



MEDIA RELEASE

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“UNO IT’S A GROUP ONE”

By Joshua King

For the third successive year a Victorian has taken out the Sky Channel Brisbane Cup with the Jason Thompson trained Uno Joel crowned the 2007 Group 1 champion. After contesting the Group 1 Melbourne Cup final just two weeks ago Uno Joel was sent out a 10/1 outsider and unwanted in betting all week behind race favourites Mandagery Man and Hot To Rumble.

After the scratching of Give Me Five early in the week, first reserve Super Hornet entered the field and led the field early as was expected. El Galo for David Robartson settled second on the outside and the two headed into the first turn ahead of Mandagery Man (\$2.40 eq fav) and Hot To Rumble (\$2.40 eq fav) with surprisingly no casualties at the first turn.

Mandagery Man made his move along with Anarchy on the outside to make a line of four leaving the back straight but the pressure was too much with all four runners colliding gifting Uno Joel (\$8.00) a rails passage around the turn.



Uno Joel just hangs on to win the Brisbane Cup (All Pics Corey Pearce)

Coming from last early Uno Joel took the lead into the home straight and held off a final charge from Mandagery Man surviving a judges’ print by a nose. Hot To Rumble for Steve Kavanagh stormed into third three quarters of a length away after only seeing daylight late.

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AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

For the second year running Wayne Vassallo led the winner of the Group 1 Brisbane Cup onto the track having trained the 2006 Cup winner Pure Burst.

“Last year was brilliant because I was the trainer but this is great for Jason,” said Vassallo. “He deserves this as does the dog, it was a huge run. He went from last to fifth down the back straight then from fifth to first around the home turn. Huge run.”

Uno Joel was coming out of a semi-successful Melbourne Cup campaign in which he qualified for the final but a fair share of bad luck saw him finish seventh.

“He was unlucky in the Melbourne Cup. I thought he could’ve finished third but he copped a few bad checks,” said Vassallo. “He’s been a bit slow out lately as he was again tonight so that might be a focus when he gets back to Melbourne.”

While celebrations went on in the Uno Joel camp Mandagery Man could soon be voted Australia’s unluckiest greyhound with trainer Sam Sultana devastated after his dog faced defeat in another Group 1 event.

“Honestly I’d rather get beat 10 lengths than a nose,” said Sultana. “I just don’t know what I’ve got to do to win one.”

Mandagery Man looked all over a winner approaching the home turn, railing underneath early leader Super Hornet. But with just three lengths covering the entire field something had to give and while Mandagery Man caught the brunt of the collision Uno Joel got away and presented winning owner Mark Alder with the \$55,000 to-the-winner cheque.

Uno Joel will now head back to Melbourne for a tilt at a few group races. “There are a few good races down south coming up like the Cranbourne Cup and others so I’m sure Jason will have a game plan,” said Vassallo.



Wayne Vassallo, Mark Alder and family with Uno Joel after winning the Sky Channel Brisbane Cup final on Thursday night. Corey Pearce pic.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Anarchy (\$26.00), 5th Super Hornet (\$8.00), 6th Inastare (\$21.00 fav), 7th Gozo Smile (\$7.50) and El Galo (\$11.00).

Uno Joel is Black Dog whelped October '04 he is by Primo Uno from Stumbler's Lass (Awesome Assassin x Pride Of Dalmore). Uno Joel is raced by Mark Alder and trained by Jason Thompson he has raced on 40 occasions for 13 wins and 19 placings and the \$55,000 first prize for the Group 1 Brisbane Cup took his overall stake earnings to \$107,540.

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AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

The Brisbane Cup has had a few name changes when it was first run in 1972 and won by Victorian Garron Court the race was known as the Gabba Sprint Championship. It remain that name until 1976. It was then called the Brisbane Cup from 1977 until 1981 changed in 1982 to be known as the Coca-Cola Cup until 1999 when it changed back to the Brisbane Cup. The race was conducted at the Gabba until the track closed in 1992 and since has been staged at Albion Park. Listed below is the Honour Roll containing some of the champion greyhounds among the past winners.

1972 **Garron Court**, 1973 **Top Simbi**, 1974 **Mister Oollee**, 1975 **Alpha Brava**, 1976 **Clover Duke**, 1977 **Rebel Attack**, 1978 **Young Breeze**, 1979 **Acclaim Star**, 1980 **General Jeff**, 1981 **Picture This**, 1982 **Peter Glider**, 1983 **Acacia Park**, 1984 **National Lass**, 1985 **Super Max**, 1986 **Pretty Fearless**, 1987 **Whip Tip**, 1988 **Dancing Gamble**, 1989 **Golden Fox**, 1990 **Whisky Bale**, 1991 **No It's Not**, 1992 **White Coonowrin**, 1993 **Star Title**, 1994 **Toss The Teddy**, 1995 **Flying Amy**, 1996 **Silver Pageant**, 1997 **Barrio Babe**, 1998 **Questions**, 1999 **Bob's One**, 2000 **Kantarn Bale**, 2001 **Tricky Creek**, 2002 **Tricky Creek**, 2003 **Bogie Leigh**, 2004 **Malfoy** 2005 **Pororooca** and 2006 **Pure Burst**.



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