



MEDIA RELEASE

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Plenty of locals in the Garrard's Winter Cup

GARRARD'S HORSE & HOUND

The Garrard's Horse & Hound Group 1 Winter Carnival Cup final has brought together a magnificent field of top sprinters, all vying for Group 1 glory.

Here is the Queensland Greyhound Magazine's David Brasch's review of the heats.

ALBION Park's premier trainer Sandra Hunt reckons Swift Warrior's victory in a heat of the Group 1 Winter Cup at Albion Park on Thursday night was like winning the race.

"That's our final," she declared after the son of Made To Size-Solid Skye continued his run into feature race finals at headquarters by winning his heat in 30.24.

He scored by two and a quarter lengths over Just Coincidence with two and a half lengths to Late Show Lee in third.

Swift Warrior has contested three of Albion Park's feature races in the past five weeks and made the final in each of them.

He was last to Roman Express in the Byrne Memorial and then fifth to He Knows Uno in the Flying Amy Classic.

Sandra admits she was pleasantly surprised by the win. "Specially from box five," she said. "I would have given him a chance if he had drawn over near the rails."

She said the dog's power always gives him a chance in whatever race he contests. "He just pushes his way through and that's what he did tonight," she said.

Swift Warrior took his record to 10 wins in 20 starts and all his racing has been done at Albion Park.

Hot favourite St Pierre was disappointing. He began moderately, did not muster quick enough to the first turn and was fourth going past the catching pen. He then failed to run on in the straight.

Just Coincidence rattled home late to get second to make the Group 1 final.

NEIL Falls thought Cold Fusion was in front into the back straight of his Winter Cup heat at Albion Park on Thursday night and started cheering for his dog.

"Then I realized it was actually the two dog," said Neil.

Luckily for Neil, Cold Fusion was into second at that stage and making a strong run at the leader.

He went away in the straight to win by six length in 30.29 beating "the two dog" Call Me Harry with a nose to the fast finishing Railroad Blackie in third.

Cold Fusion (Bit Chili-Arena Lee) is an outstanding prospect for Falls and his connections. He took his record to seven wins and three placings from just 13 starts with the win.

Now Falls is starting to make plans for his dog after the Group 1 final next week.

"It will all depend on what he does in the final next week," said Neil.

"We are tossing up between the Maturity at The Meadows in Melbourne and the Darwin Cup."

Falls landed the Group 3 Darwin Cup back in 2003 when Just The Power gave him his first feature race as a trainer.

"We have family in Darwin so it makes going there quite simple," he said.

"But we have to wait and see just what he does next week."

Cold Fusion was coming off a luckless third to Bond Star in a heat of The Cosmic Rumble at Lismore on June 14. "He tried to anticipate the start and hit his head on the lid," said Neil. "Just as the boxes opened he was going backwards."

On Thursday night he began well and was pushing up looking for the lead but was pushed off the track at the first turn. This allowed Call Me Harry from the John McCarthy kennel to rail through and dash to the front.

McCarthy will be hoping for another Albion Park Group victory. He trained Dagenham to win the first Qld Derby run at the track.

FRESH from his Group 3 Flying Amy Classic victory, He Knows Uno swept into next week's Group 1 Winter Cup final when he brilliantly won his heat at Albion Park of Thursday night.

The son of Primo Uno-Honeymoon's Over scored by five and a half lengths over Citi Hawk with a neck to Dashing Corsair finishing on well for third.

The winner ran 29.92 for his 15th victory. He also won last year's Group 1 Brisbane Cup at Albion Park.

And trainer Mick Patterson had an ominous warning for his final rivals after the heat victory. "I can't wait for next week," he said. "He's getting better."

Patterson continues to be amazed by the improvement in his dog who never has an easy run in a race, having always to give start to his rivals.

He did that on Thursday night but had chimed in with the early leader Citi Hawk by the catching pen and from then the race was all over. He dashed right away to win impressively.

Patterson said he had been able to gallop He Knows Uno during the week after last week's Flying Amy Classic victory.

Heavy rain had forced Mick to keep the dog quiet in the lead-up to the Classic final.

"He won't have to do much this week either," said Mick. "He has been here three weeks in a row and is right at his peak."

Patterson used a nose strap on the hard-pulling He Knows Uno in the parade to the boxes on Thursday night and is glad he did. "He walked to the start like a baby," he said.

And straight into yet another Group 1 final.

He Knows Uno scorched home in a 12.41 final section.

ISO Octane, the dog without a home, raced his way into a Group 1 Winter Cup final spot with an all-the-way victory in a heat at Albion Park on Thursday night.

The son of Pure Octane-Tiny Milly scored by eight and three-quarter lengths over Mercy Rule with three lengths to Proven Que Tee in third. It was his sixth win in a row at Albion Park since joining the Tony Brett kennel.

He ran 30.01 after reeling off first sections of 5.67 and 11.58 to put a gap on his rivals.

Iso Octane came north to the Brett kennel after he had gone through a form slump in Victoria.

"I've done nothing different," said Tony after the heat victory. "The only change is I have put a kilo into the dog.

That seems to have helped him ping the lids.

"But if you look at his final sections, it is telling there."

Brett is confused about Iso Octane's future after the Group 1 final next week.

"The Nationals are an obvious target," he said. "But we are still to sort out in which state he has to qualify."

The rules of the Nationals says the dogs must be domiciled for 90 days out of 150 in one state prior to the series.

By the time the Nationals will be run, Iso Octane has been in Queensland for 81 days. Prior to that he was in Victoria for 69 days.

It appears the dog may have to go to Western Australia where he was originally bred and raced.

Billy's Blondie, who had been sold to WA, had to come back to Queensland to qualify for the National Distance series some years ago. He won the National final as well.

Mercy Rule ran the race of her life to get second and make her way into a Group 1 final for Pam and John Field. No one could have wiped the smile from Pam's face after her white and black wonder had made the Group 1.



GROUP ONE – GARRARDS WINTER CUP

\$50,000 to the winner



Call Me Harry

36 starts 7-5-6 (\$18,810)

Collision – Hanson Nicole

Black Dog July '08

Owner / Trainer: **John McCarthy**

Albion Park best: 30.19 (14 Starts 3-2-1)

Missed start but got dream run along rails at first turn to lead and just hold on to get 2nd to Cold Fusion in heat here last week but beaten 6lngths in 30.29. Has the right box but he was going to struggle last week if he had not got dream run early in heat. Place at best.



Just Coincidence

15 starts 8-1-1 (\$12,930)

Collision – You Can Do

Black Bitch May '08

Owner: **Between The Wickets Ptn**

Trainer: **Tony Brett**

Albion Park best: 30.15 (9 Starts 5-1-1)

Got back but finished on strongly when beaten 2 lengths into 2nd to Swift Warrior in Cup heat here last week in 30.24. Has great record of eight wins from 15 starts but facing huge task to beat this field even though she is well boxed here for a change.



Swift Warrior

20 starts 10-2-1 (\$22,790)

Made To Size – Solid Skye

Blue Brindle Dog March '09

Owner / Trainer: **Sandra Hunt**

Albion Park best: 30.24 (17 Starts 8-2-1)

Came out of five box and raced to the lead in back straight going on to win heat by 2 lengths in 30.24 beating Just Coincidence. Better drawn near rails but hard to see him beating this field. Place chances would appear best hope here.



Citi Hawk

27 starts 12-6-3 (\$27,842)

Bit Chili – City Heritage

Black Dog July '08

Owner/Trainer: **Ian MacKenzie-Ross**

Albion Park best: 30.17 (15 Starts 5-4-2)

Drew the rails and led at first turn in 5.76 but quickly headed off by He Knows Uno when 2nd in heat here last week beaten 6 lengths in 29.92. Had rails last week and not as well drawn for this but he is in great form and can get into the placings.



He Knows Uno

32 starts 15-8-3 (\$95,646)

Primo Uno – Honeymoon's Over

Black Dog December '08

Owners: **Lillian Patterson**

Trainer: **Michael Patterson**

Albion Park best: 29.92 (11 Starts 9-0-1)

Drew six box and quickly up near lead passing catching pen and dashed right away to win heat in 29.92 by 6 lengths beating Citi Hawk and Dashing Corsair. In fabulous form and draw is not really a worry for him. Hard to toss again.



Cold Fusion

13 starts 7-2-1 (\$11,556)

Bit Chili – Arena Lee

Black Dog June '09

Owners: **Falls & Partners Syndicate**

Trainer: **Neil Falls**

Albion Park best: 30.06 (6 Starts 5-0-0)

Highly promising young dog who found trouble at first turn but then fought on gamely and raced right away in straight to win heat by 6 lengths in 30.29 beating Call Me Harry. Came off three box in heat and is not as well boxed for this. If he gets some lucky breaks a win would not surprise.



Iso Octane

82 starts 31-18-8 (\$241,040)

Pure Octane – Tiny Millie

Red Fawn Dog December '07

Owner: **Whittington & Sprod**

Trainer: **Tony Brett**

Albion Park best: 29.94 (8 Starts 7-0-0)

Has won six in row this track since coming north. Led all the way in heat in 30.01 scorching through 5.67 first section when beating Mercy Rule by 9 lengths last week. Wide draw is not a worry and he has a slow beginner on his outside. The one to beat because he is likely leader here.



Mercy Rule

68 starts 15-15-9 (\$48,610)

Regal Brett – Daisy Dooley

White & Black Bitch August '08

Owners: **Hummer Syndicate**

Trainer: **Pamela Field**

Albion Park best: 30.09 (52 Starts 9-13-7)

Grand bitch who had poor box five and was always handy when 2nd even though beaten 9 lengths to Iso Octane here last week in heat in 30.01. Draw is no help but she is so honest a placings would not surprise here.



Dashing Corsair

116 starts 51-17-12 (\$347,979)

Malfoy – Rose Flamenco

Grand galloper with great chance if he gets a start off inside draw. Had unsuitable wide box and found trouble but finished on great when 3rd He Knows Uno here last week beaten 6 lengths in 29.92. If he gets a start, he will go close.



Late Show Lee

98 starts 15-16-17 (\$71,122)

Late Late Show – Mysterious Lee

Veteran who had two box and was beaten 5lghs into 3rd to Swift Warrior here last week in Cup heat in 30.24. Not getting any younger and faces a huge task in this if he gets a start.

Form Comment thanks to local expert David Brasch Queensland Greyhound Magazine

Local betting market on the final is:

\$50,000 to the winner Garrard's Group 1 Winter Cup (520m)			
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price
	Call Me Harry	John McCarthy	50/1
	Just Coincidence	Tony Brett	20/1
	Swift Warrior	Sandra Hunt	20/1
	Citi Hawk	Ian MacKenzie-Ross	12/1
	He Knows Uno	Michael Patterson	6/4
	Cold Fusion	Neil Falls	7/1
	Iso Octane	Tony Brett	2/1
	Mercy Rule	Pam Field	20/1
	Dashing Corsair	Dwyer Lennon	6/1
	Late Show Lee	Darren Titmarsh	50/1

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

David Brasch

1st Iso Octane
2nd He Knows Uno
3rd Cold Fusion

Paul Dolan

1st He Knows Uno
2nd Iso Octane
3rd Call Me Harry

Luke Gatehouse

1st He Knows Uno
2nd Iso Octane
3rd Just Coincidence

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE NIGHT

As well as the Group 1 Garrard's Winter Cup final also the meeting will feature the **Hawkins Media Solutions Superstayers** over the 710m. A star studded line up has been assembled for Staying invitational. In box draw order the field is. 1 Dashing Corsair 2 Vacant 3 Piping Hot 4 Vacant 5 Pillow Torque 6 Vacant 7 Bobby Boucheau 8 Vacant Reserve 9 Bramley. It promises to be a fantastic race with recent Group 1 Gold Cup winner Bobby Boucheau sure to start favourite and prove hard to beat again.

HISTORY

The Winter Carnival Cup has taken on many different forms over the years and has been conducted also at different times during those years. It was first staged at the Gabba in 1978 and sponsored by famous Queensland brewing company Castlemaine XXXX and known as their Trophy, it was run over the testing 558 metre sprint course. It remained the Castlemaine XXXX Trophy right up until 1992 apart from one year in 1987 when it was called the Christmas Trophy. When racing moved to Albion Park in 1993 the race was called the Christmas Stocking for one year and it continued its Group 1 status that the race had gained in 1991 and maintains currently. The feature dropped back to Group 2 in 1997 and 1998, but returned to Group 1 in 1999. Like many other feature races around Australia in the 90's in was sponsored by the Pet food company Eukanuba from 1994 to 1997 and its subsequent company Nutrience in 1998 and 1999. In the year 2000 the club developed the now successful Winter Carnival at the suggestion of race caller John Brasch and the race became that Carnivals major Group 1 feature the Winter Carnival Cup. It has been won by some champion sprinters over the years and the following is but a few of those stars. Call Me Roscoe 81, Glanzend 82, Acacia Park 84, Dancing Gamble 87, Golden Fox 88, Highly Blessed 90, Icen Princess 92, Toban Leah 94, Flying Amy 95, Roanokee 96, Wine Glass 97, Winged Runner 99, Mint Mojo 2001, Elite State 2003 and Trewly Special in 2004. Listed below is the full honour roll.

At the Gabba 1978 - 1992

YEAR	WINNER	TIME
1978	Brigadier North	33.00
1979	Katie's Disco	32.74
1980	Wings Of Steel	32.92
1981	Call Me Roscoe	32.84
1982	Glanzend	32.60
1983	Duration	32.91
1984	Acacia Park	32.90
1985	Amber Flash	32.89
1986	(Jan) Sharyn's Vogue	33.08
1986	(Dec) Fifi She's Not	32.61
1987	Dancing Gamble	32.75
1988	Fifi She's Not	32.61
1989	Son of Ella	32.63
1990	Highly Blessed	32.47
1991	Soldier On	32.60
1992	Iceni Princess	32.93

At Albion Park 1993- Present

YEAR	WINNER	TIME
1993	National Leader	30.39
1994	Toban Leah	30.35
1995	Flying Amy	29.99
1996	Roanokee	30.06
1997	Wine Glass	30.34

1998	Shady Macbeth	30.28
1999	Winged Runner	30.19
2000	Short Model	30.00
2001	Mint Mojo	30.59
2002	Awesome Machine	30.11
2003	Elite State	29.97
2004	Trewly Special	30.16
2005	Hades Rocket	29.90
2006	Fenceline	29.92
2007	Big Swell	30.06
2008	Made To Size	30.39
2009	Trew Millions	30.17



2009 Winter Cup winner Trew Millions (Pic Corey Pearce)



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