



Media Release
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GCA GREYHOUND OF THE MONTH AWARD MARCH 2022

“MAMBO MONELLI”

The GCA Greyhound of the Month for March 2022 has been awarded to star West Australian stayer Mambo Monelli, after he took out the Group 1 Galaxy, heat and final at Cannington making him unbeaten for the month.



Mambo Monelli after winning the Galaxy at Cannington.

With the recent retirement of reigning Australian Greyhound Of The Year Tommy Shelby, Mambo Monelli gave connections plenty of reasons to smile at Cannington on Perth Cup night.

Steve Withers and wife Kira only recently made the difficult decision to retire “The People’s Dog” Tommy Shelby, with Mambo Monelli becoming the newest addition to the leading kennel.

Mambo Monelli repaid that faith leading from start to finish in the Group One Sky Racing Galaxy final.

Purchased by the After Party syndicate, managed by Steve Withers' wife Kira; the black and white flash was all the rage heading into the \$100,000-to-the-winner final at \$1.50 with greyhound bookmakers off the back of five successive prior victories.

Once the lids flew, the son of Se Tali Sundance and Camelia Monelli went straight to the lead and led throughout the 715m journey in 41.59. Mambo Monelli also broke the 275m record in the process, clocking 15.63 with the previous record benchmark at 15.67.

In addition to his sixth straight win, it was his 19th salute overall from 41 starts, with his prize money total now sitting at \$237,180 thanks to the Galaxy's addition.

Victorian staying star Mepunga Ruby tried desperately to eat into the winning margin, finishing 2.25 lengths away in second, with Zipping Virginia topping off an incredible weekend for the Finn and Hallinan families, by securing third spot.

Handler Kira Withers was beaming from ear-to-ear post-race, confirming she was in fact "holding her breath for the entire race."

"We're so proud of him, he's just going from strength to strength (each) week. He's battled a couple of little niggly issues and to come out and do this tonight, it's a dream come true."

As usual there were some great greyhounds competing in March on various tracks around Australia. We had eight Group races decided in a very busy month. However, in a very even month Mambo Monelli got the nod for consistent top-level racing with two wins from two starts and he has now won 10 of his last 11 starts nine in the best time of the night including a Group 1.

Mambo Monelli is a Black & White Dog whelped August 2019 by Se Tali Sundance from Camelia Monelli (Fabregas x Jackie Bale). He is raced by owners the After Party Syndicate and trained by Steve Withers at Casuarina in West Australia. He has now won 19 races and been placed 12 times from his 41 starts. Mambo Monelli's overall prizemoney stands at \$237,180.

GCA congratulates owners the After Party Syndicate, trainer Steve Withers and Mambo Monelli on being awarded the GCA Greyhound of the Month for March 2022. He joins Jarick Bale and Jungle Deuce as the first GCA Greyhound of the Month winners for 2022.

Thanks to story by Dimity Maher Australianracinggreyhound Website

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