshihiro Hatakeyama
8	5	9	Navona (JPN) Hironobu Tanabe	C3 b. 57.0	53.6 (14)	Neck (34.6)	Lord Kanaloa Serienholde (Soldier Hollow)	La Mere Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Yoshito Yahagi
9	3	6	Eeyan (JPN) Keita Tosaki	C3 d.b. 57.0	5.8 (2)	1/2 (35.5)	Silver State Silk Venus (Timber Country)	Nissin Holdings Co., Ltd. Yoshitake Abe Daishi Ito
10	8	16	Tamamo Black Tie (JPN) Hideaki Miyuki	C3 b. 57.0	30.1 (12)	3/4 (35.8)	Declaration of War Tamamo Earring (Black Tide)	Tamamo Co., Ltd. Tamamo Co., Ltd. Koichi Tsunoda
11	3	5	Sing That Song (JPN) Hayato Yoshida	F3 d.b. 55.0	29.4 (11)	3/4 (35.9)	Duramente Thegirlinthat song (My Golden Song)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Corporation Inc. Tomokazu Takano
12	7	13	Dolce More (JPN) Kosei Miura	C3 b. 57.0	7.6 (4)	1 (35.9)	Rulership Ayusan (Deep Impact)	Three H Racing Co., Ltd. Shimokobe Farm Naosuke Sugai
13	4	8	Session (JPN) Taisei Danno	C3 d.b. 57.0	12.4 (7)	1/2 (36.2)	Silver State Miss Dubawi (Dubawi)	Masamichi Hayashi Masamichi Hayashi Takashi Saito
14	7	14	Yurisha (JPN) Kohei Matsuyama	F3 ch. 55.0	83.6 (15)	Nose (36.4)	Greater London Angelicus (Harbinger)	Yoshikazu Takeshita Afleet Farm Ltd Naoya Nakamura
15	2	4	Shomon (JPN) Katsuma Sameshima	C3 b. 57.0	22.5 (10)	4 (36.4)	Mind Your Biscuits Epxoi (Deep Impact)	Eiko Hayashi Northern Farm Shinsuke Hashiguchi
16	4	7	All Parfait (JPN) Takuya Ono	C3 b. 57.0	45.5 (13)	6 (38.2)	Real Steel Queen Grace (Rulership)	Ryoichi Endo Ryoichi Endo Yuji Wada
17	1	1	From Dusk (USA) Kazuo Yokoyama	C3 d.b. 57.0	130.8 (17)	8 (39.6)	Bolt d'Oro Foolish Cause (Giant's Causeway)	Susumu Fujita Springhouse Farm Hideyuki Mori
	6	12	Cruzeiro do Sul (JPN) Mirco Demuro	C3 ch. 57.0	Scratched		Fine Needle Staria (Alkaased)	Godolphin Godolphin Yoshitada Takahashi

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: ¥ 16,206,962,700

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 25,515,906,500

Attendance: 28,631

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.11	¥ 2,220	Bracket Quinella	2-6	¥ 9,690	Quinella	3-11	¥ 12,990
Place	No.11	¥ 490	Quinella Place	3-11	¥ 3,310	Exacta	11-3	¥ 30,450
	No.3	¥ 390		10-11	¥ 2,680	Trio	3-10-11	¥ 27,690
	No.10	¥ 270		3-10	¥ 1,760	Trifecta	11-3-10	¥ 260,760

Winner= 5 starts: 3 wins & 1 third / Added money: ¥ 133,780,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 165,487,000

Champagne Color Stuns in NHK Mile Cup

Ninth favorite **Champagne Color** claimed his first graded win in this year's NHK Mile Cup while notching his third mile-race victory at Tokyo Racecourse. After claiming back-to-back wins in his two starts last season, both over the mile distance at Tokyo, the Duramente colt was sixth in the Keisei Hai (G3, 2,000m) in January and then turned in a third-place finish in the New Zealand Trophy (G2, 1,600m) in April. For trainer Tsuyoshi Tanaka, this marks his sixth JRA-G1 victory (including two G1 steeplechase titles) and first since his Yasuda Kinen win with Logotype in 2016. Jockey Hiroyuki Uchida picked up his 13th JRA-G1 victory, his latest being the 2018 February Stakes with Nonkono Yume, and celebrates his second NHK Mile triumph after claiming it with Pink Cameo in 2007.

Breaking from stall 11, **Champagne Color** was settled in third to fourth from the rear and three-wide before coming into the lane. Steadily gaining on the leaders in the stretch and rallying with **Danon Touchdown** at the furlong pole, the chestnut colt took over the lead 100 meters out and pulled away strongly while holding off a fierce late charge by the runner-up.

“The plan was to keep him in about fifth to sixth from the pace, but the competition to position him forwardly was intense and the going was soggy so I didn’t force him to move up front. He came out of the last turn smoothly and responded incredibly well. While waiting for the right moment and watching out for the other runners, I just drove him to the line hoping to reach it first. It’s his third win here at Tokyo—he enjoys the wide and spacious course—and we’re looking forward to seeing him develop with every race he runs this season,” commented Hiroyuki Uchida after the race.

Full sister to 2018 Mile Championship victor Stelvio, eighth pick **Umbrail** was unhurried in second from the rear early, angled out for a clear path and with the fastest late kick, powered home strongly with every stride but was a head short at the line and was second.

The Arlington Cup victor **Obamburumai** settled near the rear just behind **Champagne Color** and in front of **Umbrail**, circled wide into the lane and picked off his foes one by one with the second fastest late speed. While trying to catch the eventual winner, the third favorite surrendered the runner-up seat just before the wire and finished third.

Race favorite **Carro Veloce**, under jockey Damian Lane, ran in mid-field in the backstretch, rallied briefly with the winner climbing the stretch hill but failed to keep up in the last furlong and while showing effort, finished fifth.

Other Horses:

4th: (18) **Danon Touchdown**—raced 4-wide around 8th, rallied for lead passing 400m pole, took brief lead 200m out but soon overtaken by winner then 3rd-place finisher and runner-up in last 100m

6th: (2) **Moryana**—sat near winner on rails, angled out at early stretch, improved position

7th: (17) **Mississippi Tesoro**—traveled 3-wide around 11th, switched further out at early stretch, showed effort

8th: (9) **Navona**—trailed in rear, showed belated charge to pass tiring rivals

9th: (6) **Eeyan**—saved ground around 9th, found little room at early stretch, even paced

10th: (16) **Tamamo Black Tie**—settled around 6th, led 400m out, weakened in last 200m

11th: (5) **Sing That Song**—sat around 5th on rail, met traffic at early stretch, lacked needed kick

12th: (13) **Dolce More**—ran around 6th, outrun turning final corner, showed little

13th: (8) **Session**—tracked leaders around 3rd, failed to sustain bid

14th: (14) **Yurisha**—raced around 4th, remained in contention until 300m out

15th: (4) **Shomon**—traveled around 12th near winner, never fired

16th: (7) **All Parfait**—pressed pace in 2nd, used up due to early effort

17th: (1) **From Dusk**—set pace, faded after 400m pole

Scratched: (12) **Cruzeiro do Sul**—due to sickness

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 12.4 - 10.6 - 11.3 - 12.0 - 12.1 - 12.0 - 11.5 - 11.9
Last 4 furlongs: 47.5 Last 3 furlongs: 35.4

Positions at each corner: 3rd corner 1(7,8,14)(5,13,16)18(6,15)17(2,4,**11**)10,3,9
4th corner (*1,7)14(5,8,16)(6,13,15,18)(2,17)(4,**11**)10(9,3)

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.