



MEDIA RELEASE
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**National Sprint Final a smart win for New South
Wales' star Chica Destacada**

New South Wales sprinter Chica Destacada (\$4.20) showed tons of courage to win the National Sprint Championship final at Cannington on Saturday night. Drawn perfectly in box two she found the front early holding the lead out of the straight the first time with a first section of 5.59. Under extreme pressure off the back from a number of dogs running on, in particular Victorian Crackerjack Dak she toughed it out holding the fast finishing local sprinters Star Recall (\$3.90) and Zelemar Fever (\$10.10) to claim the coveted Group 1 glory. Chica Destacada took the title back NSW for the first time since Smooth Fancy won in Adelaide in 2010.



**Doreen Drynan with Chica Destacada Sky Racing's Dave Carlson & NSW GBOTA
President Geoff Rose**

Time for the final was 30.27 with the two Linda Britton trained placegetters running right up to their best but unable to gun the leader. Chica Destacada means outstanding girl in Spanish and given she has only had 26 starts for 11 wins she has every opportunity to live right up to her name sake in the coming months. She is a vastly improved sprinter since racing in the West Australian Oaks earlier in the year.

The writing was well and truly on the wall after back to back 29.60 wins at Wentworth Park in the heat and final of the National Sprint series.

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The win was also a fitting tribute to her highly respected mentor Doreen Drynan the Group One National Sprint Final was her fourth attempt at the title and she certainly deserved to eventually win it.

“I can’t believe it! Fourth time lucky!” Drynan laughed.

“Coming over for the Oaks put her in good stead for the Nationals.”

“The big thing is that I bred her, and I am so thankful that her owner let me have her back to train.”

Chica Destacada is raced by the Dee And Pee Syndicate and is trained by Doreen Drynan at Llandilo in New South Wales. By Cosmic Rumble form Eluthra (Most Awesome x Buena Sarah). She is a Black Bitch whelped May 2012. She has won 11 of her 26 starts and has been placed on seven occasions and with the \$75,000 first prize for the Sprint Championship took her current stake earnings to \$131,615.

The field in finishing order after the placings with starting price, Crackerjack Dak \$8.50, Bessy Boo \$14.70, Flash Reality \$2.80, Wild Soul \$38.70 and Dominator Girl \$38.00.

Sweet does it again in Distance Championship

Sweet It Is continued the impressive Perth strike rate for Darren McDonald, with three WA group races for three wins, being the Group One Perth Cup with Keybow, the Group Two Cannington Derby with Tiggerlong Amigo and now Saturday night’s Group One National Distance Final.

The win capped off an outstanding couple of days for the Devon Meadows trainer, who was named AGRA trainer of the year 2013-2014 on Friday night at the Esplanade Hotel in Fremantle, per medium of the above success.

Painted Dotty jumped first and led Bingle Monelli and Wag Tail to the first turn. Xylia Allen (\$3.40) and Sweet It Is (\$1.80) settled midfield. Leaving the back straight Xylia Allen railed to the lead and put a few lengths on the field. Sweet It Is switched to the outside in pursuit of the leaders, she had never gotten back worse than fifth in running, a close up position for a finishing burst stayer like she is. It was again a classic race finish involving this mighty little chaser claimed Superstar Xylia Allen in the shadows of the post.

Queenslander Wag Tail (\$7.50) battled on to take third but as expected it was the final that was always going to be fought out by the two star Victorians.

The win was the third of three group titles Sweet It Is has won this year including the Group One Association Cup at Wentworth Park and the Group One Sandown Cup.

The other highlight from the final was the second prize of \$21,250 took Xylia Allen to the highest stake earner in history overtaking local WA superstar Miata’s prizemoney record of \$715,000.

“I am very happy with the win, I am just glad to get dogs capable of winning these races.” Trainer Darren McDonald explained.

“I have a fantastic team of support here in the West Paul and Adel are great and it’s the same at home with my wife Joanne holding the whole thing together she is certainly the backbone of the operation”

“I never expect anything, although I was reasonably confident coming into the race. She likes being dictated to and she likes to know where the dogs are in the race.”

“All group races are good to win, I can’t compare them one to another.”



Sweet It Is with Trainer Darren McDonald and his daughter Ruby

Sweet It Is a Black bitch whelped November 2011 by Mogambo from Off Springer (Flying Penske x Skulring). She raced by the Two Bear's Syndicate and trained by Darren McDonald at Devon Meadows in Victoria. She has now won 11 races and been placed eight times from her 35 starts. The National Distance Championship first prize of \$75,000 brings her overall prizemoney to \$402,910.

The field in finishing order after the placings with starting price, Ash Flash \$11.60, Token McLaren \$35.30, Bingle Monelli \$20.10, Painted Dotty \$30.80 and Queen Marina \$51.30.

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