

SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 84TH KIKUKA SHO (JAPANESE ST. LEGER, G1)

The history of Kikuka Sho, the Japanese St. Leger and the last leg of the Triple Crown race for three-year-old colts and fillies, dates back to 1938—a year after Japan’s 11 racing clubs integrated into one organization named Nihon Keiba Kai (forerunner of the JRA). Initially called “Kyoto Norin-sho Shoten Yonsai YobiUma Kyoso”, the race was renamed to Kikuka Sho in 1948. The race was held at its temporary venue of Hanshin Racecourse in 2021 and 2022 while Kyoto Racecourse was undergoing renovation.

The Kikuka Sho features three-year-olds, most of who have matured dramatically during the five months following the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby, G1, 2,400m) and their summer break. The Kikuka Sho winners have both the speed and the stamina to prove their caliber as the potential breeding stock. The last of the eight Triple Crown winners in JRA history was Contrail (JPN, by Deep Impact) who followed in the footsteps of his sire by accomplishing the feat undefeated in 2020.

This year, Tokyo Yushun champion **Tastiera** commenced his autumn campaign in this race while the Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, 2,000m) victor **Sol Oriens** came off a second in the trial St. Lite Kinen (G2, 2,200m, Sep.18). **Satono Glanz** came into the race after claiming his second graded title in another trial, the Kobe Shimbun Hai (G2, 2,400m, Sep.24), where **Savona** followed in second and the Satsuki Sho third-placed **Phantom Thief** was third. The final leg of the Triple Crown also included **Top Knife**, runner-up in the Sapporo Kinen (G2, 2,000m, Aug.20), **Nocking Point**, victor of the Niigata Kinen (G3, 2,000m, Sep.3) and the Tokyo Yushun third-place finisher **Hearts Concerto** who came off a fifth in the Kobe Shimbun Hai. **Durezza** and **Libyan Glass**, respective winners of the Nihonkai Stakes (3 Wins Class, 2,200m, Aug.19) and the Aganogawa Tokubetsu (2 Wins Class, 2,200m, Aug.20) were also among the lineup.

THE 84TH KIKUKA SHO (JAPANESE ST. LEGER, G1)

3-year-olds, Colts and Fillies, 3,000 meters (about 15 furlongs), turf, right-handed

Sunday, October 22, 2023

Kyoto Racecourse

11th Race

Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 432,000,000 (about US\$ 3,298,000 <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: 3:01.0

Race Record: 3:01.0 [Toho Jackal (JPN, by Special Week), 2014]

Safety factor: 18 runners

Going: Good to Firm

Weather: Fine



FP	BK	PP	Horse Jockey	S&A Color Wgt	Odds (Fav)	Margin (L3F)	Sire Dam (Dam's Sire)	Owner Breeder Trainer
1	8	17	Durezza (JPN) Christophe Lemaire	C3 br. 57.0	7.3 (4)	3:03.1 (34.6)	Duramente More Than Sacred (More Than Ready)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Tomohito Ozeki
2	4	7	Tastiera (JPN) Joao Moreira	C3 b. 57.0	4.7 (2)	3-1/2 (34.8)	Satono Crown Partitura (Manhattan Cafe)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Noriyuki Hori
3	7	14	Sol Oriens (JPN) Takeshi Yokoyama	C3 b. 57.0	2.7 (1)	1-1/2 (35.1)	Kitsan Black Skia (Motivator)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Takahisa Tezuka
4	3	6	Libyan Glass (JPN) Ryusei Sakai	C3 bl. 57.0	36.2 (9)	3/4 (35.9)	Kizuna Dilga (Curlin)	Koji Maeda North Hills Co., Ltd. Yoshito Yahagi
5	4	8	Savona (JPN) Kenichi Ikezoe	C3 b. 57.0	22.3 (7)	Nose (35.6)	Kizuna T K Rapid (Snitzel)	Makoto Kato Kosho Bokujo Kazuya Nakatake
6	6	12	Hearts Concerto (JPN) Kohei Matsuyama	C3 b. 57.0	9.3 (5)	Neck (35.3)	Heart's Cry Nasuno Sibelius (Unbridled's Song)	Green Farm Co., Ltd. Nasuno Bokujo Ryo Takei
7	5	10	Meiner Laulea (JPN) Mirai Iwata	C3 g. 57.0	71.2 (11)	Nose (35.1)	Gold Ship Meine Bonheur (Roses in May)	Thoroughbred Club Ruffian Co., Ltd. Big Red Farm Toru Miya

8	7	13	Night in London (JPN) Ryuji Wada	C3 g. 57.0	88.1 (12)	Head (35.1)	Greater London Moon Howling (Mejiro McQueen)	Yoshiro Kubota Yasushi Kubota Masahiro Otake
9	8	15	Phantom Thief (JPN) Yutaka Take	C3 b. 57.0	20.3 (6)	1/2 (35.5)	Harbinger Lupin (Medaglia d'Oro)	Turf Sport Co., Ltd. Tanikawa Stud Masayuki Nishimura
10	6	11	Satono Glanz (JPN) Yuga Kawada	C3 b. 57.0	5.0 (3)	Nose (35.1)	Satono Diamond Cherry Collect (Oratorio)	Hajime Satomi Northern Racing Yasuo Tomomichi
11	8	16	Shonan Bashitto (JPN) Mirco Demuro	C3 b. 57.0	185.4 (15)	1/2 (35.5)	Silver State Guillem (Medaglia d'Oro)	Tetsuhide Kunimoto Northern Racing Naosuke Sugai
12	2	3	Season Rich (JPN) Taiga Tsunoda	C3 b. 57.0	277.7 (16)	1-3/4 (35.5)	Duramente Ever Charmant (Heart's Cry)	Yutaka Uda Yutaka Uda Takashi Kubota
13	1	2	Win Odin (JPN) Kosei Miura	C3 d.b. 57.0	120.4 (13)	2 (35.6)	Epiphaneia Piena Venus (Fuji Kiseki)	Win Co., Ltd. Cosmo View Farm Yuichi Shikato
14	1	1	Top Knife (JPN) Norihiro Yokoyama	C3 br. 57.0	23.5 (8)	Head (36.4)	Declaration of War Be Wind (Spinning World)	Koji Yasuhara Kineusu Bokujo Mitsugu Kon
15	5	9	Nocking Point (JPN) Hiroshi Kitamura	C3 ch. 57.0	41.7 (10)	1 (36.3)	Maurice Cecchino (King Kamehameha)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Tetsuya Kimura
16	2	4	Danon Tornado (JPN) Atsuya Nishimura	C3 d.b. 57.0	177.2 (14)	9 (38.0)	Heart's Cry She Will Reign (Manhattan Rain)	Danox Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Mitsumasa Nakauchida
17	3	5	Pax Ottomanica (JPN) Hironobu Tanabe	C3 b. 57.0	299.2 (17)	7 (39.5)	Victoire Pisa Deep Love (Deep Impact)	Yoshiro Kubota Yasushi Kubota Takashi Kubota

FP: Final Position / BK: Bracket Number / PP: Post Position / 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: ¥ 19,502,946,500

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 28,142,234,300

Attendance: 46,757

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.17	¥ 730	Bracket Quinella	4-8	¥ 1,050	Quinella	7-17	¥ 1,980
Place	No.17	¥ 210	Quinella Place	7-17	¥ 660	Exacta	17-7	¥ 4,210
	No.7	¥ 160		14-17	¥ 400	Trio	7-14-17	¥ 1,570
	No.14	¥ 120		7-14	¥ 260	Trifecta	17-7-14	¥ 12,380

Winner= 6 starts: 5 wins & 1 third / Added & stakes money: ¥ 227,034,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 279,271,000

Durezza Beats G1 winners in Kikuka Sho Triumph

Fourth pick **Durezza** conquered the 3,000-meter distance to score his first graded and fifth consecutive win in this year's Kikuka Sho (Japanese St. Leger), putting away the victors of the first two legs of the Triple Crown in a stunning 3-1/2-length win. The brown colt broke his maiden two months after his debut in September as a two-year-old and had registered three allowance races this season—the Yamabuki Sho (1 Win Class, 2,200m) in April, the Hong Kong Jockey Club Trophy (2 Wins Class, 2,000m) in June and the Nihonkai Stakes (3 Wins Class, 2,200m) in August. This success brings trainer Tomohito Ozeki his first JRA-G1 win since the 2017 Sprinters Stakes with Red Falx and third overall title. Jockey Christophe Lemaire celebrates his third Kikuka Sho triumph following the 2016 and 2018 victory with Satono Diamond and Fierement, respectively. His most recent JRA-G1 success was with Equinox in this year's Takarazuka Kinen and he is now the owner of a total of 46 titles.

Durezza, who started from the farthest post position, rushed to the front to take the lead while **Pax Ottomanica** sat on his tails a length behind in second. After covering the first 1,000 meters in 1:00.4, the son of Duramente was steadied to third from the front in the backstretch, briefly giving up the lead to **Pax Ottomanica** and **Libyan Glass**. As the field started making their bids after the third corner in the second lap, **Durezza** was second to enter the lane, kicked into gear catching **Libyan Glass** before the 200-meter pole to take command once again and stretched with the fastest closing speed to clear the wire 3-1/2 lengths in front of the next contender.

“He made a flying start and was keen to go so I decided to let him take the lead. He responded well between the third and last corner which made me confident that he was going to close strongly. When he accelerated in the stretch, I knew we were going to win. To see him beat such a strong field today over the 3,000-meter distance means we can look forward to him doing well among G1 company over 2,000 and 2,400 meters also,” commented Christophe Lemaire in an interview after the race.

Sent off favored in second, **Tastiera** was settled around ninth and traveled wide in the backstretch before turning home alongside the favorite **Sol Oriens**. The Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby) winner showed a good turn of foot down the center of the lane with the second fastest late kick but failed to threaten the winner in a 3-1/2-length runner-up effort.

Race favorite **Sol Oriens** was unhurried traveling wide in fifth to sixth from the rear, made headway at the third corner and made a wide sweeping bid into the straight. The Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas) winner picked off his tired opponents and dug in fiercely for third in the final strides, finishing 1-1/2 lengths behind his biggest rival.

Other Horses:

4th: (6) **Libyan Glass**—tracked leaders early, took lead at 3rd corner, ran gamely but missed 3rd place just before wire

5th: (8) **Savona**—raced around 15th, made headway in backstretch, entered to lane in 3rd, showed tenacity

6th: (12) **Hearts Concerto**—traveled in 5th, remained in contention until 200m pole

7th: (10) **Meiner Laulea**—took economic trip near rear, showed effort on rails until 100m out

8th: (13) **Night in London**—hugged rails around 12th, showed brief response, needed more

9th: (15) **Phantom Thief**—settled around 6th, angled out, found little room at early stretch, never fired

10th: (11) **Satono Glanz**—sat around 11th near favorite, ridden after 3rd corner, failed to respond

11th: (16) **Shonan Bashitto**—raced around 9th, showed brief effort until 200m pole

12th: (3) **Season Rich**—ran around 9th, dropped position turning last corners, passed tired rivals

13th: (2) **Win Odin**—traveled near rear, circled wide, even paced

14th: (1) **Top Knife**—was off slow, trailed in rear early, advanced to 5th, nothing left at stretch

15th: (9) **Nocking Point**—saved ground around 7th early, gradually dropped back

16th: (4) **Danon Tornado**—positioned forwardly around 4th on rails, outrun after final corner

17th: (5) **Pax Ottomanica**—chased leader in 2nd, led at one point in backstretch, faded after final corner

Fractional time: 12.7 - 11.7 - 11.1 - 12.3 - 12.6 - 12.9 - 13.1 - 13.0 - 12.8 - 12.3 - 12.1 - 11.6 - 11.7 - 11.4 - 11.8
(sec./furlong) Last 4 furlongs: 46.5 Last 3 furlongs: 34.9

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

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.