

Race History

The Hong Kong Jockey Club's strategy for an elite international end-of-year race day at Sha Tin Racecourse had almost reached its aim by 1999. That year saw the fourth and final international race added to the event, the Hong Kong Sprint, and Fairy King Prawn proved a fittingly top-class first winner. Initially staged as a Listed race, the Hong Kong Sprint attained Group 3 status in 2000 and Group 2 one year later. In 2002, the Sprint became the last of the HKIR features to attain Group 1 status, so establishing the four-race Group 1 format we know today.

The race has a most illustrious roll of honour, featuring superstars Silent Witness and Sacred Kingdom from Hong Kong and Japan's greatest sprinter, the exceptional Lord Kanaloa. Each of that trio won the race twice, as did the Australian speedster Falvelon and most recently local champion Aerovelocity, who brought Hong Kong a 13th win in this race last year. The race was ranked 38th in the World's Top 100 G1 races, and was the top-ranked sprint event in the world in 2016.

The Sprint was inaugurated as a straight 1000m contest. The distance was upped to 1200m in 2006 when the race became the final leg of the Global Sprint Challenge. LONGINES first sponsored the race in 2012 and the prize money is currently HK\$18.5 million.

Record Dividends

Bet Type	Dividend (HK\$)	Year	Horse (s)	Odds
Win	\$679.00.00	2008	Inspiration	67
Place	\$161.00.00	2013	Sole Power (2nd)	77
Quinella	\$2,449.50.00	2008	Inspiration (1st)	67
			Green Birdie (2nd)	8.1
Quinella Place	\$897.50.00	2004	Cape Of Good Hope (2nd)	44
			Natural Blitz (3rd)	66
Tierce	\$65,915.00	1999	Fairy King Prawn (1st)	13
			Crystal Charm (2nd)	29
			Big Jag (3rd)	10
Trio	\$7,677.00	1999	Fairy King Prawn (1st)	13
			Crystal Charm (2nd)	29
			Big Jag (3rd)	10
First 4	\$15,351.00	2012	Lord Kanaloa (1st)	4
			Cerise Cherry (2nd)	10
			Captain Sweet (3rd)	43
			Joy And Fun (4th)	27
Quartet	\$146,634.00	2014	Aerovelocity (1st)	3.9
			Peniaphobia (2nd)	2.8F
			Straight Girl (3rd)	55
			Gordon Lord Byron (4th)	54