

FROM: Media & Publicity Department,
THE JAPAN RACING ASSOCIATION (JRA)
DATE: November 24, 2024



SUBJECT: RESULT OF THE 44TH JAPAN CUP (G1)

The Japan Cup, in its 44th year, continues to attract some of the top turf horses from around the world—67 runners from North America, 155 from Europe, 26 from Oceania and five from Asia—while a number of runners have made this race their starting point towards further international success in following years.

In last year's edition, Equinox (JPN, by Kitasan Black) capped off his stellar career with an overwhelming victory and was given the top rating of 135 to become the World's Best Racehorse. Moreover, the Japan Cup itself was recognized as the world's highest rated race with a rating of 126.75. Liberty Island (JPN, F4, by Duramente) and **Stars on Earth** followed in second and third, respectively, while France's Iresine (FR, by Manduro) finished ninth.

This year, the Japan Cup welcomed three foreign contenders: **Auguste Rodin** from Ireland, who scored his sixth G1 title in this year's Prince Of Wales's Stakes (1,990m); **Fantastic Moon** from Germany, the 2023 Deutsches Derby (2,400m) victor who claimed his second G1 title in this year's Grosser Preis von Baden (2,400m); and **Goliath** from France, winner of the King George VI And Queen Elizabeth Stakes (G1, 2,390m) who came into the race from his Prix du Conseil de Paris (G2, 2,200m, Oct.20) victory.

The home team taking on the challenge included Tenno Sho (Autumn) (G1, 2,000m; Oct.27) runners: **Do Deuce** (1st), who added his fourth G1 title with the win to his past triumphs—the 2021 Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (1,600m), the 2022 Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby, 2,400m) and the 2023 Arima Kinen (2,500m); **Justin Palace** (4th) and **Sol Oriens** (7th), respective winners of the 2023 Tenno Sho (Spring) (G1, 3,200m) and 2023 Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas, G1, 2,000m); and **Danon Beluga** (14th), who registered a second and a third in the Dubai Turf (G1, 1,800m) in 2023 and 2024, respectively.

Blow the Horn turned in a runner-up effort in the Tenno Sho (Spring) in April and went on to win his first G1 title in the Takarazuka Kinen (G1, 2,200m) in June but finished 11th in his autumn kick-off start, the Kyoto Daishoten (G2, 2,400m, Oct.6).

Three-year-olds who challenged older foes for the first time were **Cervinia**, winner of the Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks, G1, 2,400m) and the Shuka Sho (G1, 2,000m, Oct.13) along with **Shin Emperor**, third-place finisher in the Tokyo Yushun, who went on to score a close third in the Irish Champion Stakes (G1, 2,000m) but was beaten to 12th in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (G1, 2,400m, Oct.6).

Also among the field were **Stars on Earth**, victor of the Oka Sho and the Yushun Himba in 2022 and the five-length third-place finisher in the Japan Cup last year, who's last outing was an eighth in the Dubai Sheema Classic (G1, 2,410m) in March; **Struve**, victor of the Nikkei Sho (G2, 2,500m) in March and the Meguro Kinen (G2, 2,500m) in May, who was 11th in his G1 debut, the Takarazuka Kinen (Jun.23); **Durezza**, last year's Kikuka Sho (Japanese St. Leger, G1, 3,000m) champion who came off a fifth in his first overseas stint, the International Stakes (G1, 2,050m, Aug.21); and **Karate**, three-time graded winner—his latest title being the 2023 Niigata Daishoten (G3, 2,000m)—who recently marked an 11th in the Mainichi Okan (G2, 1,800m, Oct.6).

The 44th Japan Cup (G1) in association with LONGINES – Japan Autumn International –

3-year-olds & up, 2,400 meters (about 12 furlongs), turf, left-handed

Sunday, November 24, 2024 Tokyo Racecourse 12th Race Post Time: 15:40

Total prize money: ¥ 1,085,000,000 (about US\$ 7,695,035 <US\$1=¥141>)

3-y-o: 56 kg (about 124 lbs), 4-y-o & up: 58 kg (about 128 lbs)

2 kg allowance for Fillies & Mares, 2 kg allowance for Southern Hemisphere-bred born in 2021

Course Record: 2:20.6 Race Record: 2:20.6 [Almond Eye (JPN), 2018]

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	3	3	Do Deuce (JPN) Yutaka Take	H5 b. 58.0	2.3 (1)	2:25.5 (32.7)	Heart's Cry Dust and Diamonds (Vindication)	Kieffers Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Yasuo Tomomichi
2	5	7	Shin Emperor (FR) Ryusei Sakai	C3 ch. 56.0	26.8 (8)	Neck (33.1)	Siyouni Starlet's Sister (Galileo)	Susumu Fujita Ecurie Des Monceaux Yoshito Yahagi
2	6	10	Durezza (JPN) William Buick	C4 br. 58.0	16.2 (7)	DH (33.4)	Duramente More Than Sacred (More Than Ready)	Carrot Farm Co., Ltd. Northern Racing Tomohito Ozeki
4	6	9	Cervinia (JPN) Christophe Lemaire	F3 b. 54.0	4.0 (2)	2-1/2 (33.4)	Harbinger Cecchino (King Kamehameha)	Sunday Racing Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Tetsuya Kimura
5	3	4	Justin Palace (JPN) Cristian Demuro	H5 br. 58.0	6.2 (3)	Head (33.3)	Deep Impact Palace Rumor (Royal Anthem)	Masahiro Miki Northern Racing Haruki Sugiyama
6	1	1	Goliath (GER) Christophe Soumillon	G4 b. 58.0	15.8 (6)	Head (33.5)	Adlerflug Gouache (Shamardal)	Resolute Bloodstock &Baron Philip Von Ullmann Gestut Schlenderhan Francis-Henri Graffard
7	8	14	Stars on Earth (JPN) Yuga Kawada	M5 d.b. 56.0	12.7 (5)	1/2 (33.8)	Duramente Southern Stars (Smart Strike)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Mizuki Takayanagi
8	5	8	Auguste Rodin (IRE) Ryan Moore	C4 d.b. 58.0	9.8 (4)	1/2 (33.5)	Deep Impact Rhododendron (Galileo)	Michael Tabor, Derrick Smith, Mrs.John Magnier&Wes Coolmore Aidan O'Brien
9	4	6	Danon Beluga (JPN) Kohei Matsuyama	H5 b. 58.0	106.4 (13)	Nose (33.4)	Heart's Cry Coasted (Tizway)	Danox Co., Ltd. Northern Farm Noriyuki Hori
10	4	5 B	Struve (JPN) Katsuma Sameshima	G5 d.b. 58.0	83.9 (11)	1/2 (33.4)	King Kamehameha Anchuras (Deep Impact)	Katsuko Muraki Oiwake Farm Noriyuki Hori
11	8	13	Fantastic Moon (GER) Rene Piechulek	C4 b. 58.0	89.5 (12)	1-1/2 (33.5)	Sea The Moon Frangipani (Jukebox Jury)	Liberty Racing2021 Graf und Grafin von Stauffenberg Sarah Steinberg
12	2	2	Blow the Horn (JPN) Akira Sugawara	H5 b. 58.0	61.4 (10)	1/2 (33.8)	Epiphaneia Halteclere (Durandal)	Makio Okada Okada Stud Tatsuya Yoshioka
13	7	11	Karate (JPN) Makoto Sugihara	H8 d.b. 58.0	277.9 (14)	1/2 (33.8)	To the Glory Lady no Punch (French Deputy)	Hikaru Odagiri Yuichi Odagiri Hidetaka Otonashi
14	7	12	Sol Oriens (JPN) Takeshi Yokoyama	C4 b. 58.0	35.7 (9)	6 (35.2)	Kitsan Black Skia (Motivator)	Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd. Shadai Farm Takahisa Tezuka

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)
DH: Dead Heat

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: ¥ 24,367,127,000

Turnover for the Day: ¥ 34,872,334,600

Attendance: 79,720

Pay-off (for ¥100)

Win	No.3	¥ 230	Quinella Place	3-7	¥ 980	Exacta	3-7	¥ 1,890
	No.3	¥ 150		3-10	¥ 800		3-10	¥ 1,540
Place	No.7	¥ 470	Quinella	7-10	¥ 2,990	Trio	3-7-10	¥ 12,230
	No.10	¥ 340		3-7	¥ 1,510		3-7-10	¥ 22,390
Bracket Quinella	3-5	¥ 320	Quinella	3-10	¥ 1,150	Trifecta	3-10-7	¥ 18,940
	3-6	¥ 190						

Winner= 16 starts: 8 wins, 1 second & 1 third / Added & stakes money: ¥ 502,982,000 / Career earnings: ¥ 1,775,875,800

Do Deuce Captures Fifth G1 Title in Last-To-First Victory in Japan Cup

Race favorite **Do Deuce**, coming off his G1 Tenno Sho (Autumn) victory, claimed his fifth G1 victory in this year's Japan Cup, adding to his success in the Asahi Hai Futurity Stakes (1,600m) in 2021, the Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby, 2,400m) in 2022 and the Arima Kinen (2,500m) in 2023. Following their latest Tenno Sho (Autumn) win with the horse, trainer Yasuo Tomomichi marked his 21st JRA-G1 win while jockey Yutaka Take claimed his 83rd. For Tomomichi, this is his second Japan Cup title after his win in 2017 with Cheval Grand while Take renewed the record of the most Japan Cup titles won by the same jockey to five, following his success with Special Week (1999), Deep Impact (2006), Rose Kingdom (2010) and Kitasan Black (2016).

The 14-horse field was off with no one bidding for the lead and **Shin Emperor** eventually in front set a slow pace. **Do Deuce**, breaking from stall no.3, was unhurried and travel in the rear. **Durezza** took over the lead with still not much pace along the back-stretch, while the son of Heart's Cry began to make headway from the outside rounding the third corner and still well behind and wide, unleashed an incredible drive with the fastest late speed to tag **Durezza** 300 meters out, rallied with the stubborn pacesetter but shook him off in the final strides while repelling a determined challenge from **Shin Emperor** to prevail by a neck.

“As was the case before his victory in the last Tenno Sho (Autumn), he was extremely calm, even more so that last time, throughout when he was in the saddling area, the paddock and then the post parade, so I was very optimistic today. The race itself unfolded with no one wanting to set a solid pace, as expected to a certain extent but resulting in a very slow pace, around 62 seconds in the first 1,000 meters. Take seemed to struggle to settle him down so I was a bit worried watching him go along the backstretch. In contrast to how the race went in the Tenno Sho, Do Deuce ended up having to lead much earlier at the stretch this time and having to fend off challenges from behind and sustain his lead to wire so I had to hold my breath until the very end. This horse gets better with every start—I had thought that his last start was very much his best performance but he even exceeded that in the Japan Cup—so if his condition allows for another start, I hope that he is able to show his very best in his final Arima Kinen,” commented Yasuo Tomomichi.

“The positioning during the race went as planned. It was expected, but the pace was extremely slow and I had to struggle keeping him in hand. In the first half a mile, if the pace was to quicken more, then I was planning to stay back but it didn't, so I let him gradually make headway along the outside, not so much as to quicken and close the gap, but to release the reins a little bit. Making ground from the last corner, his speed was so great that he was already in front in an instant and after that a normal horse would be worn out and pinned down, but this horse is exceptional and while I wasn't sure that I'd won until the end, I kept believing he would stay and he did. His retirement from racing is already decided and I was told that the last three G1 starts (the Tenno Sho (Autumn), the Japan Cup and the Arima Kinen) would be his final starts. He certainly finished strongly in his first two this fall and, of course depending on his condition after this race, I look forward to riding him in the Arima Kinen. The Japan Cup this year was fortunate to have great runners from overseas to raise the quality of this race and I feel privileged to have won in such company and sincerely hope that the race will go on to be recognized as a leader within the world of racing,” said Yutaka Take.

Sent off eight pick, **Shin Emperor** was fast out of the gate, took the early lead on the rails but settled back in third behind **Durezza** and **Stars on Earth**. While the eventual winner and **Durezza** were head-to-head in the stretch, the Siyouni colt dug in from the inside with the second fastest speed, catching **Durezza** at the wire for a tied-second.

Following a modest break, seventh choice **Durezza** accelerated from mid-pack to take over the lead before the uphill climb in the backstretch and was first into the straight. After being caught by the eventual winner, the Duramente colt fought back persistently but surrendered in the final strides while caught by the fast-closing **Shin Emperor** to share second place status.

Sixth favorite **Goliath**, breaking from the inner-most stall, saved ground along the rails while maintaining a forward position around fifth behind the slow pace. Crowded by rivals briefly entering the final turn, the Adlerflug gelding kept up with the increased pace in the last three furlongs to stay in contention and finish best among the foreign runners in sixth.

“He didn’t break well from the gate and after following a very slow pace, he couldn’t show his usual performance and late speed in the end,” commented Francis-Henri Graffard.

“He was unable to get into a rhythm after following a race with no pace and used up in the critical stages. It didn’t go smoothly for him at all,” said Christophe Soumillon.

Fourth favorite **Auguste Rodin** was quick out of the gate and eased back in mid-field around seventh entering the backstretch while angling out slightly before the final corner. Eyeing the eventual winner passing him on the outside in early stretch, jockey Ryan Moore urged his mount to follow suit but the Deep Impact colt was unable to match the tremendous finishing speed of the winner and left behind to join the rally for fourth place, ultimately finishing eighth.

“The pace was a little bit slow and that probably didn’t suit him really but he ran OK. Getting excited before would be what he is normally so he wasn’t any different than usual. Ryan said to me that it was a bit of a mess—the race was very slow early and it just didn’t suit him and it didn’t work out for him,” said trainer Aidan O’Brien.

12th pick **Fantastic Moon** was unhurried after the break and rated near the rear and not far from the eventual winner for most of the trip and, while attempting to follow **Do Deuce** along the outside route at the straight, was unable to quicken at the uphill stretch and had too much ground to make up once reaching the top of the hill, finishing 11th.

“The pace today was too slow for us—we wanted a much more, smoother flow in the race. Therefore, he was unable to use his good finishing speed at the stretch,” commented Sarah Steinberg.

“The (solid) pace we had expected was never there—the pace at least in Japanese standards was extremely slow. So the horse never had the chance to make use of his late speed,” commented Rene Piechulek.

Other horses:

4th: (9) **Cervinia**—chased slow pace in mid-field, every chance as winner overtakes her before last 400m but unable to match speed while good effort to out rally rivals for 4th

5th: (4) **Justin Palace**—along rails in mid-field, followed Cervinia to join rally for 4th, finished 5th

7th: (14) **Stars on Earth**—forwardly positioned moving to 2nd as Durezza took over lead entering backstretch, 4th at furlong pole, rallied but overtaken in final strides

9th: (6) **Danon Beluga**—chased leaders to 2nd corner and eased further back along backstretch, met traffic at early stretch, belated effort

10th: (5) **Struve**—raced behind in rear after slow start, showed effort last 200m but belatedly

12th: (2) **Blow the Horn**—hugged rails further back than mid-field, even paced

