



MEDIA RELEASE

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“Size Can Matter takes the Perth Cup on a big night of racing out West”

High speed Queensland youngster Size Can Matter captured the Group 1 Sky Channel Perth Cup final in brilliant fashion with a very impressive all the way win last Saturday night.

Beginning like a rocket from the “squeeze” box 4 Size Can Matter (\$5.00) took control in the run to the first turn with the favourite Whippy’s Image after a slow start in hot pursuit, the classy white chaser held the fence around the first turn and down the back straight he showed the superior speed. The Adelaide Cup winner was trying hard but wasn’t making any ground. As “Whippy’s” started to wilt new challengers appeared on the scene with West Australian track specialist Back Tonight (\$9.40), racing into the picture from well back. He looked a winning chance as they came into the home straight however Size Can Matter found another gear kicking near the line to win by a length and half in 30.22.



Size Can Matter leads all the way in the Perth Cup (All Pics Courtesy Joe Mulder)

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Mandagery Man (\$5.70) finished his usual creditable third after getting into all sorts of trouble early. Again just failing in a Group 1 his future will be decided this week but a stud career appears more than likely. Proven Alias was fourth with the rest of the field not far behind him with a disappointing favourite Whippy's Image last after making the early running. Trainer Jason Thompson indicating after the race she has had a long campaign and may need a rest.

Greyhounds WA delivered once again with a spectacular evening of greyhound racing, a cup crowd of 4760 down a little from last year's record but very healthy indeed and a bit more comfort for on-course patrons. The big crowd didn't mind a bet with on-course figures of \$224,000, and \$362,000 off-course the second biggest total ever, slightly behind the 2007 Cup meeting.

Greyhounds WA CEO David Simonette was very pleased with the night.

"It was another successful night for us, the carnival is growing in stature and national acceptance each year with the standard of nominations for both the Cup and Galaxy this year, I think the best we have ever had. We try hard to provide a diverse range of family activities to keep the big crowd entertained all night." Simonette said.

Size Can Matter is a White & Fawn dog whelped April 2006 he is raced and was bred by Julie Edmondson and he is trained by Reg Kay at Lowwood in Queensland. Size Can Matter is by Kay's super sprinter Elite State from Queen Size (Deep North x Ultra Queen) he has raced 19 times for nine wins and eight placings with the Perth Cup first prize of \$125,000, it took his overall stake earnings to \$157,375.



Owners Julie Edmondson & Reg Kay with Size Can Matter after the win

Trainer Reg Kay had nothing but praise for greyhound racing in the west he has stayed three weeks with former Queensland friends Bob & Lee Biddle and will be back in May for a crack at the Group 2 WA Derby.

"It is certainly flying over here I've never seen anything like it big crowds and a very well organized event, it has been fantastic the dog raced up to his best and that's all you can ask for he did a great job." Kay said.

"You probable need the time to come early and give your dogs a look at the track before the series it stood us in good stead this time and the dogs improved each week." Kay said.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Proven Alias (\$5.60), 5th Torque Bale (\$18.40), 6th Keeko Bale (\$36.50), 7th Miss Hot Gossip (\$6.30) and Whippy's Image (\$3.60fav).

Listed below is the Perth Cup honour roll it has been won by some outstanding sprinters over the years most coming from the eastern states. The race has had a number of sponsors over the years and was know as the Brownes Gold Cup from 1976 to 1986. In 1987 it was called the Australis Mining Gold Cup, in 88 it was the Fairplay Gold Cup then from 1989 until 1992 it was called the Winfield Gold Cup. In 1993 a long sponsorship begun with Be Active and it was known as the Be Active Gold Cup in 1993 and 94 before being called the Be Active Perth Cup until this year when the club welcomed their new sponsor Sky Channel.

1976 **Marcus Rate**, 1977 **Canonero's Gift**, 1978 **Biafra's Son**, 1979 **Rare Discovery**, 1980 **White Panther**, 1981 **General Jeff**, 1982 **Wotta Wizard**, 1983 **Superstar**, 1984 **Legatee**, 1985 **Supreme Carmen**, 1986 **Farquhar**, 1987 **Pretty Fearless**, 1988 **Karinya Flash**, 1989 **Miss Crisp**, 1990 **Sand Pebble**, 1991 **Frantic Night**, 1992 **Wynlee Supreme**, 1993 **Amy's Doll**, 1994 **Just Like Whisky**, 1995 **Brisk Bill**, 1996 **Tenthill Doll**, 1997 **Star Tribute**, 1998 **Rapid Journey**, 1999 **Bliss Bale**, 2000 **Nifti Fire**, 2001 **Sammy Mint**, 2002 **Modern Assassin**, 2003 **Elgrando**, 2004 **Kilby Supreme**, 2005 **Sun Hero**, 2006 **Superman** and 2007 **Betty's Angel**.

GALAXY FINAL

Earlier in the evening the big crowd were brought to their feet with excitement when local staying star Elektra (\$7.70) staged one of her barn storming performance's to run down Gunnadoo Magic (\$4.90) and favourite Chinatown Lad (\$1.70fav) recording her first Group 1 victory in the \$75,000 to the winner Sky Channel Galaxy Final over 715 metres.

Standing the leaders up some 15 lengths early in the race she started her long ranging run when the field was well into the back straight. As she has done so many times in her carrerr she weaved her way past runners storming home between the leaders to snatch victory in the shadows of the post. The crowd noise was deafening as there is no greater excitement in greyhound racing than witnessing this type of win.

Last year the mighty Miss Grub performed the task many times and who could ever forget the immortal Hall of Famer Bold Trease of the middle 80's whose racing style was the same as Elektra's.



Elektra storms home to win the Galaxy (All Pics Courtesy Joe Mulder)

Owner-trainer Keith Harding has done a marvellous job with his aging stayer since he brought her to the west. She was certainly a quality performer in Victoria with numerous city wins including a Group 2 Sale Cup, the 2006 AGRA Run of the Year. However she has enjoyed a new lease on life since arriving last year and has now won some 15 races three over the 642 and 12 over the 715.

Elektra turned four years of age in February but is racing like a youngster and has become very much a crowd favourite at Cannington. Race time was 41.48 a personal best and was a brilliant run comparable with track record holder Chinatown Lad's 41.46 in last week's heat. The hot favourite was a handy performance again after he was up a kilo in weight and he couldn't sustain his front running tactics for a third week. It will be interesting to see how the Tasmanian star performs at Sandown if heads there in May for the Group 1 Sandown Cup.

Keith Harding has long been regarded in West Australian as one of their best mentors, Saturday night's Galaxy win was his third after training the first ever winner in 1982 the outstanding Afro Freeway, a greyhound that holds the WA record for the most consecutive wins at 15 and he combined with his daughter Jodie to win the Galaxy in 1997 with Gemarley Park.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Ready To Star (\$8.00), 5th Fancy Penny (\$12.80), 6th Daphne Mavis (\$29.10), 7th Speedy Lino (\$48.50) and Tayza (\$44.70).

Elektra is raced by Keith & Daniel Harding and trained by Keith at Southern River in WA. She is a Black Bitch whelped February 2004 by Primo Uno from Natural Class (Lansley Bale x Hoppy's Star). Elektra has won 23 of her 80 starts and has been placed on 31 occasions and with the \$75,000 first prize for the Galaxy it took her current stake earnings to \$226,745.

The Galaxy first became a group race in 2002 as the major distance support race to the Perth Cup Carnival prior to then it was conducted as a minor feature and was first run in 1982.

1982 **Afro Freeway**, 1983 **Supreme Carmen**, 1984 **Aulfee**, 1985 **Lady Temlock**, 1986 **Abilene**, 1987 **Lassie's Girl**, 1988 **Red Rambo**, 1989 **Ghetto's Glider**, 1990 **Busy City**, 1991 **Galahad County**, 1992 **Petite Emma**, 1993 **Cousin Johnny**, 1994 **Floral Kwondo**, 1995 **Wits End**, 1996 **Rocket Racer**, 1997 **Gemarly Park**, 1998 **Paradise Street**, 1999 **Harvard Bale**, 2000 **Alencia Bale**, 2001 **"Not held"** 2002 **Jennev** 2003 **Why Complain** 2004 **Winter** 2005 **Best Quoted**, 2006 **Ronray Dancer** and 2007 **Flashing Floods**.

Victoria's only taste of success on the night after last year's clean sweep was a win in the Group 3 Sky Channel Perth Cup Consolation. Nitro Nori led throughout for Darren McDonald in 30.34 while Reg Kay chalked up a winning double taking the second consolation with Made To Size the favourite and a half brother to the Cup winner, he found the front early from box one and led all the way in 30.27.

The curtain fell on very successful \$500,000 Autumn Chasing Carnival that appears to be going from strength to strength. The West had again showcased Australia's best chasers in the Sky Channel Group 1 Perth Cup (\$125,000 to the winner) and Group 1 Galaxy (\$75,000) and there is no doubt West Australia is a great place to race.



For more information please contact:

Neil Brown
AGRA Publicity Officer
Tel: 03 97691234
Mob: 0423 129 950

Murray Nicol
AGRA Executive Officer
Tel: 02 96465711
Mob: 0417 225 585