

Japan Racing Journal

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Summer Racing and Thoroughbred Sales in Hokkaido



Asia Week

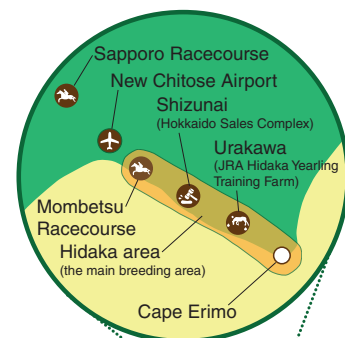
JRA will hold Asia Week of racing on the weekend of September 3 and 4.

Asia Week began in 1994 and was held every other year at Kokura Racecourse, the western gateway to East Asia, and Chukyo Racecourse, the midway point between Tokyo and Osaka, until 2009. Trophies are exchanged with racing organizations from countries throughout Asia, races bearing the names of various countries and race organizations are run, and winning horse owners are presented trophies. Friendship and mutual understanding between racing organizations in various Asian racing nations have further developed, thanks to the Asia Weeks that have been held up to now.

This year, it will be held at Sapporo Racecourse in vast northern Hokkaido as it was last year. Additionally, during the five days from Monday, September 5, to Friday, September 9, the Hokkaido Summer Sale, the Thoroughbred sale that boasts the highest number of lots for auction in Japan, will be held.

We are looking forward to hosting overseas visitors and offering an experience of Japanese summer horse racing and a Thoroughbred sale in Hokkaido.

- | |
|--|
| Saturday, September 3 |
| 10 th race: Thailand Cup |
| 11 th race: Singapore Turf Club Sho |
| 12 th race: Malaysia Cup |
| Sunday, September 4 |
| 9 th race: Philippines Trophy |
| 10 th race: India Trophy |
| 12 th race: Macau Jockey Club Cup |



Hokkaido Summer Sale

Hokkaido, where the Hokkaido Summer Sale is held, accounts for 95% of Japan's Thoroughbred breeding, and the Hidaka region is the largest breeding area, accounting for 80% of that, or around 5,500 horses. The auction is jointly hosted by the Hidaka Horse Breeders' Association (HBA)—the local Thoroughbred breeders' cooperative—and two nearby cooperatives. Four auctions in addition to the Hokkaido Summer Sale are held each year, and last year a total of 2,500 lots were offered, more than 1,100 of which were sold for overall earnings of ¥5.4 billion. Buyers can rely on management conducted by an official organization. Horses previously sold here include TM Opera O (seven-time Japanese G1 winner and the horse with highest earnings in the world) and Jolie's Shinju (Singapore Horse of the Year). The summer yearling sale, at which about 500 of around 1,200 lots in the catalog are sold, making it Japan's largest racehorse sale, is attended by many buyers from overseas countries as well as from Japan. Buyers select the horses that suit them from among horses of varied pedigrees and conformations that are displayed in lineups of dozens of horses at a time for comparison purposes, a method of showing horses unique to Japan, and participate in the auction to make purchases. The average purchase price of approximately 4 million yen means that pricing is attractive.

Details about sales are available at the following sites:

<http://jbba.jp/en/market/hokkaido/index.html>
<http://jbba.jp/en/market/index.html#tab1>

Catalogs can be accessed from the following:

<http://www.hba.or.jp/english/index.html>

Live sale day broadcasts can be viewed at the site below:

<http://live.jbis.or.jp/>





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Hidaka Region Fun

The Hidaka breeding region is famous as the place that has what is known as “Thoroughbred Ginza.” With roughly 7,000 Thoroughbreds born each year, Japan ranks number five worldwide, and accounting for around 80% of that, this area is Japan’s largest breeding region. The sight of young horses gamboling against the backdrop of lovely mountain ranges and the variety of the coastline is magnificent and idyllic. NAR’s Mombetsu Racecourse that holds night races from Tuesday to Thursday from spring through fall illuminating with multicolored lights is beautiful and dreamlike. JRA Hidaka Yearling Training Farm, on a 1,500-hectare site, the largest in Japan, with breaking and training facilities that include a turf track that has a 2,000-meter straight course and a 1,000-meter uphill indoor track, is located in this district along with a full range of enjoyable activities, including numerous tourism facilities related to horseback riding; food featuring fresh, abundant local produce; and hot springs.

<http://en.visit-hokkaido.jp/>



Sapporo Racecourse

Sapporo Racecourse Highlights

Mention Hokkaido and what first pops into many people’s minds is Sapporo, site of the 1972 Winter Olympics, famous for the annual February Snow Festival, and Japan’s number five city with a population of 1.9 million.

Sapporo Racecourse is one station away from Sapporo Station by train and around 10 minutes by cab from downtown, its excellent location making it well-known as a famous sightseeing location, and on Saturday and Sunday race days each week from August 13 to October 2, people come from all around Japan to enjoy summer racing. The track has play facilities that children can enjoy and sells many tasty food items produced in Hokkaido, making it a place where people can have an enjoyable time with family and friends.

Racing fans pay most attention to the G2 Sapporo Kinen, Sapporo Racecourse’s top race run on August 21, but graded races are run on many other weeks. Furthermore, because first starters races for two-year-olds are held almost every raceday, the track is noteworthy for the many racing fans who follow the runners intently in an effort to spot next year’s classic race candidates.

More information about Sapporo Racecourse is available on the following Web site:

<http://japanracing.jp/en/go-racing/jra-racecourses/j05.html>



Niigata Racecourse

Niigata and Kokura Racecourses

JRA holds summer races at Niigata and Kokura Racecourses every Saturday and Sunday until September 4. Both tracks are located near the ocean, and lively perspiring fans cheer the runners on loudly while sampling tasty seafood.

<http://japanracing.jp/en/go-racing/jra-racecourses/j08.html>

<http://japanracing.jp/en/go-racing/jra-racecourses/j10.html>

For tourism information and online lodging and tour reservations, visit the following:

<http://www.japanican.com/index.aspx>



Kokura Racecourse

Review of Japanese Horse Racing in the First Half of 2011

Older Horses' Events — Rivalry among Generations

Three-year-old (at the time) Victoire Pisa, sired by Neo Universe, closed out 2010 with a great victory, holding off Buena Vista by a nose, in the Grand Prix Arima Kinen (G1), and racing fans viewed this crop would lead racing scene in 2011 because that generation was considered to have a number of talented runners.

However, the winner of the February Stakes, the first G1 event for the year, run on a 1,600-meter dirt track, was crowned to the five-year-old Transcend, sired by Wild Rush. It was Transcend's first race since the Japan Cup Dirt (G1) two and a half months ago and he took the same commanding lead he had in his previous start, maintaining it as he barreled through to win strongly. With no rivals in Japan's domestic dirt races, Transcend next ran in the Dubai World Cup (G1), scarcely finishing second to the country mate, Victoire Pisa but demonstrating a high degree of adaptability to the artificial track. It appears that Transcend's next target for this fall will be the JBC Classic, a featured NAR race run at Oh-i Racecourse on November 3 and onto defending the championship in the Japan Cup Dirt (G1). Japanese horse racing fans are looking forward to seeing the excellent performance he displayed on a major world stage.



Transcend

The first G1 race for the year on turf for older horses is the Takamatsumiya Kinen, a 1,200-meter race at the end of March that draws sprinters. This race has been newly added to the Global Sprint Challenge (<http://www.globalsprintchallenge.com/>) in 2011. This is the only G1 race run at Chukyo Racecourse in Nagoya, Japan's number three city (located mid-point between Tokyo and Osaka). With grandstand and track at Chukyo Racecourse currently under renovation, the race was run at the right-handed Hanshin Racecourse this year, two weeks after the Great East Japan Earthquake. The climactic finish dispelled gloomy atmosphere in the aftermath of the disaster, especially with the excitement of the one-two finish by Japanese runners in the Dubai World Cup (G1), an epic achievement in Japanese horse racing history that took place just before dawn that day. The winner of Takamatsumiya Kinen (G1)



Kinshasa no Kiseki

was Fuji Kiseki sired eight-year-old Kinshasa no Kiseki. Making debut in December 2005, he ran well in the NHK Mile Cup, a G1 race for three-year-olds, placing third, but was subsequently unable to reach the apex, placing seconds in both of two sprint G1 races in 2008 (Takamatsumiya Kinen and Sprinters Stakes). He came into full late bloom as his sixth year was coming to a close in the fall of 2009. He captured the Takamatsumiya Kinen (G1) in spring of 2010, for his fourth straight win and, finally becoming a G1 winner. He then ran a fine second against Hong Kong's Ultra Fantasy in the fall Sprinters Stakes (G1). Guided by Umberto Rispoli, a young Italian rising star in Japan on a short-term license in 2011 Takamatsumiya Kinen (G1), he pulled away out from the lead group at the homestretch for a one-and-a-quarter-length win and made a splendid passage into stud carrier. Kinshasa no Kiseki has entered stud service at Shadai Stallion Station, and there are hopes that he will follow in the footsteps of his sire, Sakura Bakushin O who passed away this spring, as a great sire of sprinters.

Four-year-old colt Hiruno d'Amour (Manhattan Cafe) won the pinnacle of the older stayer in spring season, Tenno Sho (Spring) (G1), the longest G1 race in Japan at 3,200 meters. Although rated highly from the time of his debut, he suffered a close second place loss in his first foray into the classic Triple Crown races, the 2,000-meter Satsuki Sho (G1), Japanese 2,000 Guineas. Although backed as the third favorite in both the 2,400-meter Japanese Derby (G1) and the 3,000-meter autumn Kikuka Sho (G1), Japanese St. Leger, he fell to ninth and seventh, respectively, unable to make a strong drive at the finish. However, his performance had improved in late last year in four races from the G3 Naruo Kinen at the end of last year to the G2 Sankei Osaka Hai, a Tenno Sho (Spring) trialrace, placing second, second, third, and first, leading up to the main stage. As if to sneer at fans who had doubts about his suitability for long distances and who rated him poorly (seventh pick) due to his Derby and Kikuka Sho results, he was unperturbed by a difficult, slow-paced race with lead changing in bewildering frequency, advancing with the middle group from start

to finish until kicking away strongly in the home stretch and beating 2010 Japanese Derby (G1) winner Eishin Flash (King's Best), by half a length to finally bask in the glory of a G1 victory. His team promptly announced that he would be aimed for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, as representing Japan's exceptional four-year-old crops, he will be pitted in an autumn battle at Longchamp against the world's best horses, including Dubai World Cup winner Victoire Pisa. Will the son be able to shed tears of joy at Longchamp, where Hiruno d'Amour's sire Manhattan Cafe wept in defeat?



Hiruno d'Amour

Last year's fillies' Triple Crown winner Apapane (King Kamehameha) bested Buena Vista in the mid-May Victoria Mile (G1), a race for mares that determines the queen of racing in Spring, and people are looking forward to seeing how the new queen will perform in the fall.

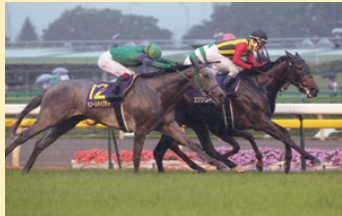
The pleasant surprise came in the early June Yasuda Kinen, the last leg of the Asian Mile Challenge (<http://www.asianmilechallenge.com/>). The winner, Real Impact is by Deep Impact, the masterpiece of Japanese thoroughbred, winning the race as a three years old. It was not surprising that he was the only three-year-old entered in the first week of June, as mixed races for three-year-olds and older horses started only in that week. But most fans thought that 4 kilograms allowance from older horses would not be enough for a horse with one win and no Graded race victories to compensate for the differences only backing as the ninth pick. However, steered by his rider, number one NAR jockey Keita Tosaki, he advanced at fourth place among the 18 horses until the



Real Impact



Reve d'Essor



Erin Court

final turn and held off the second place finisher's charge to win by a neck. Defeating favorite Apapane and a lineup of older horses, as the first Yasuda Kinen victory by a three-year-olds since Japan adopted the Graded race system in 1984. There are even greater expectations for Real Impact success in the fall. Further, although there is a disparity with leading sire King Kamehameha and fourth-ranked Deep Impact, there is increasing interest in how high Deep Impact will climb in the sire rankings after his second crop of offspring make debut this summer.

The spring season Grade One races concluded with the 2,200-meter Takarazuka Kinen (G1) at the end of June. Attention was focused on the favorite Buena Vista, seeking her first win since last year's Tenno Sho (Autumn) (G1), but six-year-old Earnestly won in a race record time of 2:10.10, tying the Japanese record and pulling off a father-son victory with his sire Grass Wonder. After third place finishes in last year's Takarazuka Kinen (G1) and Tenno Sho (Autumn) (G1), he climbed to the G1 pinnacle under the same trainer and jockey team as Tap Dance City, who had an overwhelming nine-length wire to wire victory in the Japan Cup (G1). Canceling an autumn trip overseas, Earnestly is scheduled to run in the 2,000-meter Sapporo Kinen (G2) on August 21 this summer followed by starts in the Tenno Sho (Autumn) (G1) and Japan Cup (G1), taking the high road, and attention is focused on whether he will play a starring role in the fall.

Races for Three-Year-Olds—From Disappointment to Delight

There was an absolute favorite filly leading into the fillie's classic races. She is Agnes Tachyon daughter Reve d'Essor. She won all of her four starts, including commanding four length victory in the Tulip Sho (G2), most important trial race to the Oka Sho (G1), Japanese 1,000 Guineas. However, tragedy struck her. A fracture was discovered following a workout a week before the Oka Sho (G1), and she was forced to rest to



Marcellina

recuperate for the fall season. Reve d'Essor has acknowledged abilities to the extent that many hoped to see her performance in the Japanese Derby (G1), and race fans are hoping that she returns to

the turf in good shape.

The early April Oka Sho (G1) was won by Deep Impact filly, and Reve d'Essor stablemate, Marcellina, the second pick, who closed powerfully from the rear of the field. Marcellina was the favorite for the 2,400-meter Oaks, the second leg of the fillie's Triple Crown at the end of May, but finished in fourth place. The victory went to Durandal daughter Erin Court, who broke away from the middle of the field in the heavy rain for her third consecutive win. The last leg of the fillie's Triple Crown is the mid-October Shuka Sho (G1), and many fillies are aiming for every opportunity to seize the Tiara.

Once the first two legs of the colt's classics



Orfevre

are ended, Stay Gold colt Orfevre, a full brother to Dream Journey, winner of the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (G1), Arima Kinen (G1), and Takarazuka Kinen (G1), stood unrivalled. Orfevre showed some temperamental weaknesses in his early career but handily won the trial race to the Satsuki Sho (G1), Japanese 2000 Guineas. Satsuki Sho (G1) was held in late April at Tokyo Racecourse for the first time in 23 years, a week later than usual, having been moved from Nakayama due to the Great East Japan Earthquake, and although Orfevre had to be content with being the fourth pick, he closed the last three furlongs in 32.4 seconds, the fastest of the field, for a clear three-length victory. He reexhibited a powerful kick from the rear of the pack at Tokyo again on May 29 during the Japanese Derby (G1), in the rain on a soft track, responding splendidly in terrible conditions to capture the second leg of the Triple Crown as the favorite. He will be the seventh horse in history to seek the Triple Crown at the October 23 Kikuka Sho (G1), Japanese St. Leger.

Ridden brilliantly by jockey Craig Williams, Grand Prix Boss, 2010 Best 2-Year-Old Colt and the winner of last year's Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (G1), achieved an amazing comeback in the early May G1 mile race for three-year-olds, the NHK Mile Cup (G1).



Noteworthy to mention, United Arab Emirates Vice President and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, HH Shiekh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum had graceful visit to Tokyo Racecourse to attend the Japanese Derby (G1) for the first time since his last visit for the third Japan Cup in 1983, 28 years ago. His Highness had attended to witness his first runner, Debonair (Agnes Tachyon) participate in the pinnacle of Japanese Classics. Debonair finished 12th as he had trouble handling wet track, but His Highness left Tokyo Racecourse with warm words for the Japanese people and horse racing fans.

Jockeys—Competition Heats Up

Although jockey Yasunari Iwata is leading the Jockey's Championship as of June 26, 2011, many young jockeys have been making appearances in the upper rankings this year, and the battle for the top jockey spot has unfurled more fiercely than ever. Meanwhile, in recent years, expatriate jockeys acquiring short-term licenses to ride in JRA races during Eu-

rope's off season. Additionally, NAR jockeys also performed remarkably. As such, high-level competition with JRA jockeys draws attention to promote the appeal of racing as a sports.

Autumn—Rising Expectations

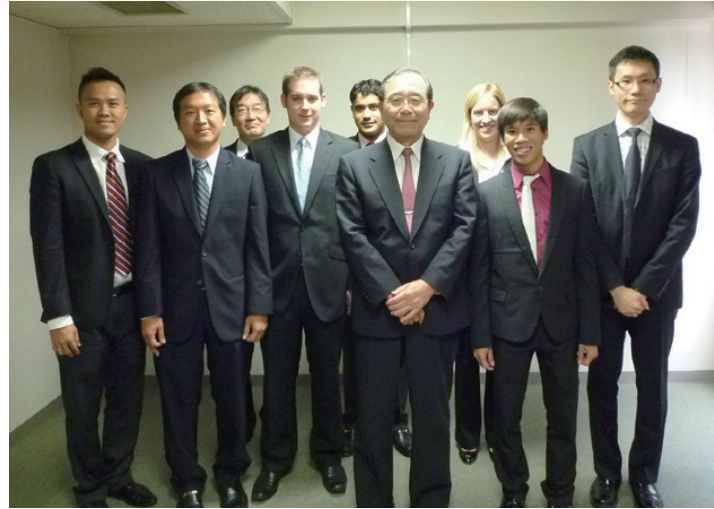
On April 24, 2011, JRA began offering new "WINS" wagers, which involve predicting the winners of five designated races each Sundays. The maximum payout is ¥200 million, and the payout finally reached ¥200 million on June 26. Along with the summer racing season held outside of Tokyo and Osaka area and the fall G1 season, JRA is moving to encourage track attendance and participation in horse races with introduction of new wagering choice.

There have been intentions to enter many horses from Japan in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (G1), the apex of European turf races in France. Along with Victoire Pisa and Hiruno d'Amour, five-year-old Nakayama Festa (sired by Stay Gold), who was given the entire spring season off to fully restore his energy. This horse has the same team of stable staff that handled El Condor Pasa in 1999.

2011 ARF General Study Program held by JAIRS

The ARF General Study Program was inaugurated in 1966, six years after the establishment of the Asian Racing Conference (ARC) and has marked its 46th sessions this year. It had been held by JRA until 1992, and JAIRS has continued on behalf of JRA thereafter. We recognize the importance of mutual understanding and personnel exchange in the global racing community, if thoroughbred racing is to continue to develop as an international sport. Approx 350 participants, many of whom are now perform executive duties in various racing authorities in ARF region, have completed the ARF General Study Program in past 46 years.

The 2011 ARF General Study Program saw seven participants from Australia, Hong Kong, Malaysia, New Zealand, Oman, Philippines, Singapore. They took part in the 10-day program, from June 1st to June 10th. The schedule for the program is shown on the table herein. A multifaceted program was put together and all participants were eagerly listening to the explanations and lectures at the training sites, while taking copious notes. The participants also exchanged lively discussions on the commonalities and differences between the racing systems of their own country and others. They continued these discussions during breaks, on the bus between venues, as well as exchanging numerous questions and answers between the staff and their colleagues. We have highlighted comments from participants below and these would seem to indicate that this ARF General Study Program provided many fruitful ideas for participants to take home.



Summary of Comments from Participants

- I was impressed with the research and veterinary provision on-course specific to training. Not only was the standard of care a priority but the relevance to the training process was logical – capacity to assess true fitness levels, monitor change in training output and immediate post-training treatment for ailments was of a unique and constructive nature. And I took strong interest in the JRA's 'fostering' of all that is equine in Japan; not just racing. This important link between the youth of tomorrow who may entertain a connection with racing via general equine activity must be better harnessed long-term in Australia. (Ms Charlotte Milles, Australia)
- There are some things about the JRA operations that have caught my attention. Standing out from them is the various marketing & promotion campaigns, which extend the reach to different untapped customer groups. Building on the pillars to link up modern horse racing to traditional horse ritual ceremonies & other equestrian sporting events, JRA has introduced a number of fascinating marketing initiatives targeting female customers, family-oriented customers & younger generations. These include Lady Dress-up Party at the race, setup of the amusement park for kids at infield, cooperation with Sanrio® creating the little cutie, TURFY etc. All these help to build up a new face for racing in Japan creating a one-stop-shop entertainment experiences for different customers at the racecourse. (Mr Cranon Au, Hong Kong)
- Some elements that I was really impressed with JRA are the marketing strategy carried out by the JRA customer service department. Various ways of promotion and different type of method that use to attract new comer are really a good way that Malaysia should learn from. Online/ tele-bet, Soku-PAT, A-PAT that link with the local bank which allow real time transaction into the betting account and catch up with the latest technology which can make the punters to place a betting easier and faster. Furthermore, the mascot 'Turfy' designed by Sanrio Company and promotion with Hello kitty toys that are well known among the younger generation. This way of promotion is really a great idea to attract youngster to enter in a race course. Souvenir shop full with toys and others merchandise is another attraction that should be given a credit. By collaborating with the popular celebrity that are idol among the youth sure will bring in great among of the younger generation and become the future customer of the race course. The initiative and proactive ways to approach new comer is key factor to improve the decline of racing fans for the racing circle. This gives me a great idea to introduce some of the similar method and marketing plan to attract new comer in my country. (Mr Kau Wai Keong, Malaysia)
- I think one aspect which New Zealand can take from the Japanese racing industry is how they promote their 'heros' and how they involve the general public into racing. Deep down, New Zealanders are very passionate about their horses; we need to make the most of this and provide avenues for them to show their passion. Also, engaging the general public into racing is something which we are always aspiring to, and one the industry as a whole needs to work together to achieve. (Mr James Preston, New Zealand)
- If there is anything I can suggest that JRA can still add to improve itself, it would be to consider if possible to add a public baseball field (or a similar sporting facility) in order to attract a steady supply of people visiting the area which might help the company guarantee some revenues further, and not just during weekends. This would also help the image of horse racing as a sport than a form of gambling. (Mr Carlos Antonio Tan, Philippines)
- It was interesting to find the difference in term of the handicapping system and stewarding in Japan compared to the rest of the racing industry. While rating plays an important part in the handicapping of horses in Singapore, Japan uses prizemoney and head-on as a gauge in the organisation of races. The rules of racing that penalize a jockey for causing an interference or injuring another horse in the process surprised me. While the rule may take away the competitiveness of some of the jockeys, it serve as a good preventive measures to reduce the number of careless or even reckless riding which can be fatal at time. (Mr Alan Ow, Singapore)

Schedule for 2011 ARF General Study Program



DATE	PROGRAM	PLACE	LODGING
May 31(Tue)	Participants arrive in Japan	Narita & Haneda Airport	Tokyo
June 1(Wed)	Orientation JRA Lecture 1.Equine Dept. 2.Stewards Dept.	JRA Bunkan Bldg.	Tokyo
June 2(Thu)	JRA Lecture 1.General Planning Dept. 2.Race Planning Dept. Short presentation by each participant Welcome party	JRA Roppongi Office	Tokyo
June 3(Fri)	JRA Lecture 1.Customer Service Dept.	JRA Bunkan Bldg.	Tokyo
June 4(Sat)	Study tour(JRA related facilities) JRA WINS(Off-course betting facility) JRA Collation Center(Totalizator on-line system) GREEN CHANNEL(Satellites TV channel)	WINS Kourakuen JRA Collation Center GREEN CHANNEL	Tokyo
June 5(Sun)	Study tour(JRA race meeting) • Race Day Officials Meeting • Saddling Enclosure • Parade Ring(Paddock) • Weighing Room • Stewards' & Handicappers' Room • Placing Judge's Room	JRA TOKYO Racecourse JRA Racing Museum	Tokyo
June 6(Mon)	Study tour(Stud farms in Hokkaido)	Shadai Stallion Station JBBA Shizunai Stud Farm	Hokkaido
June 7(Tue)	Study tour(Training & Breeding farms in Hokkaido)	JRA Hidaka Yearling Training Farm Bloodhorse Training Center Shimokobe Farm	Ritto(Shiga)
June 8(Wed)	Study tour(JRA Ritto Training Center)	JRA Ritto Training Center	Tokyo
June 9(Thu)	Study tour(* NAR) Lecture Racing Industry Promotion Dept. Watch Night Races	NAR Ohi Racecourse	Tokyo
June 10(Fri)	Critique of Program Farewell luncheon	JRA Bunkan Bldg. JRA Roppongi Office	Tokyo
June 11(Sat)	Participants depart in Japan	Narita Airport	

*NAR stands for the National Association of Racing(Racing by Local Governments).

Vodka Awarded Hall of Fame

JRA celebrated its 30th anniversary in 1984. To commemorate this milestone, JRA started to select eminent horses for the JRA Hall of Fame, extolling fine horses that had made great contributions to the development of Japanese horse racing and that would pass their stories down to succeeding generations. A vote has been held once a year since then, and 28 horses have been chosen for the Hall of Fame up to now. To enter the JRA Hall of Fame, a horse must obtain the votes of more than three-quarters of the 186 media representatives eligible to vote with their long careers in the horse racing media, and this year Vodka was chosen as the 29th Hall of Fame horse (fourth for a filly).

Vodka was the first filly to win the Japanese Derby (G1) in 64 years and a fine horse who was the first filly in history to be named Horse of the Year for two consecutive years. She won the Hanshin Juvenile Fillies, the only G1 event for two-year-old fillies, and received JRA's Best-Two-Year-Old-Filly Award. She finished second behind Daiwa Scarlet (Agnes Tachyon) in the Oka Sho (G1), Japanese 1,000 Guineas and was entered in a mixed field against colts for her next race, the Japanese Derby (G1), and coasted to victory. Although a three-year-old filly, she ran well against a field of older horses in the autumn, Japan Cup (G1), placing fourth. After finishing fourth in the Dubai Duty Free (G1) at the age of four, she left opponents three and a half lengths behind when she won the Yasuda Kinen, the final leg of the Asian Mile Challenge. She bested filly Daiwa Scarlet, her rival of the time, by a nose in the Tenno Sho (Autumn), a two-centimeter victory that will go down in history. Despite finishing third in the Japan Cup, she was named 2008 JRA Horse of the Year and given JRA's Best Older Filly or Mare



2007 Japanese Derby (G1)

Vodka (Mare, bay, born April 4, 2004)

Place of birth: Hokkaido, Japan

Breeder: Country Bokujō

Pedigree: Tanino Gimlet -Tanino Sister by Rousillon

Owner: Yuzo Tanimizu

Trainer: Katsuhiko Sumii (Ritto Training Center)

Career record: Ten wins in 26 races

(of which, zero wins in four overseas races)

G1 race victories: 2006 Hanshin Juvenile Fillies
2007 Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby)
2008 Yasuda Kinen
Tenno Sho (Autumn)
2009 Victoria Mile
Yasuda Kinen
Japan Cup

Currently broodmare at : Giltown Stud (Ireland)

Career highlights:

- First-place filly for total JRA purses
- Third place in JRA history with ¥1,333,565,800
- Most G1 wins, seven, in JRA history
- Fourth horse with as many wins, most wins for a filly
- Horse of the Year two consecutive years
- Chosen JRA Horse of the Year in 2008 and 2009; second filly in history to be named Horse of the Year; first filly to be chosen two years running and third horse overall
- Japanese Derby victory
- First filly in 64 years and third in history to capture the Japanese Derby; first time in history G1 victories were achieved by a sire and daughter
- Japan Cup win
- First Japan-bred filly to win the Japan Cup and fourth filly after Mairzy Doates (USA) in 1981, Stanerra (IRE) in 1983, and Horlicks (NZ) in 1989
- Consecutive Yasuda Kinen wins
- First filly to win consecutively, second horse overall

Award for her great achievement that year. After campaigning in Dubai for a second time at the age of five, Vodka turned in consecutive G1 wins: first in the Victoria Mile (G1), a mile race for fillies and mares, and for the second year running in the Yasuda Kinen. She beat Kikuka Sho (Japanese St. Leger Stakes) winner Oken Bruce Lee by a nose in a hard-fought Japan Cup (G1), again by two centimeters, achieving her seventh G1 victory, which was the most ever for a filly or Mare in JRA history, and put her in a tie for the top spot. Vodka was the first horse to win all G1 events for older horses at Tokyo Racecourse, the Victoria Mile (G1), Yasuda Kinen (G1), Tenno Sho (Autumn) (G1), and Japan Cup (G1). She traveled to Dubai for the third time last year at the age of six, retiring after running in the March Al Maktoum Challenge Round 3 (G2). She entered broodmare service at Gilltown Stud in Ireland after retiring and gave birth to a colt by Sea the Stars on May 2 this year.

Portraits, bronze images, and materials related to horses inducted into the JRA Hall of Fame are displayed in the Memorial Hall at the JRA Racing Museum at Tokyo Racecourse. Further, seven trainers and three jockeys who achieved conspicuous success in their careers were inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2004 to mark the 50th anniversary of JRA's establishment.



©Masumi Seki

G1 Race Results

The 72nd YUSHUN HIMBA (Japanese Oaks, G1)

Tokyo Racecourse,
May 22, 2011
3-year-old fillies,
18 runners
2400m, turf, firm, 2:25.7
Winner: **Erin Court** (JPN)
(Hiroki Goto, 55.0kg)
dbb.f.3

Durandal – Erin Bird by
Bluebird
O- Teruya Yoshida,
T- Kazuhide Sasada,
B- Shadai Farm



http://japanracing.jp/_news2011/110522.html

The 78th TOKYO YUSHUN (Japanese Derby, G1)

Tokyo Racecourse,
May 29, 2011
3-year-old colts & fillies,
18 runners
2400m, turf, soft, 2:30.5
Winner: **Orfevre** (JPN)
(Kenichi Ikezoe, 57.0kg)
ch.c.3

Stay Gold – Oriental Art
by Mejiro McQueen
O- Sunday Racing Co., Ltd.,
T- Yasutoshi Ikee,
B- Shadai Corporation Inc.



http://japanracing.jp/_news2011/110529.html

The 61st YASUDA KINEN (G1) - The Final Leg of Asian Mile Challenge -

Tokyo Racecourse,
June 5, 2011
3-year-old & up,
18 runners
1600m, turf, firm, 1:32.0
Winner: **Real Impact** (JPN)
(Keita Tosaki, 54.0kg) b.c.3
Deep Impact – Tokio
Reality by Meadowlake
O- U.Carrot Farm,
T- Noriyuki Hori,
B- Northern Racing



http://japanracing.jp/_news2011/110605.html

JRA Official Tour

<http://japanracing.jp/en/go-racing/tour/index.html>



The 52nd TAKARAZUKA KINEN (G1)

Hanshin Racecourse,
June 26, 2011
3-year-old & up,
16 runners
2200m, turf, firm,
2:10.1 (Record)
Winner: **Earnestly** (JPN)
(Tetsuzo Sato, 58.0kg)
b.h.6

Grass Wonder – Lettre
d'Amour by Tony Bin
O- Koji Maeda,
T- Shozo Sasaki,
B- North Hills
Management



http://japanracing.jp/_news2011/110626.html

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