



MEDIA RELEASE
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Ladbrokes

Victorian Superstars race away with the Nationals

By Jeff Collerson GRNSW Website

Fernando Bale (\$1.50) proved himself the greatest sprinter of all time by making a one act affair of Saturday night's Group 1 Ladbrokes National Sprint Championship and the good news is the mighty Victorian-trained dog is set to return to NSW for the Dapto Megastar.

On Saturday the Andrea Dailly-trained, Paul Wheeler-owned greyhound gave another flawless exhibition to lead from the first turn and win by five-and-a-half lengths from NSW warrior Bessy Boo (\$6.20), with Queensland-trained, Hunter Valley-owned Keybow (\$5.80) just under two lengths away third.



It was Fernando Bale's sixth Group 1 victory and his 10th in succession at Wentworth Park, with the champ stopping the clock at a personal best 29.26 after equalling his third split sectional record of 17.56.

"Fernando's next start is likely to be in the Dapto Megastar on September 11," Andrea Dailly's husband Tom said after the race.

"I said before tonight's race that I was happy with box five because for some reason it is one of the better

draws at Wentworth Park.

"And Wenty is a track Fernando Bale absolutely loves."

Bessy Boo's trainer Christine Proctor was justifiably proud of her dog's second placing.

"It's no disgrace to be beaten by a sensational greyhound like Fernando Bale," Proctor said.

And Kel Lean, owner of Keybow, was also thrilled with his dog's third position.

"He was the oldest dog in the race and has now contested 10 group finals and been unplaced in only one of them."

Fernando Bale's win lifted his earnings to \$873,110.

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AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

The field in finishing order after the placings with starting price, Nero Bolt \$29.50, Margins \$10.40, Jack Kade \$24.00, Breaker's Tip \$49.40 and Alex's Entity \$60.70.

Fernando Road is raced by Paul Wheeler and trained by Andrea Dailly he is a White & Dark Brindle dog whelped March 2013 by Kelos Fusileer from Chloe Bale (Malawi's Prince x Burgundy Bale). Fernando Bale has won 27 of his 34 starts and has been placed on four occasions after the first prize of \$75,000 for the National Sprint Championship his current stake earnings stand at \$873,110.

The Mighty Sweet It Is does it again in Distance Championship for a second time

It was Victoria's night, Sweet It Is (\$1.50) taking out the Group 1 Ladbrokes National Distance Championship with a new track record.

Sweet It Is, trained in Victoria by her owner Braden Finn, has now earned \$976,806 and was always going to win on Saturday night when she was fourth away and settled down in third place.

Sweet It Is has rarely been so close to the pacemakers and after being second leaving the back straight she hit the front on the home bend to win by nearly nine lengths in 41.52.

That took 0.01 off the 720m WP record set by Xylia Allen in April, 2014 while Lady Toy (\$4.30) completed a Victorian quinella when she finished a great second after completely bungling the start. With West Aussie Deadly Boy (\$31.20) third.



Sweet It Is in action

Sweet It Is a Black bitch whelped November 2011 by Mogambo from Off Springer (Flying Penske x Skullring). She raced and trained by Braden Finn at Herne Hill in Victoria. She has now won 24 races and been placed 21 times from her 64 starts. The National Distance Championship first prize of \$75,000 brings her overall prizemoney to \$976,350.

The field in finishing order after the placings with starting price, Lillycette \$8.60, Psychotic Gold \$29.50, Lord Golec \$20.40, Mullaway \$14.10 and Ada Mary \$38.70.

For more information please contact:

Neil Brown
AGRA Publicity Officer
Tel: 03 97691234
Mob: 0423 129 950
nbrown@agra.com.au

Howard Ashton
AGRA Executive Officer
Tel: 08 8243 7100
Mob: 0438 042 838