

Exclusive Topics for JAPAN AUTUMN INTERNATIONAL 2025 - 4th Edition -



November 2025
The Japan Racing Association

Japan's top dirt specialists are kicking off their fall seasons and making full-fledged preparations for the Champions Cup (G1, dirt, 1,800m) at Chukyo Racecourse on December 7. Although the 2023 and 2024 winner Lemon Pop retired last year, **Wilson Tesoro (JPN, H6, by Kitasan Black)**, who was runner-up to Lemon Pop both times in the Champions Cup, remained in training and added a major title in the Mile Championship Nambu Hai (Listed, dirt, 1,600m) this October. **Sixpence (JPN, C4, by Kizuna)**, a winner of three graded titles on turf, came in second in his first start on dirt.

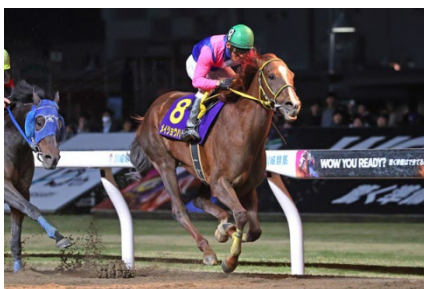


Wilson Tesoro,
winner of 2024 JBC Classic

The JBC Classic (Listed, dirt, 1,800m) on November 3 was won by Mikki Fight (JPN, C4, by Drefong), followed in second by this year's Kawasaki Kinen (Listed, dirt, 2,100m) winner **Meisho Hario (JPN, H8, by Pyro)**. **Wilson Tesoro** was fifth and three-time graded winner **Sunrise Zipangu (JPN, C4, by Kizuna)** was tenth. While Mikki Fight has chosen the Tokyo Daishoten (G1, dirt, 2,000m) on December 29 as his next start, **Meisho Hario**, **Wilson Tesoro** and **Sunrise Zipangu** will be among this year's Champions Cup contenders.



Sixpence,
winner of 2025 Nakayama Kinen



Meisho Hario,
winner of 2025 Kawasaki Kinen



Sunrise Zipangu,
winner of 2024 Miyako Stakes

W Heart Bond (JPN, F4, by Kizuna) won her first grade-race title in one of two Champions Cup trials, the Miyako Stakes (G3, dirt, 1,800m) on November 9, and now has six wins in as many starts on dirt at 1,800 meters. Coming in fourth, seventh and tenth respectively were last year's Tokyo Derby (Listed, dirt, 2,000m) champion **Ramjet (JPN, C4, by Majestic Warrior)**, Heian Stakes (G3, dirt, 1,900m) victor and race favorite **Outrange (JPN, H5, by Regalo)** and Elm Stakes (G3, dirt, 1,700m) winner **Perriere (JPN, H5, by Henny Hughes)**.



W Heart Bond,
winner of 2025 Miyako Stakes



Ramjet,
winner of 2024 Unicorn Stakes



Outrange,
winner of 2025 Heian Stakes

The other trial, the Musashino Stakes (G3, dirt, 1,600m) on November 15, was won by **Luxor Cafe (USA, C3, by American Pharoah)**, who scored his first graded title after finishing 12th in the Kentucky Derby (G1, dirt, 2,000m) and third in the Japan Dirt Classic (Listed, dirt, 2,000m) in October. Last year's February Stakes (G1, dirt, 1,600m) winner **Peptide Nile (JPN, H7, by King Kamehameha)** was ninth.



Perriere,
winner of 2025 Elm Stakes



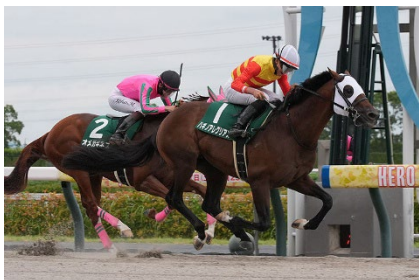
Luxor Cafe,
winner of 2025 Musashino Stakes



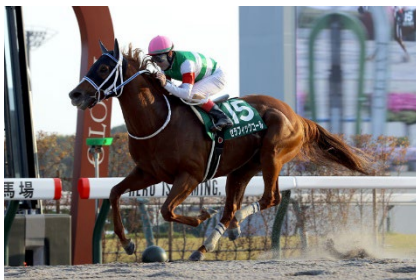
Peptide Nile,
winner of 2024 February Stakes

One of the Champions Cup highlights will be three-year-old **Narukami (JPN, C3, by Thunder Snow)**, the Godolphin-owned colt who won the Kozukata Sho (dirt, 2,000m) at NAR's Morioka Racecourse in September and extended his winning streak to four in the Japan Dirt Classic at Oi Racecourse. With five wins out of six starts, all on dirt, the son of Thunder Snow will face older dirt specialists for the first time in the coming Champions Cup.

The Champions Cup field also includes **Hagino Alegrias (JPN, H8, by Kizuna)**, last year's fourth-place finisher, **Seraphic Call (JPN, H5, by Henny Hughes)**, winner of the Diolite Kinen (Listed, dirt, 2,400m), **Tenka Jo (JPN, F4, by Thunder Snow)**, runner-up in the JBC Ladies' Classic (Listed, dirt, 1,800m) on November 3, and **William Barows (JPN, H7, by Mikki Isle)**, a two-time graded winner on dirt at 1,800 meters.



Hagino Alegrias,
winner of 2024 Sirius Stakes



Seraphic Call,
winner of 2023 Miyako Stakes



William Barows,
winner of 2024 Tokai Stakes

Meanwhile, eight Japanese horses are slated to race in the Hong Kong International Races on December 14. Aiming to become the ninth Japanese winner following Loves Only You (2021) in the Hong Kong Cup (G1, 2,000m) will be:

- **Bellagio Opera (JPN, H5, by Lord Kanaloa)**, back-to-back winner of the 2024-2025 Osaka Hai (G1, 2,000m), who is coming off a second in the Takarazuka Kinen (G1, 2,200m) in June.
- **Lord del Rey (JPN, H5, by Lord Kanaloa)**, winner of the Nikkei Shinshun Hai (G2, 2,200m) and runner-up in the Osaka Hai but had to be withdrawn from the Tenno Sho (Autumn) due to poor condition.
- **Rousham Park (JPN, H6, by Harbinger)**, a two-time graded winner and runner-up in the 2024 Breeders' Cup Turf (G1, 2,400m), who was 12th in the Copa Republica Argentina (G2, 2,500m) on November 9.



Bellagio Opera, winner of 2025 Osaka Hai



Lord del Rey,
winner of 2025 Nikkei Shinshun Hai



Rousham Park,
winner of 2023 All Comers



Embroidery,
winner of 2025 Shuka Sho

Scheduled to race in the Hong Kong Mile (G1, 1,600m) and hoping to follow in the footsteps of Admire Mars, the last (2019) of four Japanese winners, will be:

- **Embroidery (JPN, F3, by Admire Mars)**, winner of the Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas, G1, 1,600m) and also the Shuka Sho (G1, 2,000m), the third jewel of the fillies' triple crown, on October 19.
- **Soul Rush (JPN, H7, by Rulership)**, runner-up in his second Hong Kong Mile challenge last year, who finished sixth in the Mile Championship (G1, 1,600m) on November 23.



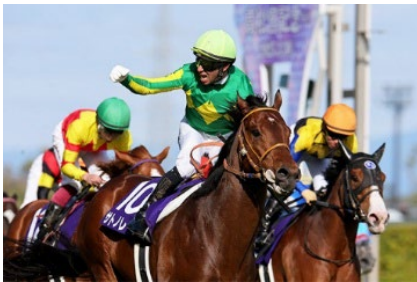
Soul Rush,
winner of 2024 Mile Championship

Bidding to bring home another Japanese victory in the Hong Kong Sprint (G1, 1,200m) after Lord Kanaloa (2012-13) and Danon Smash (2020) will be:

- **Satono Reve (JPN, H6, by Lord Kanaloa)**, the Takamatsunomiya Kinen (G1, 1,200m) victor, who followed with two runner-up efforts overseas in G1 events but was fourth in the Sprinters Stakes (G1, 1,200m) on September 28.
- **Win Carnelian (JPN, H8, by Screen Hero)**, who is coming off his much-awaited first G1 victory in the Sprinters Stakes, his 33rd career start, this year.

The Hong Kong Vase (G1, 2,400m) will be challenged by one Japanese runner hoping to follow the recent victories of Glory Vase in 2021 and Win Marilyn in 2022:

- **Urban Chic (JPN, C4, by Suave Richard)**, winner of the 2024 Kikuka Sho (Japanese St. Leger, G1, 3,000m), who was fifth, but 0.2 seconds behind the winner, in his latest start in the Tenno Sho (Autumn) (G1, 2,000m) on November 2.



Satono Reve, winner of
2025 Takamatsunomiya Kinen



Win Carnelian,
winner of 2025 Sprinters Stakes



Urban Chic,
winner of 2024 Kikuka Sho