##### Spotlight

Japan has won the FWD QEII Cup four times thanks to Eishin Preston (2002 & 2003), Rulership (2012) and Neorealism (2017). This time around, Lys Gracieux and Deirdre will lead the Japanese assault, bringing their top-class ability back to Hong Kong to build on their fine efforts at the LONGINES Hong Kong International Races in December.

Four months ago, at Sha Tin, Deirdre placed second in the G1 LONGINES Hong Kong Cup (2000m), while Lys Gracieux was second to Exultant in the G1 LONGINES Hong Kong Vase (2400m). Deirdre was a solid fourth to superstar filly Almond Eye in the G1 Dubai Turf last time, while Lys Gracieux warmed up for her FWD QEII Cup test with a good second in the G2 Kinko Sho (2000m).

Japan will also send across Win Bright who is rolling off two good wins, latterly in the G2 Nakayama Kinen (1800m) which he also won in 2018.

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|  | **EXULTANT (IRE)**  HONG KONG 5g 120A S Cruz |  | **TIME WARP (GB)** HONG KONG 6g 120A S Cruz |
|  | **GLORIOUS FOREVER (GB)**  HONG KONG 5g 119F C Lor |  | **WIN BRIGHT (JPN)**JAPAN 5h 117Y Hatakeyama |
|  | **PAKISTAN STAR (GER)** HONG KONG 6g 116P O’Sullivan |  | **SOUTHERN LEGEND (AUS)** HONG KONG 6g 116C Fownes |
|  | **EAGLE WAY (AUS)** HONG KONG 6g 115J Moore |  | **EMINENT (IRE)**GREAT BRITAIN 5h 114Sir M Todd |
|  | **FURORE (NZ)** HONG KONG 4g 112F C Lor |  | **DARK DREAM (AUS)** HONG KONG 4g 110F C Lor |
|  | **DINOZZO (IRE)** HONG KONG 6g 110J Size |  | **WAIKUKU (IRE)** HONG KONG 4g 110J Size |
|  | **LYS GRACIEUX (JPN)**JAPAN 5m 114Y Yahagi |  | **DEIRDRE (JPN)**JAPAN 5m 113M Hashida |