

**SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE 85TH OKA SHO (JAPANESE 1000 GUINEAS, G1)**

The Oka Sho, which is the first of the five JRA Classics held during the year, determines the champion three-year-old filly possessing the fastest speed running over 1,600 meters and serves as an opportunity to scout potential broodmare talents. The Japanese equivalent to the One Thousand Guineas originated in England, the Oka Sho was first held at Nakayama Racecourse in Chiba, run over 1,800 meters and under the name “Nakayama Yonsai Himba Tokubetsu”, then changed its distance and venue under the new name, “Oka Sho” (Oka, meaning cherry flower which is in full bloom at this time of the season). With the entire graded races opening its doors to foreign-trained horses in 2010, the three-year-old Classics including this race entered a new phase with international G1 status. While speed is a much-required ability to win this race, the extension of the homestretch as well as a deeper turf surface and an uphill stretch at Hanshin after the track renovation in 1991 has added “stamina” as an added qualification—a newly added outside turf track further extended the homestretch in 2006.

The Oka Sho, together with the Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks, G1, 2,400m) and the Shuka Sho (G1, 2,000m), is also widely considered as the fillies’ version of the “Triple Crown”, a title which has been claimed by seven fillies in the past including Almond Eye (JPN, by Lord Kanaloa) who concluded her stellar career with her ninth G1 triumph in the 2020 Japan Cup (G1, 2,400m), Daring Tact (JPN, by Epiphaneia) who became the first undefeated filly to complete the sweep in 2020, and Liberty Island (JPN, by Duramente) in 2023.

This year’s Oka Sho field featured 2024 Best Two-Year-Old Filly **Arma Veloce** who came off a victory in last year’s Hanshin Juvenile Fillies (G1, 1,600m, Dec.8). Those who qualified to run in the race from their performances in trial races were **Kurino Mei**, **Water Gerbera** and Hanshin Juvenile Fillies runner-up **Vip Daisy**, the top three finishers (in that order) in the Tulip Sho (G2, 1,600m, Mar.2); **Shonan Xanadu**, **Cerbiatto** and **Bonne Soiree**, who dominated the top three in the Fillies’ Revue (G2, 1,400m, Mar.8); and the winner and runner-up in the Anemone Stakes (Listed, 1,600m, Mar.15), **Twilight City** and **Primzahl**. The field also included **Erika Express**, **Voulezvous** and **Embroidery**, respective winners of the Fairy Stakes (G3, 1,600m, Jan.12), the Elfin Stakes (Listed, 1,600m, Feb.10) and the Queen Cup (G3, 1,600m, Feb.15) as well as 2024 Artemis Stakes (G3, 1,600m) winner **Brown Ratchet**.

THE 85TH OKA SHO (JAPANESE 1000 GUINEAS, G1)

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

Sunday, April 13, 2025

Hanshin Racecourse

11th Race

Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 303,800,000 (about US\$ 1,936,000 <US\$1=¥157>)

3-y-o: 55kg (about 121 lbs), 2kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2022

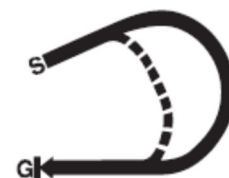
Course Record: 1:31.1

Race Record: 1:31.1 [Sodashi (JPN, by Kurofune), 2021]

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	4	7	Embroidery (JPN) Joao Moreira	F3 b. 55.0	5.0 (3)	1:33.1 (34.0)	Admire Mars Rottenmeier (Kurofune)	Silk Racing Co., Ltd. Tenei Horse Park Ltd Kazutomo Mori
2	5	9	Arma Veloce (JPN) Mirai Iwata	F3 d.b. 55.0	3.8 (2)	Neck (33.9)	Harbinger Rakuami (Daiwa Major)	TO RACING LLC. Northern Racing Hiroyuki Uemura
3	6	12	Lynx Tip (JPN) Mirco Demuro	F3 b. 55.0	6.8 (4)	2-1/2 (34.0)	Kitsan Black Dance With Kitten (Kitten's Joy)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Shadai Corporation Inc. Masayuki Nishimura
4	2	3	Ma Puce (JPN) Hironobu Tanabe	F3 ch. 55.0	35.8 (9)	2-1/2 (34.7)	Mind Your Biscuits Films Francais (Symboli Kris S)	Yuji Yoshimoto Shadai Farm Yusuke Wada
5	1	2	Erika Express (JPN) Keita Tosaki	F3 d.b. 55.0	3.4 (1)	1-1/2 (35.6)	Epiphaneia Enticed (Galileo)	Masahiro Miki Mishima Bokujo Haruki Sugiyama
6	7	13 B	Cerbiatto (JPN) Yuichi Kitamura	F3 b. 55.0	53.0 (12)	Nose (34.5)	Lord Kanaloa Cutie Gold (French Deputy)	Silk Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Tomokazu Takano
7	8	17	Primzahl (JPN) Akihide Tsumura	F3 d.b. 55.0	158.0 (18)	Nose (34.6)	Isla Bonita Premier Steps (Footstepsinthesand)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Masayoshi Ebina

8	1	1	Voulezvous (JPN) Suguru Hamanaka	F3 d.b. 55.0	38.5 (10)	1-3/4 (35.4)	Satono Crown Argyros (Manhattan Cafe)	Kuwata Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Koshiro Take
9	8	18	Brown Ratchet (JPN) Takeshi Yokoyama	F3 b. 55.0	29.4 (8)	Nose (34.8)	Kizuna Forever Darling (Congrats)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Takahisa Tezuka
10	2	4	Shonan Xanadu (JPN) Kenichi Ikezoe	F3 b. 55.0	21.1 (6)	2-1/2 (36.1)	Kizuna Mi Sueno (Pulpit)	Tetsuhide Kunimoto Northern Farm Takeshi Matsushita
11	3	6	Vip Daisy (JPN) Hideaki Miyuki	F3 b. 55.0	12.8 (5)	1/2 (36.1)	Satono Diamond Rose Beryl (King Kamehameha)	Kunihide Suzuki Shunsuke Yoshida Takeshi Matsushita
12	3	5	Bonne Soiree (JPN) Yuga Kawada	F3 ch. 55.0	77.3 (13)	1/2 (36.2)	Rey de Oro Notte Bianca (Kendargent)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Keisuke Miyata
13	8	16	Namura Clara (JPN) Yusuke Fujioka	F3 ch. 55.0	93.8 (16)	3-1/2 (37.0)	Admire Mars Sun Queen (Storm Cat)	Mutsuhiro Namura Mutsuhiro Namura Kodai Hasegawa
14	4	8	Water Gerbera (JPN) Yutaka Take	F3 b. 55.0	40.9 (11)	Neck (36.3)	Rey de Oro Water Peony (Victoire Pisa)	Masato Yamaoka Masato Yamaoka Mamoru Ishibashi
15	7	15	Kurino Mei (JPN) Manabu Sakai	F3 ch. 55.0	27.3 (7)	1-3/4 (37.3)	Orfevre Kurino Elizabeth (Precise End)	Yoriko Kurimoto Hiroharu Kurimoto Naosuke Sugai
16	7	14	Dantsu Elan (JPN) Taisei Danno	F3 b. 55.0	109.1 (17)	5 (37.5)	Lord Kanaloa Mischievous Misty (Into Mischief)	Tetsuji Yamamoto Miyauchi Bokujo Masaru Honda
17	6	11	Mistress (JPN) Ryusei Sakai	F3 d.b. 55.0	84.2 (14)	6 (39.0)	Kizuna Cherokee Maiden (Distorted Humor)	Shinji Maeda Grand Stud Yoshito Yahagi
18	5	10	Twilight City (JPN) Kohei Matsuyama	F3 b. 55.0	90.2 (15)	2-1/2 (39.1)	Epiphaneia Esentepe (Oratorio)	M's Racing Masahiko Sugino Haruki Sugiyama

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: 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: ¥ 18,040,019,000

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 27,036,214,300

Attendance: 25,610

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.7	¥ 500	Bracket Quinella	4-5	¥ 860	Quinella	7-9	¥ 1,000
Place	No.7	¥ 200	Quinella Place	7-9	¥ 490	Exacta	7-9	¥ 2,000
	No.9	¥ 150		7-12	¥ 690	Trio	7-9-12	¥ 2,200
	No.12	¥ 200		9-12	¥ 400	Trifecta	7-9-12	¥ 11,060

Winner= 6 starts: 4 wins & 1 second / Added & stakes money: ¥ 168,791,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 224,551,000

Embroidery Wins First Leg of Fillies' Triple Crown

Third favorite **Embroidery** won three in a row, capturing her first G1 title this year's Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas). While giving her sire Admire Mars his first G1 title—Admire Mars was a winner of three G1 victories at mile distance including the 2019 Hong Kong Mile. After a runner-up effort in her debut at 1,600 meters at Tokyo in June last year, the two-year-old broke her maiden in her following start at Niigata over 1,800 meters, then finished a close fifth against boys in the Saffron Sho (1 Win Class, Nakayama, 1,600m) before concluding her two-year-old season with her second win in November (1 Win Class, Tokyo, 1,400m). **Embroidery** kicked off this season with another win in the Queen Cup (G3, Tokyo, 1,600m) prior to her Oka Sho triumph. It was the first G1 victory and third graded title for trainer Kazutomo Mori who is in his second season as a JRA trainer. Jockey Joao Moreira, who partnered the filly for the second time after the filly's debut last year and whose last JRA-G1 win was just two weeks ago in the Takamatsunomiya Kinen aboard Satono Reve, also won the Oka Sho last year with Stellenbosch and has now collected four JRA-G1 titles.

Embroidery broke smoothly and settled off the rails in mid-division around tenth position up to the final turn. Joao Moreira waited for an opening as the field straightened for the stretch run and swiftly guided the filly out to overtake the race favorite who weakened before the furlong pole. Soon joined by **Arma Veloce** from the outside, the bay filly outdueled that foe for a neck victory.

“It’s another G1 win in Japan (following the Takamatsunomiya Kinen) which I would say is rather difficult, and no doubt, I’m extremely happy. We didn’t really know how she was going to handle the track as it’s been raining for nearly half of the day and there was a lot of moisture out there and not many of the horses out there could handle it, but she proved that she can and I was just a lucky boy to have been able to sit on a nice horse to another G1 race in Japan. When she was able to get the split between horses then really fight as there was company, I can’t remember which number, coming from the outside. She really had to let down and show what she’s got—I was riding her along really strongly hoping that she would give it to me, and she did—she really won well. The surface definitely didn’t affect her at all and I’m extremely pleased to have been given a chance to ride another very special horse in Japan. Having won as she did today, I have no doubt that she will be competitive once again in her next start and I will be hoping she will run as well she did today,” commented Joao Moreira.

2024 Best Two-Year-Old filly **Arma Veloce** also raced in mid-field with close watch on the eventual winner throughout the 1,600-meter trip. While the winner opted to take the inside route rounding the final turn, Mirai Iwata angled out to secure a clear path along the outside at equal speed for the duel but missed by a neck for second.

Lynx Tip was unhurried early and trailed at the very rear of the 18-horse field early but rapidly advanced along the outside from the 600-meter pole with impressive speed but had too much ground to make up to threaten the top two finishers, crossing the 2-1/2 lengths behind for third.

Race favorite **Erika Express** was the first out of the gate to assume command and maintained her lead up to the final corner but, tired from her early efforts, was unable to sustain her bid and gave way to her rivals from behind while managing to finish fifth.

Other Horses:

4th: (3) **Ma Puce**—saved ground around 12th, rallied for lead along rails, weakened in last 200m

6th: (13) **Cerbiatto**—sat towards rear around 15th, had too much ground to make up

7th: (17) **Primzahl**—positioned wide in 15th, passed tired rivals at stretch

8th: (1) **Voulezvous**—saved ground around 9th, rallied for lead but weakened in last 200m

9th: (18) **Brown Ratchet**—raced 2nd from rear, showed effort on inner stretch until 200m pole

10th: (4) **Shonan Xanadu**—hugged rails around 4th, remained in contention until 200m pole

11th: (6) **Vip Daisy**—sat around 6th in front of winner, angled out for stretch run, lacked needed kick

12th: (5) **Bonne Soiree**—settled around 5th, showed effort until 200m pole

13th: (16) **Namura Clara**—chased leaders around 3rd, dropped back at stretch

14th: (8) **Water Gerbera**—ran around 12th, unable to reach contention

15th: (15) **Kurino Mei**—pressed pace in 2nd, faded after final corner

16th: (14) **Dantsu Elan**—raced wide around 12th, checked by rival at early stretch, never fired

17th: (11) **Mistress**—traveled wide around 6th, showed little at stretch

18th: (10) **Twilight City**—positioned forwardly early, eased back to around 6th, outrun after 3rd corner

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 12.3 - 10.7 - 11.5 - 12.1 - 12.0 - 11.7 - 11.4 - 11.4

Last 4 furlongs: 46.5 Last 3 furlongs: 34.5

Positions at each corner: 3rd corner 2(15,16)(4,5)(6,10,11)(1,7)9(3,8,14)(13,17)18-12

4th corner 2(15,16)(4,5,6,11)(1,7)(9,10)(3,8,14)(17,12)(18,13)

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.