

SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 30TH 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.

Last year's Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (G1, 1,600m) champion **Admire Zoom** began his current three-year-old season with a runner-up effort in the trial New Zealand Trophy (G2, 1,600m, Apr.12), a neck behind winner **Immigrant Song** and 1-1/4-lengths ahead of **Caught Alliciant** in third. Runners who earned their berths performing well in another trial race, the Churchill Downs Cup (G3, 1,600m, Apr.5), were the top three finishers, **Lance of Chaos**, **Arte Veloce** and **Mini Transat** (in that order). The field also included graded winners in their two-year-old seasons, **Satono Carnaval**, **Total Clarity** and **Panja Tower** as well as this year's Falcon Stakes (G3, 1,400m, Mar.22) victor **Yankee Barows**. Coming off the first legs of the Triple Crown were **Ma Puce**, **Cerbiatto**, **Voulezvous** and **Shonan Xanadu**, who marked a fourth, sixth, eighth and tenth, respectively, in the Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas, G1, 1,600m, Apr.13), and the dark bay colt **Magic Sands**, the sixth-place finisher in the Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, 1,600m, Apr.20).

THE 30TH NHK MILE CUP (G1)

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

Sunday, May 11, 2025

Tokyo Racecourse

11th Race

Post Time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 283,100,000 (about US\$ 1,804,000 <US\$1=¥157>)

3-y-o: 57 kg (about 126 lbs), 2 kg allowance for Fillies, 2 kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2022

Course Record: 1:30.5

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

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	6	11	Panja Tower (JPN) Kohei Matsuyama	C3 b. 57.0	26.1 (9)	1:31.7 (34.2)	Tower of London Clarksdale (Victoire Pisa)	Deep Creek Co., Ltd. Champions Farm Shinsuke Hashiguchi
2	5	10	Magic Sands (JPN) Yutaka Take	C3 d.b. 57.0	8.4 (3)	Head (33.7)	Kizuna Kona Brewers (King Kamehameha)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Naosuke Sugai
3	2	3 B	Cerbiatto (JPN) Michael Dee	F3 b. 55.0	73.7 (12)	Nose (34.3)	Lord Kanaloa Cutie Gold (French Deputy)	Silk Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Tomokazu Takano
4	1	1	Mondo dell'Amore (JPN) Keita Tosaki	C3 g. 57.0	13.1 (6)	1/2 (34.7)	World Ace Hikaru Amore (Kurofune)	Kazumi Yoshida Shunsuke Yoshida Naoto Chiba
5	3	5	Lance of Chaos (JPN) Seinosuke Yoshimura	C3 d.b. 57.0	8.8 (4)	1-1/4 (35.0)	Silver State Heidrun (Lohengrin)	Yoshinori Itsukage Fujiwara Farm Yutaka Okumura
6	8	16	Satono Carnaval (JPN) Damian Lane	C3 b. 57.0	14.2 (7)	3/4 (34.5)	Kitasan Black Realisatrice (Numerous)	Hajime Satomi Northern Racing Noriyuki Hori
7	6	12	Ma Puce (JPN) Hironobu Tanabe	F3 ch. 55.0	10.1 (5)	Head (34.6)	Mind Your Biscuits Films Francais (Symboli Kris S)	Yuji Yoshimoto Shadai Farm Yusuke Wada

8	5	9	Meiner Ticket (JPN) Takeshi Yokoyama	C3 b. 57.0	102.1 (13)	Nose (34.4)	Danon Ballade Entry Ticket (Matsurida Gogh)	Thoroughbred Club Ruffian Co., Ltd. Big Red Farm Toru Miya
9	2	4	Yankee Barows (JPN) Mirai Iwata	C3 bl. 57.0	39.8 (10)	3/4 (34.6)	Epiphaneia Candy Barows (Deep Impact)	Hirotsugu Inokuma Tomita Bokujo Hiroyuki Uemura
10	8	18	Caught Alliciant (JPN) Akira Sugawara	F3 ch. 55.0	45.4 (11)	3/4 (34.1)	Saturnalia Caught Charmant (Heart's Cry)	Teruya Yoshida Shadai Farm Daishi Ito
11	3	6	Immigrant Song (JPN) Christophe Lemaire	C3 b. 57.0	5.4 (2)	Nose (35.5)	Makfi El Norte (Deep Impact)	Katsumi Yoshida Northern Farm Tetsuhide Tsuji
12	7	13	Mini Transat (JPN) Katsuma Sameshima	C3 g. 57.0	104.8 (14)	Head (34.5)	Epiphaneia Ichiokuno Hoshi (Zenno Rob Roy)	Tatsuo Tanikake Shadai Farm Yoshiaki Sugiyama
13	7	15	Arte Veloce (JPN) Daisuke Sasaki	C3 ch. 57.0	16.3 (8)	1/2 (35.3)	Maurice Culminate (Deep Impact)	TO RACING LLC. Northern Farm Naosuke Sugai
14	4	8	Admire Zoom (JPN) Yuga Kawada	C3 b. 57.0	2.5 (1)	3/4 (36.0)	Maurice Daiwa Zoom (Heart's Cry)	Junko Kondo Shadai Farm Yasuo Tomomichi
15	8	17	Voulezvous (JPN) Suguru Hamanaka	F3 d.b. 55.0	181.7 (17)	2 (36.6)	Satono Crown Argyros (Manhattan Cafe)	Kuwata Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Koshiro Take
16	1	2	Shonan Xanadu (JPN) Kenichi Ikezoe	F3 b. 55.0	118.5 (15)	3 (36.1)	Kizuna Mi Sueno (Pulpit)	Tetsuhide Kunimoto Northern Farm Takeshi Matsushita
17	7	14	Tiratore (JPN) Takuya Kowata	F3 b. 55.0	201.0 (18)	1-1/2 (36.8)	Real Steel Air Symphony (Rulership)	ST Racing Tsunebumi Yoshihara Koji Maki
18	4	7 B	Total Clarity (JPN) Yuichi Kitamura	C3 b. 57.0	167.2 (16)	5 (37.7)	Bago Bit Rate (Special Week)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Manabu Ikezoe

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: ¥ 18,533,430,500

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 28,194,009,000

Attendance: 36,836

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.11	¥ 2,610	Bracket Quinella	5-6	¥ 2,920	Quinella	10-11	¥ 20,740
Place	No.11	¥ 850	Quinella Place	10-11	¥ 4,690	Exacta	11-10	¥ 39,730
	No.10	¥ 390		3-11	¥ 23,910	Trio	3-10-11	¥ 275,990
	No.3	¥ 1,560		3-10	¥ 8,070	Trifecta	11-10-3	¥ 1,505,950

Winner= 5 starts: 3 wins / Added & stakes money: ¥ 133,780,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 185,670,000

Panja Tower Secures Three-Year-Old Miler Title in NHK Mile Cup

Ninth favorite **Panja Tower** claimed his first G1 and second graded title in this year's NHK Mile Cup. The bay colt, who is among the first crop of Tower of London who won the 2019 Sprinters Stakes, broke his maiden in his debut start last September (Chukyo, 1,200m) and immediately registered his first grade-race victory in the following Keio Hai Nisai Stakes (Tokyo, G2, 1,400m) two months later. After concluding his two-year-old season with a disappointing 12th in the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (Kyoto, G1, 1,600m), the bay colt came off a fourth in his first start of the current season in the Falcon Stakes (Chukyo, G3, 1,400m) on March 22. The bay colt provided trainer Shinsuke Hashiguchi with his second JRA-G1 success following the 2018 JBC Sprint with Graceful Leap, while jockey Kohei Matsuyama scored his sixth G1 title and his first since the 2021 Champions Cup with T O Keynes.

Panja Tower was swift out of gate 11 and was reserved in a wide mid-pack position of the 18-horse field. Making the widest turn into the straight, the son of Tower of London unleashed a furious closing kick, drew even with the front 300 meters out and pulled away while rallying with, and narrowly holding off, **Ma Magic Sands** on the inside and **Cerbiatto** digging in between that in the final strides.

“We were able to sit in a good position but the rhythm was more of an important factor and I’m happy he ran steadily in good rhythm today. As you know, he’s shown his strength since his debut and has a graded win in Tokyo, and the way he stretched incredibly today proves he has a bright future ahead of him,” commented Kohei Matsuyama in a post-race interview.

Third choice **Magic Sands** was unhurried, settling second from the rear, and was steered to an inner route by Yutaka Take rounding the final corner to make bid. The Kizuna colt, while launching the fastest drive over the last three furlongs from behind, found a clear path 300 meters out and eventually dueled with the subsequent winner in the last 100 meters but was a head short at the wire in second.

Lightly favored as 12th pick, **Cerbiatto** sat on the rails just behind **Panja Tower** and after straightening away, increased speed to shoot out from the pack and dig in fiercely in the final strides, nearly catching the top two finishers but was a head-and-nose short at the wire to finish third.

Breaking smoothly from stall eight, race favorite **Admire Zoom** was a bit keen in the backstretch but settled on the rails to stalk the pace in second. Picking off the pace setter in early stretch, the Maurice colt showed effort in sustaining his lead but dropped away once overtaken by the eventual winner and faded to 14th. Jockey Yuga Kawada stated after the race that the colt had lost a shoe two to three hundred meters out of the gate.

Other Horses:

4th: (1) **Mondo dell’Amore**—hugged rails around 7th, angled out to join rally at stretch, failed to find another gear

5th: (5) **Lance of Chaos**—settled behind favorite around 4th, rallied for lead but weakened in last 100m

6th: (16) **Satono Carnaval**—raced wide around 12th, angled out at early stretch, quickened in last 200m

7th: (12) **Ma Puce**—traveled around 12th, had too much ground to make up

8th: (9) **Meiner Ticket**—sat around 15th, struggled to find clear path, showed belated charge in last 200m

9th: (4) **Yankee Barows**—saved ground around 14th, showed effort until 200m pole

10th: (18) **Caught Alliciant**—broke poorly, trailed in far rear, passed tired rivals on rails

11th: (6) **Immigrant Song**—tracked leaders around 4th, rallied for lead briefly, needed more

12th: (13) **Mini Transat**—ran wide around 15th, lacked needed kick

13th: (15) **Arte Veloce**—raced wide around 7th, failed to respond at stretch

15th: (17) **Voulezvous**—gradually advanced to lead before 3rd corner, used up 300m out

16th: (2) **Shonan Xanadu**—traveled around 9th, circled wide, checked at 200m pole

17th: (14) **Tiratore**—positioned wide around 4th, remained in contention until 350m out

18th: (7) **Total Clarity**—rallied for lead to set pace early, faded after final corner

Fractional time (sec./furlong): 12.3 - 10.4 - 10.7 - 11.2 - 11.8 - 11.9 - 11.6 - 11.8

Last 4 furlongs: 47.1 Last 3 furlongs: 35.3

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

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

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.