



The Hong Kong Jockey Club

RIDING HIGH TOGETHER

2023 / 2024

HONG KONG RACING MEDIA GUIDE

CENTENARY SPRINT CUP



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RACE HISTORY

The Centenary Sprint Cup is the newest of 12 Group 1 events in Hong Kong, although the race dates back to November 1984 when it was first run as the Centenary Cup. It was inaugurated to celebrate the centenary of the Hong Kong Jockey Club, which was founded in 1884.

Switched between Sha Tin and Happy Valley for the first seven runnings, it was established as a HKG2 in March over the Sha Tin 1200m when the Pattern system was introduced in Hong Kong in the 1991/92 season. In 1994, the race was changed from a handicap to set weights and the distance was reduced to 1000m, where it would remain until 2016.

In 2001, the race – now renamed the Centenary Sprint Cup – was upgraded to HKG1 status, with prize money increased to HK\$4.5 million. The race that year went to Tony Cruz-trained King Of Danes, the only three-year-old to win since the contest gained Group status. In 2006, it was programmed as the first leg of the Hong Kong Speed Series, which also features the Queen's Silver Jubilee Cup (1400m) and the Chairman's Sprint Prize (1200m).

It was run as an international Group 2 for the first time in 2017, before receiving top billing in 2018, when prize money increased to HK\$10 million. The race's purse further increased to HK\$13 million in 2024.

The great Silent Witness and last year's winner Lucky Sweynesse feature among the race's honour roll. The two sprinters are both winners of Hong Kong's Speed Series. Also successful were Hong Kong Sprint winners Absolute Champion and Aerovelocitv, with other dual winners including Best Of The Best, Scintillation, Sacred Kingdom, Eagle Regiment, Peniaphobia, and Beat The Clock.

Tony Cruz and John Size are the race's most successful trainers, winning five times each while Cruz also won this race twice as a jockey.



PAST WINNERS

(Since 1992)

YEAR	HORSE (COUNTRY BRED)	A/W/S	JOCKEY	TRAINER	OWNER	MARGIN	DRAW	ODDS	GOING	TIME
2023	LUCKY SWEYNESSE (NZ)	4/126/g	Zac Purton	Manfred Man	Cheng Ming Leung, Cheng Yu Tung, Cheng Mei Mei & Cheng Yu Wai	1-1/2	8/8	1.7F	G	1:08.12
2022	STRONGER (AUS)	5/126/h	Vincent Ho	Douglas Whyte	Cheung Hon Kit, Joanna Cheung Wai Sze & Jonathan Cheung Yu Shing	HD	6/8	18	G	1:08.78
2021	HOT KING PRAWN (AUS)	6/126/g	Joao Moreira	John Size	Lau Sak Hong	1-3/4	2/11	2.1F	G	1:08.01
2020	BEAT THE CLOCK (AUS)	6/126/g	Joao Moreira	John Size	Merrick Chung Wai Lik	HD	3/7	2.5F	G	1:08.57
2019	BEAT THE CLOCK (AUS)	5/126/g	Joao Moreira	John Size	Merrick Chung Wai Lik	NK	4/8	3.1	GF	1:08.42
2018	D B PIN (NZ)	5/126/g	Olivier Doleuze	John Size	Samuel Wong Yin Shun	NK	8/8	6.1	G	1:09.64
2017	PENIAPHOBIA (IRE)	6/126/g	Neil Callan	Tony Cruz	Huang Kai Wen	3/4	8/8	9	G	1:09.15
2016	AEROVELOCITY (NZ)	7/126/g	Zac Purton	Paul O'Sullivan	Daniel Yeung Ngai	1-1/2	4/12	8.5	G	1:08.36
2015	PENIAPHOBIA (IRE)	4/126/g	Douglas Whyte	Tony Cruz	Huang Kai Wen	SH	1/8	1.8F	GF	55.49
2014	AMBER SKY (AUS)	4/126/g	Joao Moreira	Ricky Yiu	Hung Kam Po	2-1/4	6/10	2.3F	GF	55.86
2013	EAGLE REGIMENT (AUS)	5/126/g	Olivier Doleuze	Manfred Man	Cheng Ka Shing	1-1/2	13/14	6.3	G	56.32
2012	EAGLE REGIMENT (AUS)	4/126/g	Olivier Doleuze	Manfred Man	Cheng Ka Shing	NK	4/12	8	G	57.05
2011	SACRED KINGDOM (AUS)	7/126/g	Brett Prebble	Ricky Yiu	Sin Kang Yuk	3/4	6/8	1.6F	G	56.52
2010	SACRED KINGDOM (AUS)	6/126/g	Brett Prebble	Ricky Yiu	Sin Kang Yuk	3/4	9/9	1.4F	G	55.37
2009	INSPIRATION (AUS)	5/126/g	Gerald Mosse	John Moore	Mr & Mrs Hui Sai Fun	1/2	11/12	15	G	56.91
2008	ABSOLUTE CHAMPION (AUS)	6/126/g	Brett Prebble	David Hall	Mr & Mrs Eddie Wong Ming Chak	SH	2/8	9	G	56.50
2007	SCINTILLATION (AUS)	6/126/g	Eric Saint-Martin	Danny Shum	Mr & Mrs Hui Sai Fun	3/4	1/10	3.6	GF	56.40
2006	SCINTILLATION (AUS)	5/126/g	Eric Saint-Martin	Danny Shum	Mr & Mrs Hui Sai Fun	1/2	7/10	4.2	GF	56.30
2005	SILENT WITNESS (AUS)	5/126/g	Felix Coetzee	Tony Cruz	Arthur Antonio da Silva & Betty da Silva	2	10/11	1.0F	GY	56.70
2004	SILENT WITNESS (AUS)	4/126/g	Felix Coetzee	Tony Cruz	Arthur Antonio da Silva & Betty da Silva	2-1/2	5/10	1.1F	GF	56.20
2003	GRAND DELIGHT (AUS)	5/126/g	Shane Dye	John Size	Peter Law Kin Sang	3/4	3/10	2.4F	G	56.70
2002	FIREBOLT (IRE)	4/126/g	Frankie Dettori	Ivan Allan	Tony Yue Kwok Leung	3/4	6/14	6.3	G	57.00
2001	KING OF DANES (AUS)	3/123/c	Felix Coetzee	Tony Cruz	Lucy Lu Kai Yee	3/4	14/14	3.3F	GF	55.80



PAST WINNERS (CON'T)

(Since 1992)

YEAR	HORSE (COUNTRY BRED)	A/W/S	JOCKEY	TRAINER	OWNER	MARGIN	DRAW	ODDS	GOING	TIME
2000	BEST OF THE BEST (USA)	5/126/g	Douglas Whyte	Wong Tang-ping	Alexander Lee Chun Hung	1-1/2	4/14	4.3	GF	56.70
1999	BEST OF THE BEST (USA)	4/126/g	Eric Legrix	Wong Tang-ping	Alexander Lee Chun Hung	1-1/2	9/13	2.4F	G	56.90
1998	FASTEST STAR (IRE)	5/126/g	Danny Nikolic	Alex S T Wong	Poly Law Sung Fai	NK	8/14	9.7	GF	57.10
1997	QUICK ACTION (IRE)	6/126/g	Eric Saint-Martin	Ivan Allan	Elite Syndicate	3/4	4/10	17	GF	56.90
1996	MR VITALITY (AUS)	4/126/g	Basil Marcus	Ivan Allan	Larry C K Yung	1	6/14	2.1F	G	57.40
1995	STERLING TOWN (NZ)	5/126/g	Eric Legrix	Ivan Allan	Michael Shum Wai Kit & Lim Kiam Leng	SH	6/14	99	G	58.30
1994	SOUND PRINT (IRE)	6/126/g	Felix Coetzee	Brian Kan	Edmund Tam Wing Fan	HD	1/13	18	G	57.70
1993	KADBRIDGE (NZ)	5/126/g	Darren Gauci	Lawrie Fownes	Lincoln Hsu Chi Yuan	HD	3/7	52	G	1:10.20
1992	CARRY ON WINNING (IRE)	5/126/g	Tony Cruz	Wong Tang-ping	Sammy Chow Choi Leng	3/4	5/13	5.8	Y	1:11.20

*Run as a HKG2 handicap since 1992, the race was promoted to a HKG1 in 2001, a G2 in 2017 and a G1 in 2018

Race distance was changed from 1200m to 1000m in 1994, before returning to 1200m in 2016



BARRIER DRAW DATA

(Since 2016)

DRAW	1ST	2ND	3RD
1	0	1	1
2	1	1	2
3	1	1	1
4	2	1	1
5	0	2	0
6	1	1	0
7	0	2	1
8	3	0	1
9	0	0	0
10	0	0	0
11	0	0	0
12	0	0	0
13	-	-	-
14	-	-	-

Since the race was run as a 1200m event in 2016

2023 CENTENARY SPRINT CUP

Lucky Sweynesse was the comfortable victor of his first Group 1 success in the 2023 G1 Centenary Sprint Cup (1200m) at Sha Tin for jockey Zac Purton and trainer Manfred Man.

"It was pretty painless today. As soon as he begun as well as he did and I was able to get outside the leader, I was fairly confident from there. He still had to turn up and do it and Sight Success gave him a good race – he gave a good kick, so I had to work to get past him and hold them off. He did a terrific job," Purton said.

Purton seized a familiar initiative after Lucky Sweynesse mustered early speed to take up a forward position, while Wellington stalked his rival from fourth place. The positioning proved telling with Wellington clocking a faster last 400m (22.15s) than Lucky Sweynesse (22.17s), but ultimately unable to overhaul his younger foe in the run to the line after Purton had struck first for home.

While Wellington eventually edged Sight Success into third place to deliver the one-two finish most pundits expected in 1m 8.12s.

Purse: HK\$12 million		Status: Group 1						
Distance: 1200m		Going: Good		Race time: 1m 8.12s				
RANK	HORSE	AGE	WEIGHT	JOCKEY	TRAINER	DRAW	MARGIN (LBW)	ODDS
1 st	LUCKY SWEYNESSE	4	126	Z Purton	K L Man	8	-	1.7
2 nd	WELLINGTON	6	126	A Badel	R Gibson	5	1-1/2	3
3 rd	SIGHT SUCCESS	6	126	V Borges	J Size	2	1-1/2	8.8
4 th	COURIER WONDER	5	126	L Currie	J Size	4	2	27
5 th	SKY FIELD	6	126	H Bowman	C Fownes	6	3	16
6 th	SUPER WEALTHY	7	126	L Hewitson	D A Hayes	1	3	45
7 th	DUKE WAI	7	126	H Bentley	P C Ng	3	3	44
8 th	MASTER EIGHT	5	126	K Teetan	F C Lor	7	6-1/2	27

FIRST FOUR WITH SIRE

(Since 2013)

2023

FINISH	HORSE (BRED)	SIRE
1st	LUCKY SWEYNESSE (NZ)	SWEYNESSE (AUS)
2nd	WELLINGTON (AUS)	ALL TOO HARD (AUS)
3rd	SIGHT SUCCESS (AUS)	MAGNUS (AUS)
4th	COURIER WONDER (NZ)	SACRED FALLS (NZ)

2022

FINISH	HORSE (BRED)	SIRE
1st	STRONGER (AUS)	NOT A SINGLE DOUBT (AUS)
2nd	SKY FIELD (AUS)	DEEP FIELD (AUS)
3rd	HOT KING PRAWN (AUS)	DENMAN (AUS)
4th	WELLINGTON (AUS)	ALL TOO HARD (AUS)

2021

FINISH	HORSE (BRED)	SIRE
1st	HOT KING PRAWN (AUS)	DENMAN (AUS)
2nd	REGENCY LEGEND (NZ)	PINS (AUS)
3rd	BIG PARTY (AUS)	EXCEED AND EXCEL (AUS)
4th	VOYAGE WARRIOR (AUS)	DECLARATION OF WAR (USA)

2020

FINISH	HORSE (BRED)	SIRE
1st	BEAT THE CLOCK (AUS)	HINCHINBROOK (AUS)
2nd	THANKS FOREVER (AUS)	DUPORTH (AUS)
3rd	HOT KING PRAWN (AUS)	DENMAN (AUS)
4th	WISHFUL THINKER (AUS)	I AM INVINCIBLE (AUS)

2019

FINISH	HORSE (BRED)	SIRE
1st	BEAT THE CLOCK (AUS)	HINCHINBROOK (AUS)
2nd	MR STUNNING (AUS)	EXCEED AND EXCEL (AUS)
3rd	WINNER'S WAY (AUS)	STARCRAFT (NZ)
4th	FIFTY FIFTY (NZ)	THORN PARK (AUS)

2018

FINISH	HORSE (BRED)	SIRE
1st	D B PIN (NZ)	DARCI BRAHMA (NZ)
2nd	MR STUNNING (AUS)	EXCEED AND EXCEL (AUS)
3rd	BEAT THE CLOCK (AUS)	HINCHINBROOK (AUS)
4th	LUCKY YEAR (AUS)	HOLY ROMAN EMPEROR (IRE)

2017

FINISH	HORSE (BRED)	SIRE
1st	PENIAPHOBIA (IRE)	DANDY MAN (IRE)
2nd	LUCKY BUBBLES (AUS)	SEBRING (AUS)
3rd	NOT LISTENIN'TOME (AUS)	DYLAN THOMAS (IRE)
4th	AMAZING KIDS (NZ)	FALKIRK (NZ)

2016

FINISH	HORSE (BRED)	SIRE
1st	AEROVELOCITY (NZ)	PINS (AUS)
2nd	GOLD-FUN (IRE)	LE VIE DEI COLORI (GB)
3rd	PENIAPHOBIA (IRE)	DANDY MAN (IRE)
4th	FREDERICK ENGELS (GB)	ICEMAN (GB)

FIRST FOUR WITH SIRE (CONT'T)

(Since 2013)

2015

FINISH	HORSE (BRED)	SIRE
1st	PENIAPHOBIA (IRE)	DANDY MAN (IRE)
2nd	BUNDLE OF JOY (AUS)	MAGIC ALBERT (AUS)
3rd	SMART VOLATILITY (AUS)	DANEWIN (AUS)
4th	FREDERICK ENGELS (GB)	ICEMAN (GB)

2014

FINISH	HORSE (BRED)	SIRE
1st	AMBER SKY (AUS)	EXCEED AND EXCEL (AUS)
2nd	STRAIGHT GOLD (AUS)	STRATUM (AUS)
3rd	CERISE CHERRY (SAF)	GOLDKEEPER (USA)
4th	FREDERICK ENGELS (GB)	ICEMAN (GB)

2013

FINISH	HORSE (BRED)	SIRE
1st	EAGLE REGIMENT (AUS)	EL MOXIE (USA)
2nd	FREDERICK ENGELS (GB)	ICEMAN (GB)
3rd	BEST ELEVEN (AUS)	CHARGE FORWARD (AUS)
4th	CAPTAIN SWEET (AUS)	FASTNET ROCK (AUS)

LEAD SECTIONAL TIME

(Since 2016)

YEAR	400	800	1200
2023	23.78	45.83	1:08.12
2022	23.41	45.86	1:08.78
2021	23.49	45.41	1:08.01
2020	24.31	46.38	1:08.57
2019	23.40	45.85	1:08.42
2018	24.40	47.50	1:09.64
2017	24.29	46.71	1:09.15
2016	23.48	45.77	1:08.36



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