

SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 31ST 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. 2024 champion Jantar Mantar (JPN, by Palace Malice) subsequently won both the 2025 Yasuda Kinen (G1, 1,600m) and Mile Championship (G1, 1,600m) that year, which earned him the Best Miler title of the season.

The top three finishers (in that order) in the two official NHK Mile Cup trials were at the gate this year; **Ask Ikigomi**, **Yu Pharoah** and **Valsecito** in the Churchill Downs Cup (G3, 1,600m; Apr.4); and **Reservation**, **Rodeo Drive** and **Gene King** in the New Zealand Trophy (G2, 1,600m; Apr.11). Coming off the first leg of the Triple Crown, the Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, 2,000m; Apr.19), were 2025 Best Two-Year-Old Colt **Cavallerizzo** (13th) and **Admire Quads** (15th) who both opted to the mile G1 instead of stepping up in distance to challenge the second leg. The field also included **Ecoro Alba**, **Thunderstruck**, **Ghillies' Ball** and **Diamond Knot**, respective winners of the Saudi Arabia Royal Cup (G3, 1,600m; Oct.11), the Shinzan Kinen (G3, 1,600m; Jan.12), the Fillies' Revue (G2, 1,400m; Mar.7) and the Falcon Stakes (G3, 1,400m; Mar.21).

THE 31ST NHK MILE CUP (G1)

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

Sunday, May 10, 2026

Tokyo Racecourse

11th Race

Post time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 283,100,000 (about US\$ 1,827,000 <US\$1=¥155>)

3-y-o: 57 kg (about 126 lbs), 2 kg allowance for Fillies, 2 kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2023

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	8	17	Rodeo Drive (JPN) Damian Lane	C3 b. 57.0	4.6 (1)	1:31.5 (33.3)	Saturnalia Beverly Hills (Snitzel)	Katsumi Yoshida Northern Racing Tetsuhide Tsuji
2	8	16	Ask Ikigomi (JPN) Keita Tosaki	C3 b. 57.0	8.4 (4)	Nose (33.5)	Lord Kanaloa Impede (Bated Breath)	Hirosaki Toshihiro HD Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Hideaki Fujiwara
3	6	11	Admire Quads (JPN) Ryusei Sakai	C3 b. 57.0	9.7 (6)	1-1/4 (34.2)	Real Steel Date Line (Zoffany)	Junko Kondo Northern Farm Yasuo Tomomichi
4	4	8	Lorbeerkrantz (JPN) Kohei Matsuyama	C3 b. 57.0	28.5 (10)	1-1/2 (34.1)	Satono Diamond Blumenkrone (King Kamehameha)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Shinya Kobayashi
5	4	7	Diamond Knot (JPN) Yuga Kawada	C3 ch. 57.0	5.5 (3)	1/2 (34.8)	Bricks and Mortar Endless Knot (Deep Impact)	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd. Kaneko Makoto Holdings Inc. Yuichi Fukunaga
6	7	15	Reservation (JPN) Yusuke Hara	C3 br. 57.0	37.3 (11)	Neck (35.0)	Danon Premium Prenotato (Jungle Pocket)	Isami Nakamura Matsuda Bokujo Takeshi Matsushita
7	5	9	Thunderstruck (JPN) Christophe Lemaire	C3 b. 57.0	17.0 (7)	Head (34.8)	Lord Kanaloa Seabrook (Hinchinbrook)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Tetsuya Kimura

8	6	12	Anduril (JPN) Mirai Iwata	C3 br. 57.0	19.7 (8)	1/2 (34.2)	Saturnalia Andraste (Orfevre)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Corporation Inc. Mitsumasa Nakauchida
9	5	10	Ecoro Alba (JPN) Kazuo Yokoyama	C3 ch. 57.0	4.9 (2)	Nose (33.7)	Mozu Ascot Star Actress (French Deputy)	Masatoshi Haramura Fujiwara Breeding Stud Yasuhiro Tamura
10	7	14 B	Valsecito (JPN) Yuichi Kitamura	C3 b. 57.0	21.3 (9)	3/4 (33.5)	Kizuna Malacostumbrada (Lizard Island)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Takeshi Matsushita
11	3	5	Ghillies' Ball (JPN) Koji Nishizuka	F3 ch. 55.0	46.2 (14)	Head (34.6)	Epiphaneia Floor Craft (Fuji Kiseki)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Takahisa Tezuka
12	2	4	Cavallerizzo (JPN) Atsuya Nishimura	C3 b. 57.0	9.3 (5)	Neck (35.0)	Saturnalia Balladist (Heart's Cry)	Silk Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Tatsuya Yoshioka
13	3	6	Gene King (JPN) Arata Saito	C3 d.b. 57.0	43.7 (13)	Neck (34.9)	Contrail Secondary Market (Into Mischief)	Yuji Yamaguchi Sakai Bokujo Makoto Saito
14	2	3	Hornero (JPN) Akihide Tsumura	C3 b. 57.0	63.2 (15)	Neck (34.2)	Satono Diamond Life For Sale (Not For Sale)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Keisuke Miyata
15	8	18	Fukuchan Sho (JPN) Takeshi Yokoyama	C3 ch. 57.0	38.5 (12)	3-1/2 (34.3)	Isla Bonita Thewayiam (Thewayyouare)	Yoshiaki Fukuda Shadai Farm Yukihiro Kato
16	1	1	Resort Island (JPN) Daisuke Sasaki	C3 d.b. 57.0	159.8 (18)	2 (36.3)	Isla Bonita Edithburgh (Frankel)	Shoji Yanagida Northern Farm Yuki Uehara
17	1	2	Yu Pharoah (USA) Fuma Matsuwaka	C3 b. 57.0	135.7 (16)	1/2 (36.6)	American Pharoah Limari (Medaglia d'Oro)	K. Aitetsu Don Alberto Corporation & American Pharoah Syndicate Hideyuki Mori
18	7	13	Happy Angel (JPN) Kosei Miura	F3 g. 55.0	144.4 (17)	1 (36.7)	Jo Cappuccino Crown Happy (Swept Overboard)	Mariko Yano Shiho Wada Yasuo Takeichi

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: ¥ 19,738,316,600 Turnover for the Day: ¥ 30,157,224,000 Attendance: 41,268

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.17	¥ 460	Bracket Quinella	8-8	¥ 1,200	Quinella	16-17	¥ 1,710
Place	No.17	¥ 230	Quinella Place	16-17	¥ 770	Exacta	17-16	¥ 2,990
	No.16	¥ 300		11-17	¥ 1,000	Trio	11-16-17	¥ 6,160
	No.11	¥ 300		11-16	¥ 1,510	Trifecta	17-16-11	¥ 26,150

Winner= 4 starts: 3 wins & 1 second / Added & stakes money: ¥ 133,822,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 171,830,000

Rodeo Drive Captures NHK Mile Cup in Dramatic Photo-finish

Race favorite **Rodeo Drive** won this year's NHK Mile Cup to become the three-year-old champion miler, crossing the wire at 1:31.5, just 0.1 seconds short of the race record. The son of Saturnalia began his career last year with a win at Nakayama in December and added another win there in March before marking a second in his previous start in the New Zealand Trophy (G2) on April 11. While all of his four starts so far were at the mile, this race marked the colt's first outing on a left-handed course. Trainer Tetsuhide Tsuji, who opened his yard in 2021, claimed his third graded and first G1 title. Riding under a short-term license since April 18, jockey Damian Lane scored his seventh JRA-G1 victory and his first since last year's Tenno Sho (Spring) with Redentor.

Breaking from the second-farthest stall, **Rodeo Drive** was unhurried in fourth from the rear while G3

