



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**20th May 2013**



## Magnificent Miata

Miata will need to be at the top of her game in next week's final, with Greyhound racing's sweet heart, the mighty Western Australian chaser Miata, and reminded racing fans why she is regarded as the best stayer of her era by winning her heat of the RSN Sandown Cup at Sandown Park tonight.

First up over 715m after a three month injury lay off, the red fawn super star began well but settled third behind Gold Affair Two and Alpe D'Huez.

After a circuit of the track, the \$1.40 favourite had failed to take any ground off the leaders. However with the crowd urging her on, she displayed the courage that has won the hearts of racing fans throughout the country, switching to the outside and claiming a hard fought victory over the fast finishing Steve Allen in 42.39.

Despite the time being more than a second outside of the track record she posted in a heat of the RSN Sandown Cup 12 months earlier, trainer Paul Stuart was very happy with the run.

"I thought she was struggling there for a while and that she might have been in a bit of strife, but she kept plugging away. She exceeded my expectations getting home like that so I'm more than happy with the run," said Stuart.

"It's been a rushed preparation so hopefully it hasn't taken too much out of her and she's right for next week."

Defending RSN Sandown Cup champion Irma Bale reminding all that she would again be a force to be reckoned with.

Jumping brilliantly from box 8, Irma Bale led all of the way to defeat Maddison Dee by three lengths in best of night 41.92.

Irma Bale had run in the first two at her previous six starts, however her defeat in her last start in a Group 3 final over 600m at Albion Park gave punters cause for concern. A change in routine was the explanation for the turnaround in form.

"She stayed up there for a week which we don't normally do. The heat and the different climate and surroundings affected her," said kennel representative Joe Briffa.

# AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

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"The thing about Irma is that she loves this track. She didn't want to get beaten tonight, just kept trying and trying and found the line with gusto."

Destini Fireball powered into his fifth Group 1 final with a commanding 3.5 length win over Reckless Charm in 42.21.

Trainer Norm Rinaldi did his best to keep a lid on his expectations.

"It's hard to keep the good stayers up because it's so hard to get races.

"I expect him to be a lot better for the run tonight."

The final heat of the night went to the bold front running stayer Proven Impala. Setting the best early sectionals of all the heats, Proven Impala defeated multiple Group race winner Bell Haven by 2.75 lengths in 42.06.

Winning trainer Joe Borg was delighted with the run.

"I was really concerned about the rain. She wants the rail and that was the worst going but she just kept going. I'm amazed at the time given the conditions.

"She's getting stronger at the end, but next week will be the test for her. It's a fantastic field and that's what greyhound racing is all about at this level, and I'm just proud to be a part of it."

The box draw for Thursday night's \$177,500 RSN Sandown Cup final will be conducted live on RSN – Racing and Sport from 7.30am on Monday 20 May.

All patrons on course for the final will have the opportunity to participate in *The Dog, The Money or The Box* - hosted by Eddie McGuire and Jaimee Rogers - and share in \$120,000 in cash and prizes.

**Michael Floyd Sandown Racing and Media Manager.**

## GROUP ONE – RSN SANDOWN CUP \$125,000 to the winner



### **Bell Haven (TAS)**

53 starts 24-12-2 (\$189,475)

**Head Bound – It's A She**

Black Bitch April '10

Owners: **Cannan Syndicate**

Trainer: **Ted Medhurst**

**Sandown best:** 42.07 (5) 25/10/12 (4 Starts 1-2-0)

**Very consistent bitch at this level but does her best racing at Wentworth Park. Chased Proven Impala home last week in handy effort, she would need to improve to win. Place chance best.**



### **Maddison Dee**

42 starts 5-9-6 (\$28,360)

**El Galo – Oh Behave**

Blue Bitch March '10

Owner: **Smakd Synd**

Trainer: **Michael Chilcott**

**Sandown best:** 42.69 (7) 7/03/13 (5 Starts 1-3-1)

**Big thrill for connections to make a Group 1 final of this status. Finished second last week behind Irma Bale for the best performance of her career. 42.10 on corrected times is a handy run. Hard to see her trouble the well fancied and she will start big odds. Place chance best.**

3

**Miata (WA)**

50 starts 42-2-3 (\$698,008)

**Bombastic Shiraz – Winsome Bluebird**

Red Fawn Bitch October '09

Owner: **P Stuart & N Wheeler - Whye**Trainer: **Paul Stuart****Sandown best:** 41.17 Rec (2) 17/05/12 (6 Starts 5-0-1)

**What does one say about the superstar, it what could quite well be her last appearance it would be sensational to see her win. She has done it all except win a Sandown Cup. Was very unlucky in last year's final. Amazingly for her she probable she has to improve on last week's solid effort to win. However we know how good she is. Sure to prove hard to beat.**

4

**Destini Fireball**

37 starts 21-5-1 (\$369,345)

**Where's Pedro – Grey's Destini**

White &amp; Black Dog March '10

Owner / Trainer: **Norm Rinaldi****Sandown best:** 42.04 (4) 11/04/13 (3 Starts 2-0-0)

**Triple Group 1 winner he was back to his best last week with a handy 42.21 win. He can improve on that effort and he would need to find a bit to win. He is a star performer who is a very honest chaser. It's not the best of draws, but he is capable of winning.**

5

**Irma Bale**

82 starts 34-24-6 (\$416,801)

**Bartrim Bale – Amelia Bale**

Black Bitch October '09

Owner: **Paul Wheeler**Trainer: **Graeme Bate****Sandown best:** 41.79 (6) 24/05/12 (4 Starts 3-0-0)

**Last year's winner, she backed up last week after racing for a couple of weeks in Brisbane. Outstanding effort to run 41.92 in the conditions. She has been a superstar for G Bate winning over \$400,000. Very versatile chaser she's a chance in every race she competes. She'll be close to the lead and hard to run down if she finds the front.**

6

**Steve Allen**

29 starts 8-6-4 (\$37,790)

**Larking About – I'm Bouncy Bale**

Black Dog January '11

Owner: **Janice Wheeler**Trainer: **Andrea Dailly****Sandown best:** 42.28 (2) 4/04/13 (5 Starts 1-1-1)

**Consistent type he has been racing in good company of late. Finished second to Miata last week and would need to improve on that run to trouble the more fancied. Place chance best.**

7

**Proven Impala**

65 starts 25-8-9 (\$218,600)

**Velocette – Thanks Blue**

Black Bitch October '09

Owner: **Larissa Darragh**Trainer: **Joe Borg****Sandown best:** 42.06 (3) 16/04/13 (2 Starts 1-1-0)

**Top class group winning bitch she has a great record of 25 and 17 from 65 starts. Looks the leader again as she did last week and might prove hard to catch. Really good effort of 42.06 and if you are in front you miss any trouble. Highly ranked to run a good race certainly a place chance.**

8

**Reckless Charm**

32 starts 5-5-4 (\$13,045)

**Bombastic Shiraz – Infinite Charm**

Black Bitch November '10

Owner: **Dennis Pulis**Trainer: **Bronwyn Pulis****Sandown best:** 42.19 (1) 7/04/13 (5 Starts 1-1-0)

**Handy type who is always thereabouts she has won here in good time but would have to do a lot right to trouble this field. Will start big odds. Place chance best.**

9

**Pumped Up Zarr**

17 starts 4-4-2 (\$14,535)

**Big Daddy Cool – Midnight Drama**

**Ran a solid third last week behind Irma Bale. Will start big odds if he get a start**

10

**Gold Affair Two**

63 starts 13-10-12 (\$55,470)

**Texas Gold – Olgers Affair**

**Handy stayer finished third behind Miata last week. Big price if she gets a start.**

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

**Mick Floyd**

1<sup>st</sup> Irma Bale  
2<sup>nd</sup> Destini Fireball  
3<sup>rd</sup> Miata

**Ron Hawkswell**

1<sup>st</sup> Irma Bale  
2<sup>nd</sup> Miata  
3<sup>rd</sup> Bell Haven

**Rob Testa**

1<sup>st</sup> Irma Bale  
2<sup>nd</sup> Bell Haven  
3<sup>rd</sup> Miata

**Tab Sportsbet Fixed Odds market for the RSN Sandown Cup**

<b>\$177,500 Group 1 RSN Sandown Cup (715m)</b>			
<b>Box</b>	<b>Greyhound</b>	<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Price</b>
	Bell Haven	Ted Medhurst	\$7
	Maddison Dee	Michael Chilcott	\$101
	Miata	Paul Stuart	\$2.60
	Destini Fireball	Norm Rinaldi	\$4
	Irma Bale	Graeme Bate	\$4.50
	Steve Allen	Andrea Dailly	\$16
	Proven Impala	Joe Borg	\$4.50
	Reckless Charm	Bronwyn Pulis	\$101
	Pumped Up Zarr 1 <sup>st</sup> Res	Kelvyn Greenough	\$12
	Gold Affair Two 2 <sup>nd</sup> Res	Martin Hanke	\$51

## What's happening on race night?

### FREE ENTRY

Become a part owner of a pup from Miata. Everyone attending the RSN Sandown Cup will share in the ownership of one of Miata's first pups to race, just entry "**The Dog, The Money or the The Box?**"

What would you pick?

Would you go for **The Dog**? He might go on to win you \$thousands!

Or would you be tempted by **The Money**? What amount of dollars would tempt you?

Or maybe you want to try your chances of winning a Mazda Car, a Jayco Caravan, Cash from Momentum Gaming or a Jetset North Melbourne trip to New York with **The Box**?

Join Eddie McGuire and TAB's Jaimee Rogers for the Great Greyhound Game Show, "**The Dog, The Money or the The Box?**" at this year's RSN Sandown Cup on May 23rd. There'll be \$120,000 in prizes on offer, everyone on course can enter and admission to Sandown is FREE!

There will also be a Punter Club with a \$1000 starting pool, plus TAB have guaranteed a \$250,000 quaddie pool.

Not only will there be a spectacular night of greyhound racing, prizes galore and Eddie McGuire hosting, you can also take out a dining package for the evening in the club's fabulous dining rooms overlooking the track.

For an all-inclusive cost of just \$80 per head, you can feast yourself on our world famous buffet and, not only that, but drinks (beer, wine and soft) are also included. Great value for a great night!

To book please contact the club on 9546 9511.

Facilities at the track include Dining room, snack bar, full tote and bookmaker facilities. Ample parking, and disabled access.

## RSN Sandown Cup Timeline

- 1963** - The race first run on the grass track over 785 yards. The race was then known as the Woolamai Cup and had been first conducted in 1957 when won by Orialta.
- 1964** - A sand track is installed at Sandown Park
- 1971** - Prizemoney increases to \$3,000 to the winner. Paul's Thunder becomes the first greyhound to win two Cups

- 1973** - Distance reduced to 718 metres. Lizrene claims her second Cup
- 1979** - Temlee sires the first off his three consecutive Cup winners
- 1981** - Prizemoney increases to \$12,000 to the winner
- 1984** - Prizemoney increases to \$20,000 to the winner. New Zealander Raurimu wins the Cup.
- 1986** - Bold Trease claims the first of his four Cups
- 1987** - Distance reduced to 716 metres
- 1989** - At five years of age, Bold Trease claims his fourth Cup in emphatic fashion, winning by eight lengths
- 1990** - Bold Trease narrowly misses the Cup final after emerging from retirement
- 1993** - Cup given Group 3 status
- 1995** - Cup upgraded to Group 2 status
- 1996** - Cup upgraded to Group 1 status. Prizemoney increases to \$40,000 to the winner. Distance reduced to 715 metres following reconstruction of Sandown track
- 1999** - Radio Sport 927 becomes naming rights sponsor. Prizemoney increases to \$50,000 to the winner. Smart Attitude wins the race by 9.5 lengths, equalling Lizrene's race record
- 2003** - Group 3 Lizrene Classic moved to April as a logical lead in to the Sandown Cup carnival
- 2004** - Proven Lethal wins in race record time of 42.12 seconds
- 2005** - Best Quoted holds off the fast finishing Texas Gold to claim her second group race victory inside a month
- 2006** - Sargent Major leads all the way to win his first Group 1, he holds off a stout Turbo Uno this followed the shock scratching Texas Gold.
- 2007** - Sandown Cup controversially declared a 'No Race' by stewards after Don Hazzard, the trainer of Sky Hazzard, accidentally released the manual start lever.
- 2009** - Sandown Cup becomes the richest staying event ever offering a series worth \$175,000 and first time winner's purse of \$100,000.
- 2012-** The SGRC announces an increase to the 2013 Cup series with the race worth a record \$177,500 with the winner to receive \$125,000 making it the richest staying race in the world. West Australian superstar Miata started the shortest priced favourite in the events history at \$1.20 after smashing the track record in her heat. However after missing the start badly she finished a gallant third to the Graeme Bate trained Irma Bale, his first Sandown Cup winner.

## RSN Sandown Cup Fact Sheet

**Name:** RSN Sandown Cup

**Status:** Group 1

**Distance:** 715m

**Prizemoney:** \$140,000 (1st: \$100,000 + trophy and rug; 2nd: \$17,500, 3rd: \$8500)

**Date:** Final – Thursday 16 May 2013

Heats – Thursday 23 May 2013

**First run:** 1963 (known as the Woolamai Cup, won by Briar View)

**Race record:** 41.57 – Bobby Boucheau, 2011

**Entry:** FREE entry for the 2013 final

**Biggest winning margin:** 9.5 lengths – (Lizrene 1973, Smart Attitude 1989)

**Smallest winning margin:** Half head (Top Sovereign 1994, Boronia Blossom 1996)

**Multiple Winners:** 4 – Bold Trease (1986-89) 2 – Paul's Thunder (1970-71)

2 – Lizrene (1972-73)

**Going the distance:** 1963 – 785 yards (grass)

1964 – 785 yards (sand)

1973 – 718 metres

1987 – 716 metres

1996 – 715 metres

**Battle of the sexes:** Males have won 9 of the last 14 Cups.

**When in doubt:** Box 1 has provided 6 of the last 23 winners, though none since 2000.

## RSN Sandown Cup Honour Roll

1957 **Orialta**, 1959 **Woodford Chief**, 1961 **Plunkett's Present**, 1963 **Briar View**, 1964 **Haleka Jewel**, 1965 **Venetian Court**, 1966 **Fawn Scout**, 1967 **Charlie Lee**, 1968 **Sprite of Egypt**, 1969 **Local Blend**, 1970 **Paul's Thunder**, 1971 **Paul's Thunder**, 1972 **Lizrene**, 1973 **Lizrene**, 1974 **Corcoran**, 1975 **Tammy Shanta**, 1976 **Brindle Norma**, 1977 **Rani's Copy**, 1978 **Kawati Boy**, 1979 **Miss Tema**, 1980 **Wynlee Wonder**, 1981 **Bianca Lee**, 1982 **Status Supreme**, 1983 **Lead Role**,

1984 Raurimu, 1985 Tashla, 1986 Bold Trease, 1987 Bold Trease, 1988 Bold Trease, 1989 Bold Trease, 1990 Western Creole, 1991 Pixie Eyes, 1992 Village Stomper, 1993 Eliza Dylan, 1994 Top Sovereign, 1995 Keon Star, 1996 Boronia Blossom, 1997 Tonight's Wish, 1998 Red Mystique, 1999 Smart Attitude, 2000 Osti's Joker, 2001 Bentley Babe, 2002 Jennev, 2003 Arvo's Junior, 2004 Proven Lethal, 2005 Best Quoted, 2006 Sargent Major, 2007 "No Race" 2008 Chinatown Lad, 2009 Mantra Lad, 2010 Next Top Model, 2011 Bobby Boucheau and 2012 Irma Bale.



The immortal AGRA Hall Of Fame Superstar Bold Trease with his four Sandown Cups.

Thanks for information supplied by Michael Floyd Sandown Administration.

For more information on the 2013 RSN Sandown Cup, contact Michael Floyd on (03) 9546 9511, or email [mfloyd@sandowngreyhounds.com.au](mailto:mfloyd@sandowngreyhounds.com.au).



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