

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RAGING ASSOCIATION

MEDIA RELEASE 9th June 2015

A Winning Margin is a good Margin

By Media Department GRV

No one told Margins (box 8) that he was the outsider in the Group 2 Horsham Cup on Sunday.

The Brooke Ennis-trained chaser landed the biggest win of his career in the \$65,000 feature taking out the Cup at the long odds of \$24.30 on the tote and \$31.00 fixed with TAB.com.au.

Owned by the Merceica family, Margins jumped last from box eight in the Wimmera's biggest greyhound racing event. It took expert field sense to weave his way through the field and take the lead in the home straight.

The win was no mean feat, Margins held off the mighty Allen Deed (box 2 - \$3.10F) and the accomplished Big Ticket (box 5 - \$6.50) to win in a time of 27.324 seconds and a margin of less than half a length.



Margins Proves too good in the Horsham Cup (All Pics Clint Anderson)

Charlie Merceica, who handled Margins for the race, was delighted with the win. Talking with SKY Racing's Simone Fisher following the race, Merceica gave his views on how it panned out.

"It's a great thrill to win today," he said.

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"He (Margins) got his way to the fence and when the leaders fanned off around the home bend he got a rails run."

"I tried to keep my emotions in check but when you own the dog, it's hard not to get excited."

When asked about the long starting price, Merceica said it was probably warranted due to his form, but revealed that little injuries had been an issue.

The heat win was the greyhound's first run in close to two months and Merceica said the team had kept him fresh on purpose in preparation for the Horsham Cup.

Margins' career record now stands at nine wins and five placings from 23 career starts with the \$45,000 first prize increasing his career stakes to \$73,000.

After the placed runners the rest of the field finished in the following order. Ronray Sprite (\$8.60), Shared Bonus (\$2.80), Shared Equity (\$8.40), Caustic Bale (\$13.00) and Ultima Bale (\$7.50).

Margins is a Black dog whelped February 2013 by Bekim Bale from Go Go Sutro (Collision x Sutro Star). He is raced by the Striptease Syndicate and trained by Brooke Ennis from Lara in Victoria. Margins has raced 23 times for nine wins and five placings with his win in the Horsham Cup the \$45,000 first prize took his current stake earnings to \$74,325.



Margins with the happy team looking after him for trainer Brooke Ennis post the Horsham Cup

Listed below are the previous winners of the Horsham Cup, famous for many years when run as an Easter carnival. The race has been won by some of the best sprinters to ever grace Victorian race tracks.

1978 Temsonny, 1979 Chukka Khan, 1980 Tempix, 1981 Time Bonus, 1982 Satan's Shroud, 1983 Virgo Rose, 1984 Propellant, 1985 Savage Touch, 1986 Aidan, 1987 Buka Sunset, 1988 Hay Dinney, 1989 Daisy Clover, 1990 Go Georgie, 1991 Rare Drop, 1992 Noble Stranger, 1993 Casino Tom, 1994 No Object, 1995 Midnight Flirt, 1996 True Type, 1997 Another Express, 1998 Lansley Bale, 1999 Legs Ahoy, 2000 Kantarn Bale 2001 Classic Capri, 2002 Timjim Bale, 2003 Monsters Inc, 2004 Brumby Lad, 2005 Foreign Legion, 2006 Marungi Blaze, 2007 Winsome History, 2008 Kendale Bale, 2009 Velocette, 2010 Our Toyman, 2011 Enry Walt, 2012 Dyna Tron, 2013 Peter Rocket and 2014 Crump.

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