

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 68TH ARIMA KINEN (G1)

Established in 1956 under the name “Nakayama Grand Prix,” the race was renamed to Arima Kinen (Arima Memorial) a year later after the sudden passing of the second JRA president, Yoriyasu Arima. Arima initiated the idea of holding an attractive event at Nakayama Racecourse, where a new grandstand had just been completed at that time, in an attempt to create a race that would receive as much attention as the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby) held at Tokyo Racecourse. The Arima Kinen was designed to be a season-end Grand Prix, in which the runners are selected by fan poll—an “All-Star” event in Japanese racing, and the fans can cast their votes online to select the ten most popular runners. Among the horses entered in the race, ten runners with the most votes are entitled to run in the race, while the rest of the field is determined in order of earnings. The race was designated as an international G1 race in 2007 with the winner’s prize money raised to 500 million this year, making it the richest race along with the Japan Cup.

The Arima Kinen has been known as a final stage before retirement for JRA’s legendary runners such as Orfevre (JPN, by Stay Gold; ’13), Gentildonna (JPN, by Deep Impact; ’14), Kitanasan Black (JPN, by Black Tide; ’17) and Lys Gracieux (JPN, by Heart’s Cry; ’19) who capped off their stellar racing careers with impressive wins in this race. However, Equinox (JPN, C4, by Kitanasan Black), last year’s Arima Kinen champion and Horse of the Year, concluded his racing career with his victory in the Japan Cup (G1, 2,400m) four weeks earlier and was not included in this year’s Arima Kinen.

This year’s contenders that were among the top ten horses voted included; **Justin Palace** (3rd), winner of the Tenno Sho (Spring) (G1, 3,200m) in April; **Titleholder** (4th), three-time G1 winner; **Sol Oriens** (5th) and **Tastiera** (6th), respective winners of the three-year-old classics, the Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, 2,000m) and the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby, G1, 2,400m); **Do Deuce** (7th), victor of the 2022 Tokyo Yushun; and **Deep Bond** (9th), three-time runner-up in the Tenno Sho (Spring).

Other contenders within the top 20 horses voted included **Stars on Earth** (13th), two-time G1 victor who came off a third in the Japan Cup, and **Through Seven Seas** (19th), fourth placed in the Prix de l’Arc de Triomphe (G1, 2,400m, Oct.1), while 2021 Tokyo Yushun winner **Shahryar** (46th), who was withdrawn from the Hong Kong Vase, was also among the field.

Horses that were ranked among the top ten but passed up their entry were: Equinox (1st); Liberty Island (JPN, F3, by Duramente; 2nd); Jack d’Or (JPN, H5, by Maurice; 8th); and Durezza (JPN, C3, by Duramente; 10th).

THE 68TH ARIMA KINEN (G1)

3-year-olds & up, 2,500 meters (about 12.5 furlongs), turf, right-handed

Sunday, December 24, 2023 Nakayama Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 1,085,000,000 (about US\$ 8,283,000 <US\$1=¥131>)

3-y-o: 56kg (about 123-124 lbs), 4-y-o & up: 58kg (about 128 lbs),

2kg allowance for Fillies & Mares, 2kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2020

Course Record: 2:29.5

Race Record: 2:29.5 [Zenko Rob Roy (JPN, by Sunday Silence), 2004]

Safety factor: 16 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	3	5	Do Deuce (JPN) Yutaka Take	C4 b. 58.0	5.2 (2)	2:30.9 (34.3)	Heart's Cry Dust and Diamonds (Vindication)	Kieffers Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Yasuo Tomomichi
2	8	16	Stars on Earth (JPN) Christophe Lemaire	F4 d.b. 56.0	8.6 (7)	1/2 (34.8)	Duramente Southern Stars (Smart Strike)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Mizuki Takayanagi
3	2	4	Titleholder (JPN) Kazuo Yokoyama	H5 b. 58.0	8.3 (6)	1 (36.2)	Duramente Mowen (Motivator)	Hiroshi Yamada Okada Stud Toru Kurita
4	5	10	Justin Palace (JPN) Takeshi Yokoyama	C4 br. 58.0	3.6 (1)	Head (34.4)	Deep Impact Palace Rumor (Royal Anthem)	Masahiro Miki Northern Racing Haruki Sugiyama
5	1	2	Shahryar (JPN) Kohei Matsuyama	H5 d.b. 58.0	44.6 (8)	Neck (34.8)	Deep Impact Dubai Majesty (Essence of Dubai)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Hideaki Fujiwara
6	7	13	Tastiera (JPN)	C3 b.	7.1	1-1/2	Satono Crown Partitura	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Farm

			Ryan Moore	56.0	(5)	(34.9)	(Manhattan Cafe)	Noriyuki Hori
7	6	12	Win Marilyn (JPN) Luke Morris	M6 ch. 56.0	171.9 (14)	3/4 (35.2)	Screen Hero Cosmo Cielo (Fusaichi Pegasus)	Win Co., Ltd. Cosmo View Farm Takahisa Tezuka
8	1	1	Sol Oriens (JPN) Yuga Kawada	C3 b. 56.0	6.5 (4)	Head (34.8)	Kitasan Black Skia (Motivator)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Takahisa Tezuka
9	6	11	Harper (JPN) Mirai Iwata	F3 b. 54.0	93.2 (11)	Neck (35.3)	Heart's Cry Seresta (Jump Start)	M's Racing Northern Racing Yasuo Tomomichi
10	2	3	Ho O Emmy's (JPN) Hironobu Tanabe	M6 b. 56.0	193.2 (16)	Neck (34.7)	Lord Kanaloa Emmy's Smile (Agnes Tachyon)	Yoshihisa Ozasa Shadai Farm Masakazu Ikegami
11	4	7	Iron Barows (JPN) Shu Ishibashi	H6 b. 58.0	133.5 (13)	1/2 (35.1)	Orfevre Palace Rumor (Royal Anthem)	Hirotsugu Inokuma Northern Racing Hiroyuki Uemura
12	8	15	Through Seven Seas (JPN) Kenichi Ikezoe	M5 b. 56.0	6.5 (3)	Neck (35.4)	Dream Journey Mighty Slew (Kurofune)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Tomohito Ozeki
13	4	8	Lilac (JPN) Keita Tosaki	F4 b. 56.0	65.1 (10)	Neck (34.9)	Orfevre Viva Bouquet (King Kamehameha)	Seichi Serizawa Seiichi Serizawa Ikuo Aizawa
14	7	14	Pradaria (JPN) Bauyrzhan Murzabayev	C4 b. 58.0	129.5 (12)	1/2 (35.7)	Deep Impact Chasse' Roll (Kurofune)	Nagoya Yuho Co., Ltd. Nagoyayuhco Co., Ltd. Manabu Ikezoe
15	3	6 B	Deep Bond (JPN) Tom Marquand	H6 br. 58.0	47.4 (9)	3 (35.6)	Kizuna Zephyranthes (King Halo)	Shinji Maeda Murata Bokujo Ryuji Okubo
16	5	9	Heat on Beat (JPN) Ryusei Sakai	H6 b. 58.0	187.9 (15)	Nose (35.9)	King Kamehameha Marcellina (Deep Impact)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Yasuo Tomomichi

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: ¥ 54,579,634,000

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 70,150,704,400

Attendance: 53,453

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.5	¥ 520	Bracket Quinella	3-8	¥ 980	Quinella	5-16	¥ 2,730
Place	No.5	¥ 230	Quinella Place	5-16	¥ 930	Exacta	5-16	¥ 4,380
	No.16	¥ 240		4-5	¥ 1,210	Trio	4-5-16	¥ 8,050
	No.4	¥ 330		4-16	¥ 1,720	Trifecta	5-16-4	¥ 42,110

Winner= 12 starts: 6 wins, 1 second & 1 third / Added & stakes money: ¥ 503,402,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 1,028,449,400

Do Deuce and Take Reunited to Win 2023 Arima Kinen

Second favorite **Do Deuce**, partnered with Yutaka Take for the first time since early this season, claimed his third G1 title in the Arima Kinen against a quality field that included eight G1 winners. The Heart's Cry colt, who won both the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (G1, 1,600m) as a two-year-old and then the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby, G1, 2,400m) at three, had a major setback after another graded victory in February this season in the Kyoto Kinen (G2, 2,200m) in which he was ruled out of his intended overseas challenge in the Dubai Turf with a lame left foreleg, then, in his comeback this fall in the Tenno Sho (Autumn) (G1, 2,000m) in October as well as the following Japan Cup (G1, 2,400m) in November, his regular rider Yutaka Take was unable to take the reins due to injury from another race—he finished seventh and fourth, respectively. Trainer Yasuo Tomomichi claimed his 18th JRA-G1 title—his latest being the 2022 Champions Cup with Jun Light Bolt, while Yutaka Take scored his first G1 victory since the Osaka Hai with Jack d'Or in April and 81st overall. Take previously won the Arima Kinen with Oguri Cap (1990), Deep Impact (2006) and Kitasan Black (2017), making this his fourth Arima Kinen victory which ties Kenichi Ikezoe for most wins in this race.

Do Deuce was unhurried out of the gate and rated near the rear outside a rival. Held back and still well behind the pace along the backstretch, the four-year-old colt advanced along the outside approaching the third corner and was already joining the front group turning for home while still about four lengths behind the leader. With 200 meters to go, **Do Deuce**, together with **Stars on Earth**, closed in on the leader with a strong late charge to pin that foe 100 meters out and then out-dueled **Stars on Earth** just before the wire for a 1/2-length victory.

“It’s great to comeback with Do Deuce to win this race against some really strong opponents. He was in good shape coming into this race and although the colt was a bit keen and I had to keep him in hand and maintain a good rhythm and not let him rush and gave him the go from about 700 meters out. His response was very good rounding the last corner and gave a terrific late charge to the wire. We did have our struggles after winning the Kyoto Kinen early this year but I was determined to show his true strength and prove what he was really made of in this big race,” commented Yutaka Take.

Seventh pick **Stars on Earth** broke sharply from the widest stall under Christophe Lemaire and tracked the leader off the rails in second. After allowing the pacesetter to open the margin by a distance, the Duramente filly maintained her position while joined by the eventual winner on the outside and matched that foe up to the wire while outdueled in the end by 1/2 length.

Sixth choice **Titleholder** shot out of the gate to dispute the lead with **Stars on Earth** and eventually assumed command entering the homestretch (first round). Eventually opening the gap by more than seven lengths along the backstretch, the son of Duramente continued strongly to maintain his lead until finally being caught by the top two finishers after the 100-meter marker and hold off the fast-closing **Justin Palace** to finish third.

Race favorite **Justin Palace** missed a beat coming out of the starting gate and raced at the very rear, almost 20 lengths or so from the leader along the backstretch, before making headway approaching the third corner and circling wide into the homestretch. Under strong urging from the jockey, the Deep Impact colt closed strongly with a furlong to go and, while unable to reach the top two, turned in a strong finishing run to just miss third place by a head margin.

Other Horses:

- 5th: (2) **Shahryar**—sat in 4th on rails, gradually closed in on leaders but needed more
- 6th: (13) **Tastiera**—ran in 9th, driven after 3rd corner, met traffic before 200m pole, lost momentum
- 7th: (12) **Win Marilyn**—settled around 6th, ran gamely until 200m pole, even paced thereafter
- 8th: (1) **Sol Oriens**—was off a bit slow, saved ground around 10th, showed effort until 100m out
- 9th: (11) **Harper**—positioned in 5th, remained in contention until 200m pole
- 10th: (3) **Ho O Emmy’s**—hugged rails near rear, angled out, passed tired rivals
- 11th: (7) **Iron Barows**—settled around 6th, dropped back after 800m pole
- 12th: (15) **Through Seven Seas**—advanced to 6th, circled wide, failed to respond
- 13th: (8) **Lilac**—sat around 14th, angled out for stretch run, lacked needed kick
- 14th: (14) **Pradaria**—tracked leaders in 3rd form wide draw, outrun after final corner
- 15th: (6) **Deep Bond**—raced around 10th, dropped back turning last corners, never fired
- 16th: (9) **Heat on Beat**—traveled 3-wide around 10th, checked at final corner, showed little

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 7.0 - 11.3 - 11.9 - 12.0 - 12.0 - 12.2 - 12.5 - 11.9 - 12.2 - 12.0 - 12.0 - 11.7 - 12.2
 Last 4 furlongs: 47.9 Last 3 furlongs: 35.9

Positions at each corner:	1st corner	4-16,14,2,11(7,12,15)-13(1,6,9)- <u>5</u> (3,8)10
	2nd corner	4=16,14,2,11(7,12,15)13(1,6,9)(3,8, <u>5</u>)10
	3rd corner (2nd lap)	4=(16,14,11)(2,12,15)(13,9, <u>5</u>)7(1,6,10)8,3
	4th corner (2nd lap)	4=16(14,11, <u>5</u>)(2,12,15)(13,9,10)(7,1,6,8)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.