



Australian Greyhound
Racing Association

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Let It Develop wins the Dapto Megastar Final

By Mitch Cohen Illawarra Mercury

At start 98, veteran sprinter Let It Develop broke through for a maiden Group 1 by claiming what could be the last ever Dapto Megastar (520m) on Thursday night.

The Jodie and Andy Lord trained chaser arrived in his final strides to edge out Pantera Nera by a head and win the richest greyhound race on the South Coast.

Co-trainer Andy Lord was ecstatic.

“You can’t describe how you feel winning a Group 1 or any group race especially with a dog like him,” he said.



Let It Develop, trained by Jodie and Andy Lord, took out the Group 1 Dapto Megastar. Pic: Adam McLean

“He is a testament to greyhound racing.

“He has had 98 starts and will have a home for life just like all of them.

“He is a great dog. A great chaser.

“He is not the fastest dog in the world but geez he is a good dog.”

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Let It Develop had tasted black type success before by winning the Group 3 Canberra Cup and Goulburn Cup.

An \$8.50 TAB hope, he was slow to begin from box eight in the feature but stayed out of trouble on the first turn.

Pantera Nera (\$3.90) pinged out from box seven and fought out the early lead with Magic Spring (\$31).

By the back straight Let It Develop was alongside the eventual runner-up with Maya Herrera (\$35) tucked in just behind the pair.

The leading pair were locked in a duel at the top of the straight and it was Let It Develop who got up on the line to snatch the \$75,000-to-the-winner prize.

Race favourite Ritza Lenny (\$1.95) missed the kick but rattled home to finish $\frac{3}{4}$ length back in third.

“Coming from that box and the way it was set up, there is a lot of speed it in,” Lord said.

“He was the speed too but they all wanted to go to the fence and he knows where he is in the eight.

“Six, seven or eight and you can put the money on.”



Let It Develop with connections. Pic: Adam McLean

After the placed runners the rest of the field finished in the following order. Maya Herrera (\$31.70), Pedro Cerrano (\$36.30), Black Bear Lee (\$7.90), Knight Sprite (\$8.70) and Magic Spring (\$25.10).

Let It Develop is a Black dog whelped November 2012 by Collision from Neat Irish (Brett Lee x Carrington Miss). He is raced by Peter Spiteri and trained by Jodie Lord from Gunning in New South Wales. Let It Develop has raced 98 times for 29 wins and 39 placings with his win in the Megastar the \$75,000 first prize took his current stake earnings to \$201,583.

Listed below are the previous winners of the Megastar. The race has now been won by some very handy sprinters.

The first winner of the Megastar Dapto invitational in 2010 was Mr Metz and in 2011 it became a Group 3 event and was won by Oaks Road in 29.94. In 2012 the race was elevated to Group 2 status and was won by Bye Bye Bucks in 29.75, then in 2013 the race became a Group 1 event when won by Peter Rocket 29.81, the 2014 winner was Tommy Brislane 29.82. Last year's winner was Fantastic Spiral in 29.51.



For more information please contact:

Neil Brown
AGRA Publicity Officer
Tel: 03 97691234
Mob: 0423 129 950
nbrown@agra.com.au

Howard Ashton
AGRA Executive Officer
Tel: 08 8243 7100
Mob: 0438 042 838