

Race History

Sha Tin Racecourse opened its doors in October, 1978, and in line with that new era for Hong Kong racing an elite 1200m contest was inaugurated. That first edition on 29 April, 1979 was titled the Hong Kong Sprint Championship but a more familiar moniker, the Chairman's Prize, was introduced a year later. Arthur Ward-trained Ever Win took the first running under Tony Cruz.

By 1989, when Quicken Away won the first of three consecutive renewals, the race was a million-dollar affair: that year's contest was worth HK\$1.032 million, with only the Hong Kong Invitation Cup and Hong Kong Derby holding higher purses. Three years later, it attained HKG1 status and in the 1993/94 season, when the Champion Sprint Series was established, the Chairman's Prize took its natural place as one of the three legs.

It was in 2001 that the race title became the Chairman's Sprint Prize and the purse that year was HK\$4.5 million. In 2007 the race shifted to February from a March/April slot in the calendar, thus becoming the second leg of the Hong Kong Speed Series. The 2016 edition was the first time it was run as an international G1 contest, with prize money upped to HK\$10 million. The race was shifted to an April/May date - as the final leg of the Hong Kong Speed Series - to fill the void left by Singapore's discontinued KrisFlyer International Sprint.

Chairman's Sprint Prize ranked equal 55th in the World's Top 100 G1 Races in 2023. The prize money of the six furlong contest further increased to HK\$22 million in 2024.

Notable winners of the Chairman's Sprint Prize include world champion sprinters Silent Witness (2004 & 2005) and Sacred Kingdom (2008 & 2010), as well as Fairy King Prawn (1999 & 2001), Joy And Fun (2012), Lucky Nine (2013 & 2014) and Wellington (2021 & 2022). In 2016, Australian sensation Chautauqua became the first internationally-trained winner of the race. Local speedsters Beat The Clock, Mr Stunning, Wellington and Lucky Sweynesse have taken the spoils in the recent renewals of the race. Lucky Sweynesse became the fourth sprinter to complete Kong's three-race Speed Series in 2023, following the successes of Mr Vitality (1996), Grand Delight (2003) and Silent Witness, who also won all three legs of the Speed Series.

Record Dividends

Bet Type	Dividend (HK\$)	Year	Horse (s)	Win Odds
Win	\$512.50	2009	Dim Sum	51
Place	\$317.50	2016	Strathmore (3rd)	218
Quinella	\$2,471.50	2020	Mr Stunning (1st)	21
			Big Time Baby (2nd)	29
Quinella Place	\$1,324.50	2005	Tiber (2nd)	99
			Cape Of Good Hope (3rd)	45
Forecast	\$614.00	2021	Wellington (1st)	3.9
			Computer Patch (2nd)	19
Tierce	\$30,426.00	2020	Mr Stunning (1st)	21
			Big Time Baby (2nd)	29
			Thanks Forever (3rd)	9.3
Trio	\$3,665.00	2020	Mr Stunning (1st)	21
			Big Time Baby (2nd)	29
			Thanks Forever (3rd)	9.3
First 4	\$5,313.00	2021	Wellington (1st)	3.9
			Computer Patch (2nd)	19
			Sky Field (3rd)	12
			Voyage Warrior (4th)	52
Quartet	\$60,430.00	2021	Wellington (1st)	3.9
			Computer Patch (2nd)	19
			Sky Field (3rd)	12
			Voyage Warrior (4th)	52