



**Australian Greyhound  
Racing Association**



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **Big Daddy Bee Stings Opposition in Derby Final - While Striker Light Wins Futurity**

**By Jeff Collerson GRNSW Website**

Big Daddy Bee (\$9.30) delivered owner Jason Bateup a \$10,000 bonus on top of his \$75,000 first prizemoney when he scored an upset win in Saturday night's Ladbrokes National Derby at Wentworth Park.

Trained by Ray Smith of Forbes, Big Daddy Bee ran down fastest heat winner Nangar Rock (\$4.80), from the Dennis Barnes kennels at Cudal, to win by just over a length in a smart 29.74.

Favourite Lightning Frank (\$2.80) came from fourth in the middle stages to cut Black Hole Sun out of the minor prize money.

Big Daddy Bee's owner is a swimming pool concreter from Penrith and before the Derby heats were held he placed \$50 on his dog with the TAB at the mammoth odds of \$201 - a \$10,000 result.

"I bred Big Daddy Bee from my bitch Winning Charm," Bateup said. "While I have had a couple of handy greyhounds previously I had not had much luck with the dogs until Big Daddy Bee came along," Bateup said.

Ironically Dennis Barnes educated Big Daddy Bee on behalf of Bateup and Smith.

"This is the second year in succession I have finished second in the Derby," Barnes lamented. "Last year my dog Nangar Flame chased home Noelene Holloway's Magic Spring in the final.

"But I'm happy with finishing second, especially as it took another NSW western districts greyhound to beat me!"

Unlucky runner in the Derby was the Angela Langton-trained Hit The Highway, a renowned powerful finisher who jumped smartly but lost all chance when his kennelmate Duty Free ran him off the track approaching the first turn.

"I was worried that might happen when Duty Free drew box two and Hit The Highway drew three because Duty Free is a wide runner," Langton said later.

Dennis Barnes also had a hand in Saturday night's other Group 1 final, the Ladbrokes National Futurity, as he bred Pretty Fancy, dam of the winner Striker Light.

"I sold Pretty Fancy to Molong breeder Toby Weekes and he in turn sold Striker Light to her owner George Farrugia," Barnes said.

Striker Light (\$2.60) led throughout to win Saturday night's Futurity final, scoring by nearly three lengths from fastest qualifier, fellow Victorian Up Hill Jill (\$2.30), who chased the winner all the way.

Striker Light's overall time of 29.74 for the 520m was identical to the figures posted by Derby winner Big Daddy Bee.

Striker Light's trainer Brett Bravo was not surprised that his greyhound produced dazzling second and third splits of 13.70 and 17.78 on Saturday night.



**Striker Light winning at Sandown Park**

"She bungled the start when she took 30.46sec to win her Futurity heat and I knew she could go a lot quicker if she jumped as well as I know she can," Bravo said.

"One night at Sandown Striker Light came out 'under the lids' and recorded a first split that was only a tick outside the fastest ever run there, by none other than Fernando Bale.

"Striker Light is a tenacious chaser who nailed the start tonight and she got to the line better than in her previous Wentworth Park races, running home in her personal best figures of 11.96."

Ray Smith narrowly missed a winning double when the irrepressible Brad Hill Bill chased home the up-and-coming Ruth King-trained Eisenhower in Saturday's Free-For-All, 520m.

After the placed runners in the Derby the field finished in the following order 4<sup>th</sup> Black Hole Sun (\$8.80), 5<sup>th</sup> Good Odds Bricky (\$36.40), 6<sup>th</sup> Duty Free (\$9.40) 7<sup>th</sup> Hit The Highway (\$6.80) and Dyna Boomer (\$9).

Big Daddy Bee is raced by Jason Bateup and trained by Ray Smith, he is a Brindle dog whelped January 2015 by Kinloch Brea from Winning Charm (Just The Best x Hearts War). Big Daddy Bee has won six of his 18 starts and has been placed on six occasions and with the \$75,000 first prize for the National Derby it took his current stake earnings to \$89,225.

After the first two placed runners in the Futurity the field finished in the following order 3<sup>rd</sup> Daithy Allen (\$14.90) 4<sup>th</sup> Andrea Doria (\$11.40), 5<sup>th</sup> Mainline Osti (\$10.20), 6<sup>th</sup> Princess Pout (\$19) 7<sup>th</sup> Red Calibre (\$30.90) and Jody Lee Kade (\$25).

Striker Light is raced by George Farrugia and is trained by Brett Bravo, she is a Black bitch whelped March 2015 by Kc And All from Pretty Fancy (Brett Lee x Sweet Fancy). Striker Light has won nine of her 13 starts and has been placed on two occasions and with the \$75,000 first prize for the National Futurity it took her current stake earnings to \$110,270.

The National Derby was first run in 1963 and was a long-time Group 1 flagship event for the NCA's at one time was worth \$100,000 to the winner. The club changed its direction a few years ago making the St Ledger

better known as the Paws Of Thunder the richer of the two events settling on \$75,000 to the winner for the Derby and Futurity. Both event are now conducted by the GBOTA. Listed below is the full honour roll.

1963 **Keen Linen**, 1964 **Flying Myobb**, 1965 **Chariot Charm**, 1966 **Roman Earl**, 1967 **Mister Moss**, 1968 **Second Stage**, 1969 **Abbey Road**, 1970 **Arthur's Desire**, 1971 **Bomber's Gift**, 1972 **Young Moss**, 1973 **Rushin' Moss**, 1974 **Steelflex**, 1975 **Steelflex**, 1976 **Baguio**, 1977 **Chief Holly**, 1978 **True Leader**, 1979 **Tegimi**, 1980 **General Jeff**, 1981 **Handicap**, 1982 **Lord Tegimi**, 1983 **World Park Ned**, 1984 **Inch Time**, 1985 **Rapid Supreme**, 1986 **Holstein Boy**, 1987 **Shy Sultan**, 1988 **Clover Chief**, 1989 **Worth Doing**, 1990 **Master Hilo**, 1991 **Pretty Tardy**, 1992 **Little Denver**, 1993 **Major Gossip**, 1994 **Indian Dance**, 1995 **Dallas Man**, 1996 **Cattle Drive**, 1997 **Comrade In Arms**, 1998 **Mepunga Blaze**, 1999 **Hahn Bale**, 2000 **Fond Regards**, 2001 **Mean Bean**, 2002 **Medinah**, 2003 **Greasy Grizzly**, 2004 **Pacific Sky**, 2005 **Eiffella**, 2006 **Brother Knows**, 2007 **Slater**, 2008 **Borat**, 2009 **Fedex**, 2010 **Elite Blue Size** and 2011 **Bogie King**, 2012 **Sure As**, 2013 **Jagger Swagger**, 2014 **Zippping Brock**, 2015 **Fernando Bale** and 2016 **Magic Spring**

The National Futurity is was a time honoured flagship event for the NCA first run in 1964 it has been won by some wonderful sprinting bitches' over the years most of which continued to carve out outstanding race careers. Listed below is the full honour roll.

1964 **Cultured Girl**, 1965 **West Opal**, 1966 **Miss Lane**, 1967 **Pearl Moss**, 1968 **Rocket Bridge**, 1969 **Anne Lewis**, 1970 **Tidal Mist**, 1971 **Top Saba**, 1972 **Spanish Dancer**, 1973 **Likely Light**, 1974 **Tintawin**, 1975 **Night Aim**, 1976 **Woolley Wong**, 1977 **Little Fresh**, 1978 **Tearaway Owl**, 1979 **Baretop Girl**, 1980 **Beaumaris Sue**, 1981 **Zany Zen**, 1982 **Promises Free**, 1983 **Winifred Bale**, 1984 **Turbo Top**, 1985 **Sophistication**, 1986 **Flash Jass**, 1987 **Expensive Lee**, 1988 **Tiger's Sunset**, 1989 **Mary Casey**, 1990 **Gozo Nicoloa**, 1991 **Just Jedda**, 1992 **November Sunset**, 1993 **National Night**, 1994 **Mystery Idle**, 1995 **Tar Dinn**, 1996 **Holiday Belle**, 1997 **Rare Missile**, 1998 **Fine Devil**, 1999 **Crystal Light**, 2000 **Junoesque**, 2001 **Queen Muffin**, 2002 **Hotshow Lil**, 2003 **Lissiloo**, 2004 **Nulkaba**, 2005 **Lukeamy** 2006 **Jinderra Flame**, 2007 **Bralyn Maisie**, 2008 **Elite Oriental**, 2009 **Digital Magic**, 2010 **Daydream** 2011 **Crystin Bale**, 2012 **Midnight Capers**, 2013 **Sometimes Speedy**, 2014 **Rue De Kahn**, 2015 **Zippping Midge** and 2016 **Cash In Motion**.

For more information please contact:

**Neil Brown**  
**AGRA Publicity Officer**  
**Tel: 03 97691234**  
**Mob: 0423 129 950**  
[nbrown@agra.com.au](mailto:nbrown@agra.com.au)

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