



MEDIA RELEASE

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“Fenceline All Class In Winter Carnival Cup Win”

GARRARD'S HORSE & HOUND

The Garrard's Horse & Hound Group 1 Winter Carnival Cup last night at Albion Park belonged to one dog and one dog only. Smart Victorian sprinter Fenceline made a one act affair of the rich final and took home all the spoils. Beginning brilliantly from his preferred box eight he crossed the classy field with ease to lead at the first turn and was never troubled out in the front from that point on.

Fenceline (\$4.00) overcame his previous bad luck in big race finals to sweep to a sensational victory. He scored by two lengths over New South Wales visitor Winsome History (\$6.00) with two and a half lengths to local sprint queen Berella Electra (\$10.00) in third.

The race was full of early trouble with local hope Token Jet crashing out in the early stages and causing hot favourite Superman trouble. Runner-up Winsome History loomed into second place in the back straight and it appeared he could run the leader down but Fenceline reeled off a brilliant 12.63 final section and held off the New South Wales dog. Winsome History was runner-up in the Queensland Derby only a month ago.

The winner ran 29.92, with sections of 5.76 and 11.53 and really gave nothing else a chance, it was the first Group victory for owner Peter Bryant and his trainer Engin Gemci. Gemci, 34, has been in greyhound racing just 12 years, while Bryant bought the winner's dam as his first venture into the industry four years ago.

By Light Of Fire Fenceline is from the first litter bred by Bryant, and he has litters by Brett Lee and Awesome Assassin out of Emerald Shoes.

Fenceline will now head home to Victoria and contest the Nationals series in August at the Meadows.

The brindle dog was given to Gemci to train by Bryant when the dog was 18 months old.

“He didn't show much early but within three months he had improved so much we knew we had a top class dog.” said Gemci.

Among his wins are 12 at Sandown, 10 of those in Free For All class.

“He's got a great record at Sandown and while he has won at The Meadows, we've kept him away from that track because unless you lead there a dog can find trouble,” said Gemci.

Fenceline had already been a finalist in the Melbourne Cup and was a reserve for last year's Paws Of Thunder in Sydney.

Clockers were rewarded when Fenceline won. The dog was hand timed to win his heat last week in 30.24 but most clockers got the dog at around 30.01secs. He landed some big bets on the strength of that. Gemci is a fulltime trainer at Pearcedale in Victoria where he has eight in work and another 12 youngsters ready to join the kennel.

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After the placed runners the field finished in the following order Trew Touch (\$13.00), Superman (\$2.80 fav), Spring Gladiator (\$16.00), Token Jet (\$3.40) and Back In Ten (\$31.00).

Fenceline is a brindle dog Whelped January 2003 by Light Of Fire from Emerald Shoes (Farloe Melody x Little Promise), he has now had 61 starts for 30 wins and 16 placings and the \$50,000 first prize for the Winter Carnival Cup took his over all stake earnings to \$149,660.

(Pics Courtesy Corey Pearce)



The Winter Carnival Cup has taken on many different forms over the years and has been conducted also at different times during those years. It was first staged at the Gabba in 1978 and sponsored by famous Queensland brewing company Castlemaine XXXX and known as their Trophy, it was run over the testing 558 metre sprint course. It remained the Castlemaine XXXX Trophy right up until 1992 apart from one year in 1987 when it was called the Christmas Trophy. When racing moved to Albion Park in 1993 the race was called the Christmas Stocking for one year and it continued its Group 1 status that the race had gained in 1991 and maintains currently. The feature dropped back to Group 2 in 1997 and 1998, but returned to Group 1 in 1999. Like many other feature races around Australia in the 90's in was sponsored by the Pet food company Eukanuba from 1994 to 1997 and its subsequent company Nutrience in 1998 and 1999. It the year 2000 the club developed the now successful Winter Carnival at the suggestion of race caller John Brasch and the race became that Carnivals major Group 1 feature the Winter Carnival Cup. It has been won by some champion sprinters over the years and the following is but a few of those stars. Call Me Roscoe 81, Glanzend 82, Acacia Park 84, Dancing Gamble 87, Golden Fox 88, Highly Blessed 90, Icen Princess 92, Toban Leah 94, Flying Amy 95, Roanokee 96, Wine Glass 97, Winged Runner 99, Mint Mojo 01, Elite State 03 and Trewly Special in 2004. Listed below is the full honour roll.

1978 **Brigadier North**, 1979 **Katie's Disco**, 1980 **Wings Of Steel**, 1981 **Call Me Roscoe**, 1982 **Glanzend**, 1983 **Duration**, 1984 **Acacia Park**, 1985 **Amber Flash**, 1986 **Fifi She's Not**, 1986 **Sharyn's Vogue**, 1987 **Dancing Gamble**, 1988 **Golden Fox**, 1989 **Son Of Ella**, 1990 **Highly Blessed**, 1991 **Soldier On**, 1992 **Icen Princess**, 1993 **National Leader**, 1994 **Toban Leah**, 1995 **Flying Amy**, 1996 **Roanokee**, 1997 **Wine Glass**, 1998 **Shady Macbeth**, 1999 **Winged Runner**, 2000 **Short Model**, 2001 **Mint Mojo**, 2002 **Awesome Machine**, 2003 **Elite State**, 2004 **Trewly Special**, 2005 **Hades Rocket**.



Fenceline with Engin Gemci

Thanks to David Brasch Queensland GRA Website for story content.



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