



AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

MEDIA RELEASE

27th October



2006 Sky Channel Topgun Jaimandy Coup

Paul Donohue unleashed greyhound racing's latest superstar at Sandown Park tonight when Jaimandy Coops proved too good in taking out the \$179,000 Group 1 Sky Channel Topgun.

Despite his reputation as a tardy starter, Jaimandy Coops began well to trail only pre-post favourite Fenceline (\$3.50) through the first turn, while the well-supported Train A Journey (\$9.80) pushed through strongly on the rails.

With Vapour Whirl (\$5) a further length away, the tightly bunched quartet opened a three-length break on the rest of the field down the back straight. By the turn off the back straight Jaimandy Coops had drawn level and soon swept past his rivals, extending his margin around the home turn to finish 4.75 lengths clear of the gallant Train A Journey, with Fenceline hanging on for third a nose ahead of long-shot and recent G1 Paws of Thunder winner Suave Fella (\$21.70).

Jaimandy Coops' time of 29.60 was the second fastest Sky Channel Topgun on record, only bettered by Whisky Assassin's track record breaking run of 29.40 in the 2004 Sky Channel Topgun.



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It was his second Group race success, having sensationally claimed the Group 3 Canberra Cup in September.

Earlier in the day, two of Jaimandy Coop's littermates Jaimandy Bonelly and Jaimandy Mick, won at Wangaratta. Donohue bred and reared the dog and has always had a high opinion of his ability. In an ominous sign for his rivals, Donohue believes that the lightly raced speedster still has improvement in him.

Wangaratta's latest star will now press on towards the \$50,000 winner-takes-all Group 2 Shootout on 16 November. Confident of his dog's chances, Donohue paid the \$5,000 entry fee prior to Jaimandy Coops' win.

Jaimandy Coops is likely to encounter Oxley Gazelle in the Shootout after Tina Womann's rising star became the fastest bitch ever around the Lightwood Road circuit, running 29.48 to take out the World Class Sires special event.

Oxley Gazelle broke four-time Group 1 winner Paua To Burn's previous mark of 29.49, and was just a length and a half from Bond's track record run of 29.38, set in the 2005 Shootout.

In the process, the daughter of Brett Lee set a new second-sectional record of 18.79 seconds.

After the win Paul Donohue spoke to the Recorder's Gerard Guthrie.

"It was just a privilege to be invited into the race. It was a nerve-wracking time waiting to see whether he got a run or not. I had a lot of sleepless nights because I just dead set wanted to get into the field. It was like winning a Group race just getting in the field.

"I would be very nervous if I had drawn box one or eight because I would have been expecting him to win because I know how good he is, but drawing box five...it's statistically the worst box at Sandown and I thought what chance has he got because you've only got to make one mistake against dogs of that calibre and you're out of the race.

"As it turned out he didn't make a mistake, just like he did in the Canberra Cup. He just seems to rise to the occasion and is a very intelligent dog. He just keeps improving out of sight.

"It means that much to me to win a race like this. It's pretty hard to put it in words at the moment because I haven't had much time to think about it... but it means a helluva lot.

"He'll go to the Shootout now. The four dog format will suit him and while it'll be another red hot field they've got to worry about beating him as well." Donohue said.



The Jaimandy Team after the win

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Donohue has really only trained seriously in the last year and used to be a professional foot runner, he has use some of those techniques with his dogs.

The dog is named after Paul's daughters Jaimee, Mandy (deceased) and his mate Mark "Coops" Cooper.

After the placings the field finished in the following order 4th Suave Fella (\$21.70), 5th Vapour Whirl (\$5.00), 6th Path To Power (\$6.10) 7th Superman (\$4.80) and Brother Knows (\$19.00).

Jaimandy Coops is raced and trained by Paul & Bernie Donohue of Upper Lurg in Victoria's North-East he is a Black dog whelped November 2003 by Awesome Assassin from Speedy Chaos (Droopys Sandy x Minnie Chaos). Jaimandy Coops has won 17 of his 30 starts and has been placed on six occasions and with the \$125,000 first prize for the Top Gun it took his current stake earnings to \$176,010.



The Top Gun field charges into the first turn

(All Pics Paul Munt)

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Listed below are the past Top Gun winners since the race commenced in 1993.

Year	Winner	Trainer	Time
1993	Worth Backing	Carl Haas	30.56
	Golden Currency	Kevin Mugavin Jnr	DH
1994^	New Fox	Dennis Reid	29.98
1995	Rapid Hiker	Philip Newman	29.80
1996	Wylie Boy	George Rose	30.09
1997	Chicago Blue	Brian Furness	30.00
1998	Rapid Journey	Jane Carruthers	29.85
1999*	Mint Magic	Ray Watson	29.97
2000	Placard	Ruth King	29.92
2001*	No Intent	Jason Thompson	30.17
2002	Lindale Blue	Colin Bainbridge	29.76
2003*	Bombastic Shiraz	Darren Cairns	30.06
2004	Whisky Assassin	Jason Thompson	29.40
2005*	Black Enforcer	Tony Brett	30.02
2006	Jaimandy Coops	Paul Donohue	29.60

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