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GARRARD'S HORSE & HOUND

Even Group 1 Winter Cup Final

by Neil Brown

The Group 1 Garrards Horse and Hound Winter Cup Final has turned into a very even contest after the box draw was conducted following the completion of the five heats held at Albion Park on Thursday night. In a carbon copy of last year's final trainers Tony Apap and Anthony Azzopardi secured two runners each in next week's Group 1 sprint final.

The full field is made up of four Queensland chasers, two Victorian trainers runners and NSW rep's Cosmic Bonus, Tahlia's Way, plus both reserves are from across the border.

Victorian Trainer Anthony Azzopardi seems to hold the whip hand with 2016 Melbourne Cup winner Ando's Mac and fastest heat winner the impressive Nangar Rock.

Ando's Mac had to work hard early from box four, however once he found the front he looked in no danger of defeat winning well first up on the track in 29.84.

Nangar Rock also first up at Albion Park raced away for a strong performance in a fast 29.73. He has done all his racing in New South Wales arriving in Victoria in the middle of June and racked up wins at Ballarat and Shepparton. When racing in NSW he won in fast time on a couple of occasions at Wentworth Park and recorded smart best of the night efforts at Bulli.

First up after two months off Outside Pass finished a handy second to the Evelyn Harris trained Cosmic Bonus, she made the final last year finishing second to Zambora Brockie and has drawn well again in box two. Cosmic Bonus did a good job from the eight-box running 29.99.

Four-time Winter Cup winning trainer Tony Brett has extremely smart youngster Fast Times in the final he recorded a brilliant heat win leading all the way in 29.76.

He has had no luck with the box draw coming up with the four but has the ability to perhaps make it cup number five for Queensland's premier trainer. The Winter Cup has been a great race for the Brett family Tony's dad Dave also won the cup twice in 1994 and 1998.

Tony Apap's second finalist is Bubble Guppy he won his heat from box eight in 29.92 and has again drawn wide in the final. The other finalist is Queenslander Shoes To Fill, he finished a solid second behind Ando's Mac to qualify for the final.

GROUP ONE – GARRARDS WINTER CUP \$75,000 to the winner

Box Draw and Local Market for the Garrard's Winter Cup Final 520m:

\$7	5,000 to the winner Group 1 G	arrard's Winter Cup Fina	l 520m	
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price	B/T
1	Cosmic Bonus (NSW)	Evelyn Harris	\$3.50	29.85
2	Outside Pass	Tony Apap	\$10	29.81
3	Tahlia's Way (NSW)	John Dart	\$34	29.93
4	Fast Times	Tony Brett	\$3.20	29.75
5	Nangar Rock (VIC)	Anthony Azzopardi	\$6.50	29.73
6	Shoes To Fill	Terry Auckram	\$17	29.75
7	Bubble Guppy	Tony Apap	\$13	29.88
8	Ando's Mac (VIC)	Anthony Azzopardi	\$3.50	29.84
9/2	Joe's Drinking (RES) (NSW)	John Dart	\$34	30.07
10	Tooka Turn (RES) (NSW)	Lee Wylie	\$13	29.98

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

John Brasch					
1 st Ando's Mac					
2 nd Nangar Rock					
3 rd Fast Times					

Paul Dolan

1st Fast Times

2nd Outside Pass

3rd Ando's Mac

Luke Gatehouse 1st Ando's Mac 2nd Nangar Rock 3rd Shoe's To Fill

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE NIGHT



We are getting ready to rock for the finale of the 2017 Greyhound Winter Carnival, featuring the Group 1 Garrard's Horse & Hound Winter Cup on Thursday night July 6!

Headlining the on-course entertainment is the Killer Queen Experience playing all their classic hits live! There's plenty of attractions for all the family with 10 kids bikes to be given away along with \$500 in UBET betting vouchers!

Don't miss any of the action, to book a function or to find out more, visit brisgreys.com or call 3862 1744 today!

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, Iceni Princess 92, Toban Leah 94, Flying Amy 95, Roanokee 96, Wine Glass 97, Winged Runner 99, Mint Mojo 2001, Elite State 2003, 2004 Trewly Special and the only duel winner Glen Gallon in 2012-13. Tony Brett made it four wins in a row in 2014 with Flash Reality. Listed below is the full honour roll.

***Event held twice in 1986 January & December, Held at the Gabba 1978 - 1992, Albion Park 1993 to Present

Year	Winner	Trainer	Time	Year	Winner	Trainer	Time
1978	Brigadier North	Harold Follett	33.00	1999	Winged Runner	John Reimer	30.19
1979	Katie's Disco	Steve Coleman	32.74	2000	Short Model	Lorraine Patterson	30.00
1980	Wings Of Steel	David Keep	32.92	2001	Mint Mojo	Ray Watson	30.59
1981	Call Me Roscoe	Ray Gatti	32.84	2002	Awesome Machine	Greg Stella	30.11
1982	Glanzend	Ernie Hill	32.60	2003	Elite State	Reg Kay	29.97
1983	Duration	Jim Roy	32.91	2004	Trewly Special	Tina Womann	30.16
1984	Acacia Park	Ron Brown	32.90	2005	Hades Rocket	Darren McDonald	29.90
1985	Amber Flash	Tony Zammit	32.89	2006	Fenceline	Engin Gemci	29.92
1986	Sharyn's Vogue	L Plunkett	33.08	2007	Big Swell	Tina Womann	30.06
1986	Fifi She's Not	Bill Moawad	32.61	2008	Made To Size	Reg Kay	30.39
1987	Dancing Gamble	Pauline Fruend	32.75	2009	Trew Millions	Tina Womann	30.17
1988	Golden Fox	Dennis Reid	32.99	2010	(Not Held)		
1989	Son of Ella	Pat Masters	32.63	2011	Iso Octane	Tony Brett	29.93
1990	Highly Blessed	Doug Ferremi	32.47	2012	Glen Gallon	Tony Brett	29.86
1991	Soldier On	R Drummond	32.60	2013	Glen Gallon	Tony Brett	29.80
1992	Iceni Princess	Peter Gilmore	32.93	2014	Flash Reality	Tony Brett	29.71
1993	National Leader	Pat Davis	30.39	2015	Fabulous Storm	Reg Hazelgrove	29.83
1994	Toban Leah	Dave Brett	30.35	2016	Zambora Brockie	Anthony Azzopardi	29.72
1995	Flying Amy	Ron Ball	29.99	2017			
1996	Roanokee	Roger Green	30.06	2018			
1997	Wine Glass	Pat Ryan	30.34	2019			
1998	Shady Macbeth	Dave Brett	30.28	2020			



Last Year's Melbourne Cup winner Ando's Mac winning his heat of the Winter Cup (Pic Box 1 Photography)

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