Champions Mile (11th running)

History

The Champions Mile is one of the relatively younger top-class events in Hong Kong’s racing calendar. Inaugurated in 2001, the race subsequently became an international event in 2005 and was elevated to its existing G1 status two years later, in 2007. One of the Top 100 G1 races in the world, the race’s prize money stands at HK$14 million.

Since the race opened to overseas contenders in 2005, local runners have won ten of the past 11 renewals and dominated every running until 2014 when dual South African Horse of the Year Variety Club broke their stranglehold with his emphatic display at Sha Tin. The HKG2 Chairman’s Trophy (1600m) and G1 Queen’s Silver Jubilee Cup (1400m) have proven to be the two important indicative races for the Champions Mile in recent years.

Nine of the past 11 Chairman’s Trophy winners went on to take part in the Champions Mile, producing decent overall results of three wins and three placings. Those three who managed to complete the Chairman’s Trophy/Champions Mile double are Bullish Luck in 2005, Able One in 2010 and Able Friend in 2015. Dan Excel finished second in the Chairman’s Trophy prior to his success in the Champions Mile in 2013.

In the past decade, eight winners of the Queen’s Silver Jubilee Cup, part of the Hong Kong Speed Series, have progressed to the Champions Mile. Two of them, Good Ba Ba in 2008 and Able Friend in 2015 proceeded to win, while two other Queen’s Silver Jubilee Cup winners have finished second and third subsequently in this race.

Statistics (Since 2005)

Leading Jockey D Beadman 2 Wins – Able One (2010) & Xtension (2011)

B Prebble 2 Wins – Bullish Luck (2006) & Sight Winner (2009)

Leading Trainer J Moore 6 Wins – Able One (2007 & 2010), Xtension (2011 & 2012), Dan Excel (2013)

& Able Friend (2015)

Record of Males

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Age | Winners | 2nd | 3rd | Unplaced | Total Starters |
| 6yo+ | 4 | 6 | 4 | 39 | 53 |
| 5yo | 5 | 1 | 5 | 23 | 34 |
| 4yo | 2 | 4 | 2 | 27 | 35 |
| 3yo | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

Fastest Time (1600M) 1.33.42

Shortest-priced winner 2015 Able Friend (1.2) Longest-priced winner 2009 Sight Winner (65)

Chairman’s Trophy (HKG2) winner’s record in Champions Mile

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Season | Chairman’s Trophy First Three | | Champions Mile Placing (Odds) |
| 2010/2011 | 1st | Flying Blue | Did not run |
| 2nd | Thumbs Up | 10th (8.5) |
| 3rd | Sight Winner | 7th (99) |
| 2011/2012 | 1st | Admiration | 8th (17) |
| 2nd | Glorious Days | 2nd (6.6) |
| 3rd | Able One | 5th (23) |
| 2012/2013 | 1st | Packing Whiz | 3rd (3.7) |
| 2nd | Dan Excel | 1st (5.6) |
| 3rd | Pure Champion | 8th (16) |
| 2013/2014 | 1st | Able Friend | 2nd (1.7F) |
| 2nd | Packing Whiz | Did not run |
| 3rd | Pleasure Gains | Did not run |
| 2014/2015 | 1st | Able Friend | 1st (1.2F) |
| 2nd | Beauty Flame | Did not run |
| 3rd | Rewarding Hero | 2nd (19) |
| 2015/2016 | 1st | Beauty Only | ? |
| 2nd | Rewarding Hero | ? |
| 3rd | Designs On Rome | Not entered |