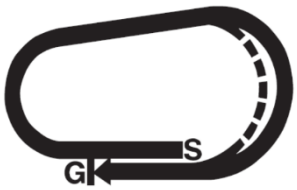
FROM: Media & Publicity Department, THE JAPAN RACING ASSOCIATION (JRA)
DATE: November 15, 2026

SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 51ST QUEEN ELIZABETH II CUP (G1)

The Queen Elizabeth II Cup was established in 1976 to facilitate friendly relations between Japan and England, in commemoration of Her Excellency's visit to Japan in 1975. The race initially started as a 2,400-meter race and the last leg of the "Triple Crown for three-year-old fillies," but became a 2,200-meter race for fillies and mares of three-year-old and up from 1996. The race was temporarily held at Hanshin Racecourse between 2020 and 2022 due to the renovation of Kyoto Racecourse.

Tigertail (FR, by Priolo) and Ana Marie (FR, by Anabaa) were the first two foreign contestants to run in 2003—four years after its designation as an international event in 1999—and finished third and eighth, respectively. Shalanaya (IRE, by Lomitas) finished fourth in 2009 before Edward Dunlop-trained Snow Fairy (IRE, by Intikhab) became the first foreign runner to win the race in 2010 and then defended the title again in 2011. Magical Lagoon (IRE, by Galileo) was the next foreign contender in 2022 but finished last. This year, while defending champion Regaleira (JPN, M5, by Suave Richard) was not among the field, eyes were on 2025 Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks, G1, 2,400m) victor **Kamunyak** who came into the race from her Ireland Trophy (G2, 1,800m, Oct.11) victory. Following in second in that race was **Jocelyn** along with **Lavanda** in third, **Queen's Walk** in eighth and **Sekitoba East** in 15th. 2024 Oaks winner **Cervinia** and 2024 Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas, G1, 1,600m) winner **Stellenbosch** were entered after finishing eighth and 11th, respectively, against male G1 winners in the Niigata Kinen (G3, 2,000m, Aug.30). This year's edition also featured **Juryoku Pierrot** and **Laughterlines**, who finished first and third, respectively, in this year's Oaks, both making their first appearance since that race, as well as **Aqua Vernal**, fourth-place finisher in the Tenno Sho (Spring) (G1, 3,200m).

THE 51ST QUEEN ELIZABETH II CUP (G1)



3-year-olds & up, Fillies & Mares, 2,200 meters (about 11 furlongs), turf, right-handed
Sunday, November 15, 2026 Kyoto Racecourse 11th Race Post time: 15:40
Total prize money: ¥ 326,500,000 (about US$ 2,107,000 <US$1=¥155>)
3-y-o: 54kg (about 119 lbs), 4-y-o & up: 56kg (about 123-124 lbs),
2kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2023
Course record: 2:09.7 Race record: 2:11.0 [Regaleira (JPN, by Suave Richard), 2025]
Safety factor: 18 runners Going: Yielding Weather: Drizzle

FP	BK	PP	Horse Jockey	S&A Color Wgt	Odds (Fav)	Margin (L3F)	Sire Dam (Dam's Sire)	Owner Breeder Trainer
1	7	15	Laughterlines (JPN) Yutaka Take	F3 d.b. 54.0	12.6 (7)	2:14.7 (33.3)	Al Ain Bangor (King Kamehameha)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Michihiro Ogasa
2	4	7	Kamunyak (JPN) Yuga Kawada	F4 b. 56.0	4.2 (1)	Neck (34.5)	Black Tide Dance Amiga (Sakura Bakushin O)	Kaneko Makoto Holdings Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Yasuo Tomomichi
3	8	16	Aqua Vernal (JPN) Kohei Matsuyama	M5 g. 56.0	7.3 (3)	1-3/4 (34.5)	Epiphaneia April Mist (Deep Impact)	Katsumi Yoshida Northern Racing Hirofumi Shii
4	1	2	Lay Classic (JPN) Atsuya Nishimura	F3 b. 54.0	87.3 (16)	Head (34.2)	Kitasan Black Mejiro Jennifer (White Muzzle)	Morimasa Hasegawa Lake Villa Farm Koichi Shintani
5	5	10	Sekitoba East (JPN) Suguru Hamanaka	M5 b. 56.0	20.1 (10)	Neck (35.0)	Declaration of War Barefoot Lady (Footstepsinthesand)	TN Racing Taihei Stud Farm Co. Ltd Hirofumi Shii
6	3	6	Voulezvous (JPN) Hayato Yoshida	F4 d.b. 56.0	9.5 (6)	Neck (34.8)	Satono Crown Argyros (Manhattan Cafe)	Kuwata Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Koshiro Take
7	7	13	Jocelyn (JPN) Christophe Lemaire	F4 b. 56.0	9.4 (5)	1/2 (34.5)	Epiphaneia Katies Heart (Heart's Cry)	Kazumi Yoshida Northern Farm Yuichi Shikato
8	5	9	Queen's Walk (JPN) Cristian Demuro	M5 d.b. 56.0	7.8 (4)	Nose (34.7)	Kizuna Wavell Avenue (Harlington)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Mitsumasa Nakauchida

9	6	12	Shadow Meteor (JPN) Kosei Miura	F4 ch. 56.0	17.7 (9)	Nose (34.0)	Orfevre Pearl Shadow (Kurofune)	Tomokazu Iizuka Tomokazu Iizuka Takashi Kanari
10	8	17	Kelly Fled Ask (JPN) Yuichi Kitamura	F4 br. 56.0	106.8 (17)	Head (34.3)	Duramente Deep in Ask (Deep Impact)	Toshihiro Hirosaki Toshihiro Hirosaki Hideaki Fujiwara
11	6	11	Juryoku Pierrot (JPN) Seina Imamura	F3 ch. 54.0	6.0 (2)	Neck (33.6)	Orfevre Happy Value (Zenno Rob Roy)	Kensuke Kondo Tobino Bokujo Ryo Terashima
12	1	1	Lavanda (JPN) Mirai Iwata	M5 d.b. 56.0	32.0 (11)	1-1/2 (34.9)	Silver State God Pirates (Behkabad)	Satoshi Morinaga Satoshi Morinaga Naoya Nakamura
13	8	18	Koganeno Sora (JPN) Yuji Tannai	M5 g. 56.0	16.0 (8)	Nose (34.4)	Gold Ship Meine Himmel (Roses in May)	Big Red Farm Big Red Farm Takanori Kikuzawa
14	7	14	Cervinia (JPN) Tom Marquand	M5 b. 56.0	50.8 (13)	1-1/4 (34.7)	Harbinger Cecchino (King Kamehameha)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Tetsuya Kimura
15	4	8 B	Lesedrama (JPN) Fuma Matsuwaka	F4 b. 56.0	47.8 (12)	1 (34.7)	Kizuna Sheer Drama (Burning Roma)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Yasuyuki Tsujino
16	2	4	Estupenda (JPN) Kiwamu Ogino	F4 br. 56.0	68.3 (14)	1-3/4 (34.4)	Saturnalia Estrechada (Offlee Wild)	Viridian Keiba Club Orion Farm Mizuki Takayanagi
17	2	3	Stellenbosch (JPN) Kenichi Ikezoe	M5 b. 56.0	115.2 (18)	1-1/4 (34.2)	Epiphaneia Bloukrans (Rulership)	Katsumi Yoshida Northern Farm Keisuke Miyata
18	3	5 B	Nishino Ti Amo (JPN) Akihide Tsumura	M5 b. 56.0	82.5 (15)	1 (35.4)	Duramente Nishino Amore (Conduit)	Shigeyuki Nishiyama Nishiyama Stud Yuki Uehara

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: ¥ 21,004,296,400 Turnover for the Day: ¥ 29,770,589,800 Attendance: 31,830

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.15	¥ 1,260	Bracket Quinella	4-7	¥ 850	Quinella	7-15	¥ 3,160
Place	No.15	¥ 390	Quinella Place	7-15	¥ 1,420	Exacta	15-7	¥ 7,400
	No.7	¥ 180		15-16	¥ 1,550	Trio	7-15-16	¥ 5,710
	No.16	¥ 210		7-16	¥ 630	Trifecta	15-7-16	¥ 38,730

Winner= 7 starts: 3 wins, 1 second & 3 thirds / Added & stakes money: ¥ 153,822,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 270,014,000

LaughterLines Explodes Late To Win Queen Elizabeth II Cup

Seventh pick **Laughterlines** claimed this year's Queen Elizabeth II Cup, landing her first G1 title. Sired by 2017 Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas) winner Al Ain, the dark bay filly debuted as a two-year-old in August last year, scoring 1-1-1 out of three starts, and commenced the current season with a respectable third against male rivals in the Kisaragi Sho (G3, 1,800m) before capturing the Flora Stakes (G2, 2,000m) in April. After registering a third in the Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks, G1, 2,400m) in May, the daughter of Al Ain suffered a fracture in her left foreleg but recovered and was initially slated to kick off her autumn campaign in the G2 Mainichi Okan on October 4. However, due to a minor leg problem this time in her right foreleg, the filly was forced to withdraw and came into this race without a prep. For sire Al Ain, who was sent to stud in 2020, this victory marked his first G1 title. Trainer Michihiro Ogasa, who opened his yard in 2006, secured his first G1 title and fifth graded success in flat racing. Jockey Yutaka Take notched his 88th JRA-G1 title following this year's Kikuka Sho (Japanese St. Leger) with Going to Sky and extended his own record of the most victories in the Queen Elizabeth II Cup to five, having also won the race with To the Victory (2001), Fine Motion (2002) and Admire Groove (2003&2004).

Breaking from stall 15, **Laughterlines** was reserved in a rearward position, around 14th to 15th while **Sekitoba East** set a slow pace. Turning wide into the stretch from behind and with an enormous burst of speed, the Al Ain filly came flying down the outside to put away the race favorite just before the wire for a neck win.

"I was told that she wasn't the quickest out of the gates, but she broke fairly well today and although we were near the rear, the position we sat in wasn't bad. The pace was slow so I decided to stay put and wait till we hit the stretch. Her response was incredible—more than anyone could ask for. For a three-year-old filly to show a performance like that against top fillies and mares like today's field, it certainly proves that she has outstanding potential and a future we can look forward to," commented Yutaka Take after the race.

Race favorite **Kamunyak** broke smoothly under Yuga Kawada and after settling in fourth before the initial turn, advanced to third in the backstretch before hitting the straight behind the leader in second. The 2025 Oaks victor inherited the lead passing the 200-meter marker, shook off a late challenge from **Aqua Vernal** and seemed certain to score until **Laughterlines**' devastating late charge denied her the win.

Third favorite **Aqua Vernal** settled around fifth behind **Kamunyak** from a wide draw and gradually made headway to turn into the lane in good striking position. The gray mare persistently chased the front runners but failed to close in on the race favorite and was overtaken by the eventual winner in last 100 meters while securing third by pinning the tired **Sekitoba East**, then holding off the fast-closing **Lay Classic** by a head.

Other contenders:
4th: (2) **Lay Classic**—saved ground around 6th, quickened in last 200m
5th: (10) **Sekitoba East**—chased pace in 2nd, led at 2nd corner, sustained bid but weakened in final strides
6th: (6) **Voulezvous**—set pace early then eased in 2nd, ran gamely until 50m out
7th: (13) **Jocelyn**—sat around 7th, lacked needed kick
8th: (9) **Queen's Walk**—raced around 5th, showed effort until 100m out
9th: (12) **Shadow Meteor**—ran around 13th, showed effort but had too much ground to cover
10th: (17) **Kelly Fled Ask**—traveled wide around 8th, needed more at stretch
11th: (11) **Juryoku Pierrot**—settled in 16th, showed 2nd fastest late kick but belatedly
12th: (1) **Lavanda**—chased leader in 2nd or 3rd, gradually dropped position
13th: (18) **Koganeno Sora**—sat wide around 12th, even paced at stretch
14th: (14) **Cervinia**—positioned around 11th, never fired
15th: (8) **Lesedrama**—hugged rails around 10th, showed little at stretch
16th: (4) **Estupenda**—raced near rear, unable to reach contention
17th: (3) **Stellenbosch**—trailed in rear, no factor
18th: (5) **Nishino Ti Amo**—traveled around 10th, dropped back after 4th corner

Fractional time (sec./furlong):	12.7 - 11.4 - 12.6 - 13.0 - 12.5 - 13.1 - 13.0 - 11.8 - 11.4 - 11.5 - 11.7	
	Last 4 furlongs: 46.4	Last 3 furlongs: 34.6
Positions at each corner:	1st corner	6(1,10)7,16(2,9)(13,17)5(8,14,18)(12,**15**)-11(3,4)
	2nd corner	(6,*10)(1,7)16(2,9)13(8,5,17)14(12,18)**15**,11(3,4)
	3rd corner	10(6,7)16(1,9)13(2,17)(5,14)18(8,12)**15**,11,4,3
	4th corner	10-7(6,16)9(1,2,13)17(8,14)(5,18)(12,**15**)-(11,4)-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.