



MEDIA RELEASE

7th September 2013



Peter "Rockets" into Megastar Invitational

By Neil Brown AGRA

Talented Victorian sprinter Peter Rocket (\$5.10) won his way into the rich Sportingbet Group 1 Dapto Megastar with an impressive all the way victory in the Megastar Prelude on Thursday night. The Group 2 Horsham Cup winner starting for the first time at the tricky Dapto circuit begun okay from the outside draw, settled third at the first turn, he then chased early leader Mexico City (\$17.90) into the home straight grabbing the leader near the line for a solid win in 29.79. Mexico City for Mark Gatt joins Peter Rocket in the final and the fast finishing Amadeus Strikes, as usual came from nowhere to fill third spot and also take her place in the final next Friday night.

Two of the panel selected stars recorded outstanding trials between races on the night. Recent third placing in the National Sprint Zulu Zeus showed what a big motor he has with a fast solo effort of 29.46 a length inside Oh So Smooth's track record of 29.51. With sections of 5.45 and 17.08 he will prove hard to beat starting from box eight next week.

Grand campaigner Queensland superstar Glen Gallon maybe in the twilight of his career, however he has lost none of his pace. The winner of over \$600,000 in prizemoney trialed 29.57 with sections of 5.55 and 17.23 from the handy draw of three next week, there might just be another Group 1 in the champ. He finished unplaced last year.

Joining those two stars are multi Group 1 winner Proven Nitro beautifully draw in box one, Derby winner Jagger Swagger and four time Dapto winner with a best of 29.56 Double Twist, she rounds out the star studded line up and will jump from box four.

This is the fourth running of the Sportingbet Megastar first won in 2010 by Ron Ball's Mr. Metz then in 2011 the brilliant Oaks Road won for Mark Gatt, while last year's winner from box eight was Bye Bye Bucks for trainer Ken Lewis. With the talent engaged in this years event another top performer will be added to the honour roll.

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AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

GROUP ONE – DAPTO MEGASTAR - \$75,000 to the winner



Proven Nitro (VIC)

25 starts 25-6-10 (\$247,645)

Nitro Burst – Proven Cobalt

Black Dog July '10

Owner: **McGrath Syndicate**

Trainer: **Jason Thompson**

Dapto best: NBT

Multi Group 1 winner he is well drawn here in the red box. If he can be handy to the lead at the first turn is a real winning chance. Has been a little down on his best form of late but sure to be at his top here. Big chance from the red not to be underestimated.



Peter Rocket (VIC)

46 starts 19-5-13 (\$134,355)

Where's Pedro – Belron Blue

Black Dog August '10

Owner: **Lisa Hellmuth**

Trainer: **Keith Hellmuth**

Dapto best: 29.79 (8) (1 Starts 1-0-0)

Very talented Victorian top grader he has won at Group 2 level and did a good job last week from the eight in the prelude. This is a better draw from the inside and he is a genuine winning hope after last week's performance. Not to be left out of the betting, a big chance.



Glen Gallon (QLD)

67 starts 37-10-3 (\$603,322)

Flying Stanley – Incoherent

Red Brindle Dog August '09

Owner: **Velocity Lodge (PTN) Syndicate**

Trainer: **Tony Brett**

Dapto beat: NBT Trial 04/09 29.57 (1 Starts 0-0-0)

Superstar multi group 1 winner of over \$600,000 he has been a great dog for a long time. Tried super last week and Tony Brett will be hoping he has more luck than last year when he finished unplaced. Big occasion performer always a chance.



Double Twist

25 starts 13-6-2 (\$66,035)

Where's Pedro – Tifi

Black Bitch March '11

Owner: **Jason Lymbery**

Trainer: **Gary Edwards**

Dapto best: 29.56 (3) (5 Starts 4-0-0)

Smart young bitch she loves the Dapto circuit with four wins from five starts here. A best of 29.56 would see her go close. If she has some luck from the tough draw in four she'll be thereabouts. Place chance looks best in this class.



Jagger Swagger

30 starts 19-2-5 (\$174,235)

Premier Fantasy – Surpassing

Black Dog December '10

Owner: **T Whittington & G Sprod**

Trainer: **Preston Rowles**

Dapto best: NBT

Multi Group winner this year he is a smart type. Won the Group 1 National Derby at the Gardens and is right up to this class with some outstanding performances in elite company. Has to overcome box five and wouldn't want to be caught up in traffic at the first turn but with a bit of luck he has a chance.



Mexico City

26 starts 8-4-5 (\$26,495)

Where's Pedro – Physical

White & Fawn Dog March '11

Owner: **Edwin Kingswell**

Trainer: **Mark Gatt**

Dapto best: 30.06 (8) (4 Starts 2-1-0)

Didn't have many friends last week after some below par efforts in the lead up but found the front early and ran a cracking race. Mark Gatt will be looking for his second Megastar after winning with his talented Oaks Road in 2011. Place chance looks best in this company.



Amadeus Strikes

54 starts 20-11-6 (\$102,545)

Bombastic Shiraz – Forgetful Lucy

Black Bitch July '10

Owner/Trainer: **Steven White**

Dapto best: 29.92 (3) (3 Starts 1-0-2)

Came from nowhere in last week's prelude to finish third and make the final. She has put up some enormous performances in solid company but just gets out of ground more often than not. Very talented chaser she lacks no ticker and you can bet she'll be running on if she gets a crack at them. Tough to mow down this company.



Zulu Zeus

17 starts 8-3-3 (\$48,380)

Where's Pedro – Fancy Jaffa

Black Dog August '11

Owner: **Frank Sanotti**

Trainer: **Frank Hurst**

Dapto best: NBT Trial 4/09 29.46 Solo Record

Ran a bottler of a race at the Meadows in the National Sprint and followed up here with a sensational trial, most good judges have him as the dog to beat he certainly has a big motor. Appears to be drawn okay and if he uses some early speed to take up a good position at the first turn you will want to be on him if he has clear ground down the back. Ready for a Group 1 win.



Magic Moves

37 starts 10-2-3 (\$19,360)

Magic Sprite – Kristen Alyssa

Finished fourth in last week's prelude has performed okay here with two wins but would be outclassed if she got a run.



Dainty Banquet

54 starts 17-12-9 (\$44,380)

Goodesy – One Banquet

Finished fifth in last week's prelude hasn't won here and would start big odds if she gained a start.

Local expert's selections for the final are as follows.

Ron Arnold

1st Glen Gallon

2nd Peter Rocket

3rd Zulu Zeus

Gerard Guthrie

1st Zulu Zeus

2nd Peter Rocket

3rd Glen Gallon

Paul Ambrosoli

1st Zulu Zeus


2nd Peter Rocket

3rd Glen Gallon



AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

TAB.COM Fixed Market for the Sportingbet Dapto Megastar:

\$75,000 to Winner Group 1		Sportingbet Dapto Megastar (520m)	
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price
 1	Proven Nitro	Jason Thompson	\$3.20
 2	Peter Rocket	Keith Hellmuth	\$5.50
 3	Glen Gallon	Tony Brett	\$7
 4	Double Twist	Gary Edwards	\$10
 5	Jagger Swagger	Preston Rowles	\$8
 6	Mexico City	Mark Gatt	\$31
 7	Amadeus Strikes	Steven White	\$15
 8	Zulu Zeus	Frank Hurst	\$3
 9	Magic Moves	Anthony Messina	\$51
 10	Dainty Banquet	Ken Staines	\$25

What's happening on race night?

Friday 13th September—FREE ENTRY

10 event programme including the Sportingbet Megastar (\$75,000 to the winner).

1st race approx 7.27pm (TBC)

Gates open 6.30pm

The top 5 greyhounds selected by a panel of industry experts will be invited to take part in the Megastar and the other 3 boxes will be filled from the placegetters in the Prelude on 5th September. Music and entertainment.

Gourmet foods, canteen facilities and best BBQ in town run by Supporter's Club.

Free kids activities including jumping castle, water ball and face painting

Afghan racing.

Cheese and wine tasting.

On course host Ron Arnold.

Full bar, tote and TAB facilities.



Honour Roll

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. Last year in 2012 the race was elevated to Group 2 status and was won by Bye Bye Bucks in 29.75.



Last Year's winner Bye Bye Bucks

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