



## MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 18 November 2016

### Ando's Mac wins TAB Melbourne Cup in a boilover

For the first time in 16 years a greyhound trained outside of Victoria has won the richest greyhound race in the world with Ando's Mac taking out the \$600,000 Group 1 TAB Melbourne Cup on Friday night.

The NSW based dog has won its connections \$420,000 in prize money after winning the race for trainer Jason Mackay in 29.48 sec.

Despite the greyhound slightly straining his deltoid muscle in his heat last week, McKay was confident the first few days' rest following his heat gave him the chance to be back in tip top form. And that proved to be just the case.

"I'm lost for words," McKay said.

"Sandown is the home of greyhound racing and the dream of winning a race like this is why greyhound trainers get out of bed in the morning.

"I have to thank (Victorian trainer) Anthony Azzopardi who has looked after Ando's Mac for me this week while I went to NSW. He treated the dog like it was his own."

Azzopardi trained favourite Zambora Brockie in Friday night's race. Ando's Mac managed to snare the win ahead of second-placed Jesaulenko and South Australian greyhound Worm Burner.

The Group One TAB Melbourne Cup was first run in 1956 and it is the first time since 1992 that four interstate trained greyhounds have made the final. Earlier tonight It's A Bird took out the other Group 1 race for the night, the \$145,000 Bold Trease for trainer Wayne Vassallo.

Handler Karen Pitt, Vassallo's wife, was over the moon.

"I thought she was our best chance as she was the more seasoned of our two runners," Pitt said.

"Once she hit the front I thought she would be hard to beat and that is what happened."

Thousands of people turned out on greyhound racing's night of nights with one patron being drawn to spin the \$1.3 million Sandown lucky wheel and won \$10,000.

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