

Fast Facts

1

Zac Purton claimed his first FWD QEII Cup win atop Exultant last year and became the first jockey in history to have won each of the 12 G1 contests on the Hong Kong racing calendar.

2

Tony Cruz saddled a one-two finish with Exultant and Furore in the QEII Cup last year, his second in three years after Pakistan Star and Gold Mount finished first and second in the 2018 renewal. John Moore was the only other trainer to have achieved the same feat with Designs On Rome and Military Attack in 2014.

3

Successful in 2015 with Blazing Speed and 2018 with Pakistan Star, Exultant's win in last year's edition means Tony Cruz (three wins) is currently the most successful active trainer in the QEII Cup, while John Moore is the most successful of all time (five wins).

4

As a 1.5 chance, Exultant is the fourth favourite to win the QEII Cup since it became a 2000m contest in 1997, the others being Designs On Rome in 2014, Ambitious Dragon in 2011 and Eishin Preston in 2003.

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The QEII Cup's total prize money increased to HK\$25 million in 2020 and is currently the joint second richest race in Hong Kong alongside the Hong Kong Mile. The HK\$28 million Hong Kong Cup is the richest.

6

2019 winner Win Bright gave Japan a third success in the past decade and a fifth overall. Neorealism (2017), Rulership (2012) and Eishin Preston (2002 & 2003) are the other Japanese QEII Cup winners, making Japan the overseas jurisdiction with most wins.

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Three out of the five Japanese winners of the FWD QEII Cup, namely Win Bright, Neorealism and Eishin Preston in 2002, contested the G2 Nakayama Kinen at their last start before their triumph in Hong Kong.

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Win Bright posted a Sha Tin's 2000m record time of 1m 58.81s in the 2019 QEII Cup. Each of the first eight runners behind Win Bright finished the 2000m trip in under two minutes.

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At 47/1, Win Bright is the second longest-priced winner of the FWD QEII Cup since it became an international race in 1995, following 2004 winner River Dancer at 57/1.

10

South African raider Irridescence, successful in 2006, is the only filly or mare to have won the FWD QEII Cup. Since then eight more fillies or mares have taken part in the race, with Lys Gracieux, third in the 2019 renewal, the only one with Top 3 finish.

11

Pakistan Star in 2018 is the only Hong Kong International Sale graduate to have won the FWD QEII Cup.

12

With his 2017 winner Neorealism, Japanese trainer Noriyuki Hori becomes the first overseas trainer to win five G1s in Hong Kong.

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Four horses – Werther (2016), Designs On Rome (2014), Ambitious Dragon (2011) and Vengeance Of Rain (2005) - have completed the Hong Kong Derby and FWD QEII Cup double in the same year.

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Werther's four and a half length win in 2016 was the largest winning margin since it became a 2000m contest.

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Hong Kong's Viva Pataca (2007 & 2010) and Japanese raider Eishin Preston (2002 & 2003) are the only two horses to have won the FWD QEII Cup twice.

16

With three wins apiece, Douglas Whyte (2011 Ambitious Dragon, 1998 Oriental Express, 1997 London News) and Mick Kinane (2007 Viva Pataca, 1995 Red Bishop, 1994 Deerfield) are the winning-most jockeys in recent FWD QEII Cup history.