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**SIMULCAST  
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**海外賽馬**

**101**



**Racing in Japan**

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# Japan Racing\*



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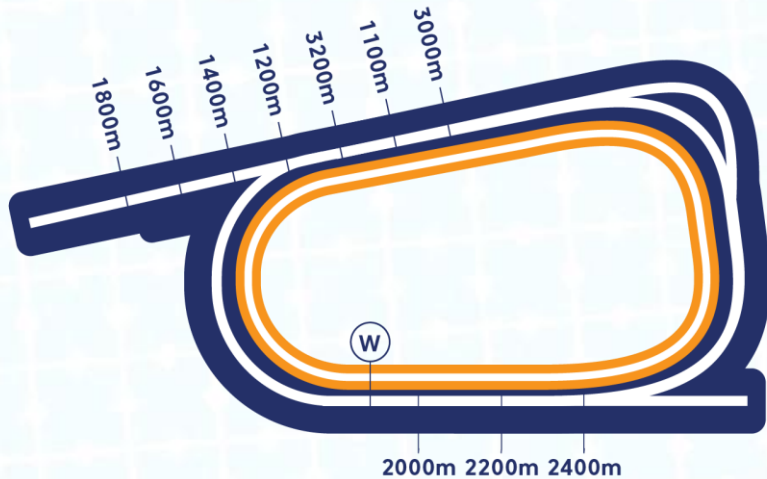
# Racecourse



# Major racecourses in Japan



## Kyoto

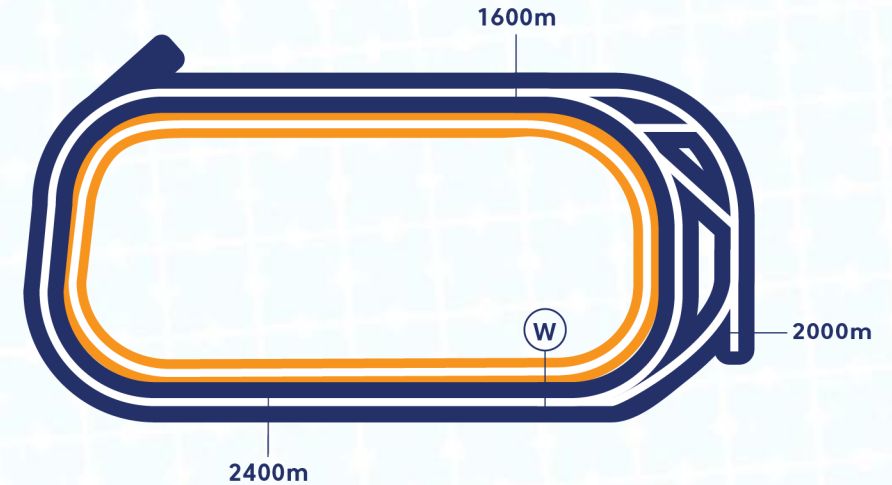


Two turf courses (clockwise) - inner course measures 1783m and outer course measures 1894m with a 328m (inner course) and 404m (outer course) home stretch. There is a slight incline around 1200m from finish.

Relatively short home stretch with tighter turns. Horses commence move before home turn have an advantage.

Dirt course measures 1608m with a 329m home stretch

## Tokyo



Tokyo Racecourse is the best and largest facilities of the racecourse in Japan.

Turf course (anti-clockwise) measures 2083m around.

Level track with long stretches and sweeping bends. There is a home stretch of 526m.

Dirt course measures 1899m with a 502m home stretch.

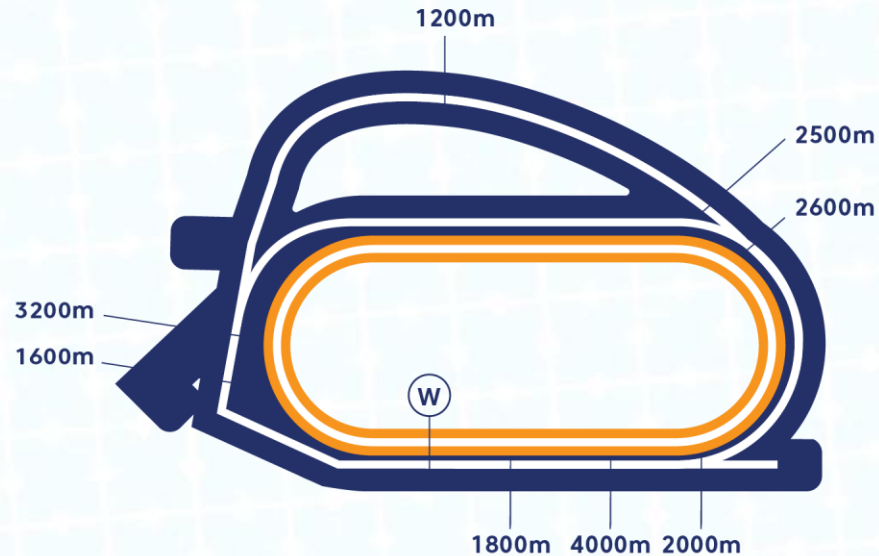




# Major racecourses in Japan



## Nakayama

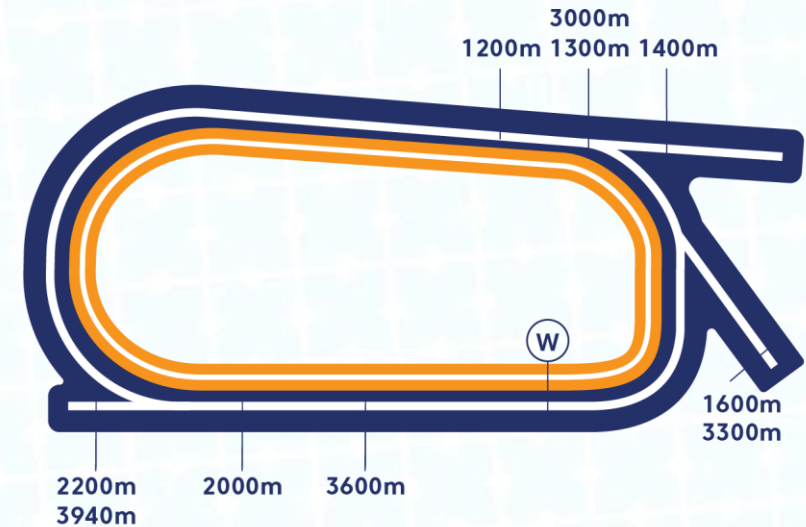


There are two turf tracks (clockwise) - the outer course measures 1840m around and the inner course measures 1667m around with a 310m home stretch.

This is the hardest and most severe track in Japan. Horses must climb up an extreme slope from the final bend to the winning line.

Dirt course is oval shaped and measures 1493m around with a 308m home stretch.

## Chukyo



There are two turf courses (anti-clockwise) measures 1706m with a 413m home stretch. They are both undulating and have steep uphill finishes from around 400m to the winning post.

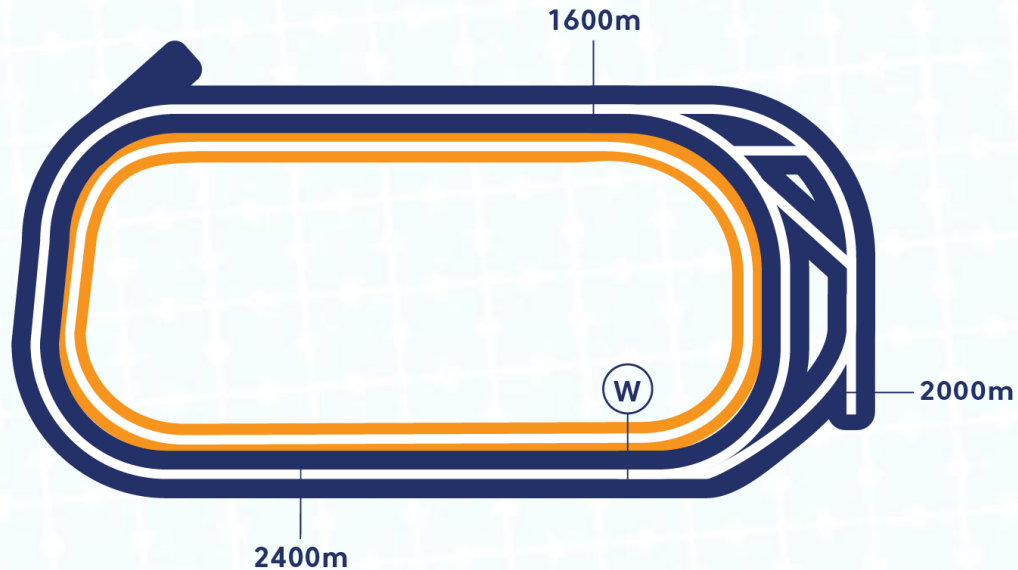
The dirt track is 1530m in length with a 411m home stretch, and is again undulating with a stiff uphill finish.



# Popular races in Japan - YASUDA KINEN



Tokyo



Month of the event : June

Racecourse : Tokyo

This competition is one of the highlights of Japan horse racing and is one of the most important 1600m races in Japan, attracting many top horses.

Over the years, several elite runners from Hong Kong have competed in this major event and achieved notable results. FAIRY KING PRAWN (2000), BULLISH LUCK (2006), and ROMANTIC WARRIOR (2024) have won the race.

Learn more about the Simulcasts Fixtures : [https://racing.hkjc.com/racing/english/racing-info/simulcast\\_fixture.aspx](https://racing.hkjc.com/racing/english/racing-info/simulcast_fixture.aspx)





# System



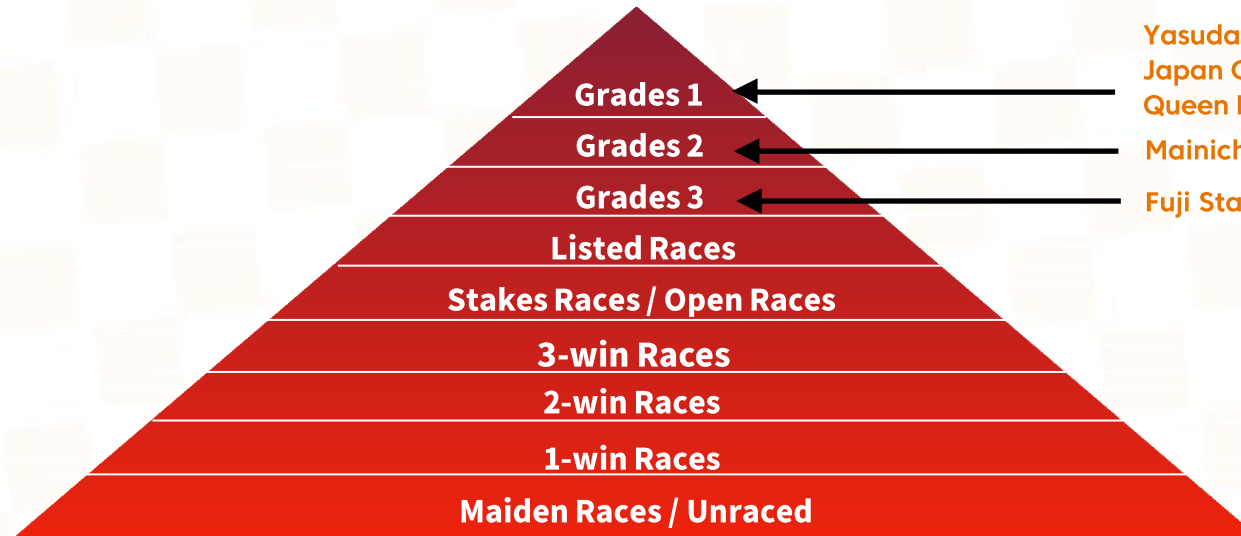


# Class System in Japan



- Grades Races** Japan's top races are divided into Grades 1, 2 and 3 which is the equivalent of Group Races
- Listed Races** Below Graded contests but above Stakes Races
- Stakes Races / Open Races** For 2-y-o or 3-y-o's and upwards
- Maiden Races** For horses that have started in other race(s) but never won a race

- 3-win Races** For horses that have won 3 wins
- 2-win Races** For horses that have won 2 wins
- 1-win Races** For horses that have won 1 wins
- Unraced** For horses that have never run a race



- Yasuda Kinen in June
- Japan Cup in November
- Queen Elizabeth II Cup in November
- Mainichi Okan / Kyoto Cup
- Fuji Stakes / Epsom Cup





# Form / Draw



# How to read the HKJC's Simulcast Form Guide



Racecard Number	Career Record (Winner/Second/Third)	Draw	Horse Name	Age/Sex	Weight	Rating	Country/Region	Trainer	Jockey	Ref. Odds
11	5 (4-1-0) 21111	11	Almond Eye	3 f	121	[115]	Japan	Sakae Kunieda	Christophe Lemaire	2.0



↑  
Recent Form  
(latest from right to left)

## In-depth Form

Race Position	Date	Race Details	Track	Dist/Course/Going	Weight	Jockey	Draw	Sectional Times	Race Time of the Winning Horse	Finish & Margin	Odds	Winner/Second/Third
1/17	20May18	G1 Yushun Himba (Japanese Oaks) 3yo fillies JPY210,000,000	TOK, JPN	2400 LH F Turf	121	Christophe Lemaire	13	24. <sup>20</sup> 24. <sup>70</sup> 24. <sup>60</sup> 22. <sup>70</sup>	2.23.80	6 6 5 1 <sup>2</sup>	1.7F	Almond Eye (JPN) Lily Noble (JPN) Lucky Lilac (JPN)

↑  
Pos in Running

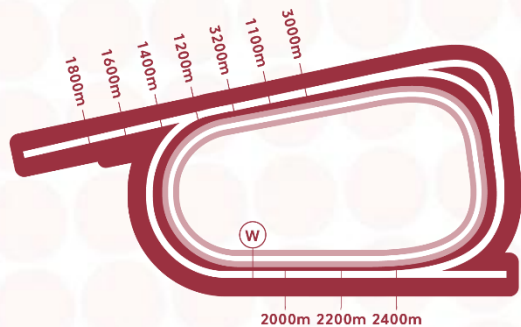


# Historical Draw Analysis



## Kyoto

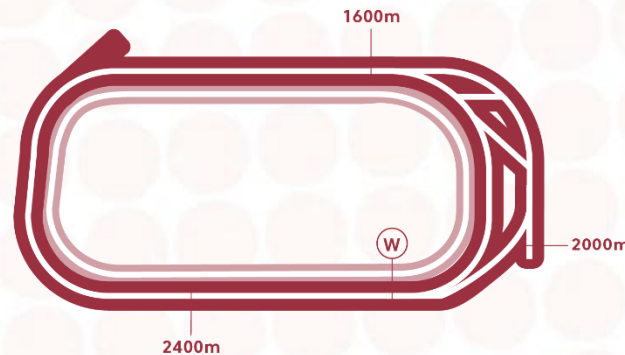
There is no draw advantage because of long stretches giving horses plenty of time to find their preferred positions and cover.



## Tokyo

There is no draw advantage because of long stretches and sweeping bends.

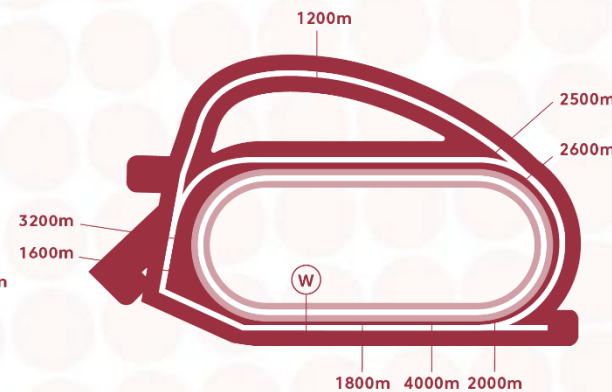
Horses who are fast starters with low numbers are favoured on the dirt tracks, especially if it rains.



## Nakayama

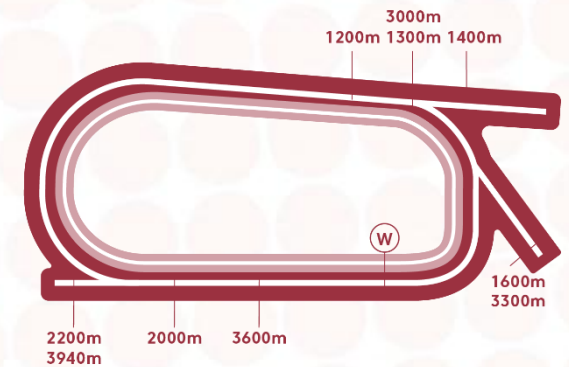
Horses drawn middle to low in sprints have the advantage, provided they can find cover early on.

This track suits horses that can race close to the early speed tempo.



## Chukyo

Both turf and dirt tracks are fair, although horses drawn from 1 to 7 have a slight advantage in races over 1200m to 1600m, but a definite advantage when conditions are soft.





# Jockey & Trainer





# Jockey & Trainer Performance (2024)



## Kyoto

Rank	Jockey	Win
1	Ryusei Sakai	59
2	Yuga Kawada	54
3	Mirai Iwata	50
4	Kohei Matsuyama	48

Rank	Trainer	Win
1	Yoshito Yahagi	21
2	Haruki Sugiyama	21
3	Hiroyuki Uemura	20
4	Tomokazu Takano	18

## Tokyo

Rank	Jockey	Win
1	Christophe Lemaire	77
2	Keita Tosaki	50
3	Yuga Kawada	25
4	Takeshi Yokoyama	24

Rank	Trainer	Win
1	Hiroyasu Tanaka	19
2	Yukihiro Kato	18
3	Tetsuya Kimura	18
4	Noriyuki Hori	16

## Nakayama

Rank	Jockey	Win
1	Keita Tosaki	47
2	Christophe Lemaire	46
3	Takeshi Yokoyama	45
4	Kazuo Yokoyama	23

Rank	Trainer	Win
1	Noriyuki Hori	18
2	Ryo Takei	13
3	Hiroyasu Tanaka	13
4	Shizuya Kato	11

## Chukyo

Rank	Jockey	Win
1	Yuga Kawada	32
2	Atsuya Nishimura	25
3	Kohei Matsuyama	22
4	Ryusei Sakai	19

Rank	Trainer	Win
1	Takashi Saito	12
2	Mikio Matsunaga	11
3	Yasuo Tomomichi	10
4	Haruki Sugiyama	10



# Successful Jockey & Trainer Combinations



Jockey

Trainer

Christophe Lemaire



+



Yoshito Yahagi

Yuga Kawada



+



Mitsumasa Nakauchida





# Horse



# Emotions

The horse is the most important factor in racing.

A horse maybe a champion or have the best form in a race, but if it does not feel or look 100% or is overly excited, the horse will not show its true ability.

Look closely for any tell-tale signs when a horse is walking around the Parade Ring.



**Unhappy and worried:**

**Ears flattened against the neck**



**Content and interested in the surroundings:**

**Ears are pricked forward**



**Feeling Curious:**

**Both ears tilted forwards**



**In doubt or feeling uncertain:**

**One ear is pricked forward and the other held back**



# Watch Horses Closely Going Down To The Start And Other Signs

Because ground conditions vary greatly in simulcast racing, it is important to look at a horse's action when it goes down to the start.

**Grass Cutter Action:** If a horse keeps its front legs close to the turf and does not bend its knees, the horse will love fast or firm ground but will dislike soft/yielding ground as it can't lift its legs up.

**High Knee Action:** If a horse lifts its front legs up high when going to the start, it will like soft/yielding ground but will dislike fast/firm conditions - the horse will not feel comfortable hitting turf hard.

## Good

A horse walking around the Parade Ring or before the start who looks alert and relaxed.

## Bad

A horse who is sweating (neck and body wet and showing white froth on body) and getting too excited means it is using up too much energy.







# Wager



# Bet types

Win	Pick the winner	First 4	Pick the first four horses in any order
Place	Pick any one of the first three horses*	Quartet	Pick the first four horses in correct order
Quinella	Pick the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> horses in any order	Double Trio	Pick the first three horses in any order in each of the two nominated races
Forecast	Pick the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> horses in correct order	Double	Pick the winner in each of the two nominated races Consolation: pick the winner of the first nominated races and the runner-up in the second nominated race.
Quinella Place	Pick any two of the first three horses in any order	Treble	Pick the winner in each of the three nominated races Consolation: pick the winner of the first two nominated races and the runner-up in the last nominated race.
Trio	Pick the first three horses in any order		
Tierce	Pick the first three horses in correct order		

\* Pick any one of the first four horses in a race of 21 or above declared starters; or pick any one of the first two horses in a race of 4 to 6 declared starters (only applicable to designated simulcast races)





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