




Group 1 NCA NATIONAL DERBY, The Gardens, Newcastle, Saturday February 5

SPEED MAP

Predicted positions at the first bend

INSIDE RAIL →

 Outa Credit	 Jedd Lion	 Tyson Magic	 Elite Blue Size
 All Magic	 Gnarley Boy	 St Pierre	 Dashing Corsair
		 Silent Guardian	

THE TOP 4

1. Elite Blue Size
2. Silent Guardian
3. St. Pierre
4. Jedd Lion

ANALYSIS BY RUNNER

BOX 1. – 21111– ELITE BLUE SIZE - \$1.70

Career Statistics: 16 starts [12 – 1 – 1]

The Gardens 515m Statistics:

5 starts [4 – 0 – 0]

Heat: 1st running 29.76 seconds [Box 1], beating Bogie Brave by 1.25 lengths

Semi-Final: 1st running 29.42 seconds

[Box 6], beating Silent Guardian by 5 lengths

Undefeated throughout the National Derby series, the Queenslander will go around in the final as the short-priced favourite with his early pace vastly suited to the leader-friendly Gardens circuit. Trained by the legend Reg Kay, he is a full brother to Size Can Matter and half-brother to Made To Size, bloodlines that will see him as a valuable stud commodity once his racing days are over. His semi-final win was extraordinary, crossing from Box 6 to find the lead and extending away from Silent Guardian late to record the fastest time [29.42 seconds] of the series so far. In the semi, he was about three lengths quicker to the first bend than in his heat win. Already a Group winner [2010 G2 Gosford Gold Cup, 515m], he has the big race-experience edge on these and from the coveted rails alley [where he is undefeated], looks the winner.

BOX 2. – 41422 – GNARLEY BOY - \$26.00

Career Statistics: 31 starts [8 – 11 – 4]

The Gardens 515m Statistics:

3 starts [1 – 2 – 0]

Semi-Final: 2nd running 30.13 seconds [Box 7], beaten by St. Pierre

Granted a spot straight into the National Derby semi-final when second to St. Pierre in last year's G3 NSW St. Leger final, he again succumbed to the

front-running sprinter when runner-up in their semi-final encounter. From Queensland, he entered the series off the back of a fast placing to monster dog Budapest over 472 metres at Bulli. Gnarley Boy is a dual feature winner on his home track at Albion Park with victories in the 2009 Eric Thomson Maiden series and the 2009 Albion Park Young Guns, the latter highlighted by his defeat of boom sprinter Mr. Metz. Times stack up against his chances here, as he hasn't broken 30 seconds at The Gardens. He needs to find some 8 lengths to be near the finish and that is highly unlikely.

BOX 3. – 71633 – TYSON MAGIC - \$21.00

Career Statistics: 18 starts [9 – 1 – 5]

The Gardens 515m Statistics:

2 starts [0 – 0 – 2]

Heat: 3rd running 30.00 seconds

[Box 8], beaten by Droopy's Fool and Silent Guardian

Semi-Final: 3rd running 30.15 seconds

[Box 5], beaten by St. Pierre and Gnarley Boy

Tyson Magic, hailing from the Mick Abbott production line on the South Coast, he will look to repeat the deeds of kennelmate Digital Magic, last year's NCA Futurity winner. A win in the 2010 G1 NCA Derby would make it back-to-back NSW Group 1 age classics for the prized Surf Lorian-Dancing Habit litter, with Tyson Magic's full brother Dancing Surf landing the 2009 G1 Vic Peters Classic [520m]. Tyson Magic's task in the final looks tricky, with faultless beginner St. Pierre poised to cut straight in front of him into the first bend; that could see him shunted right back through the field. Lacking the run-home power needed to reel in the leaders, he looks to be a lay option at whatever price can be secured.

RECOMMENDED PLAY

The shift of the time-honoured NCA Derby series from its Wentworth Park base to its new home in the Hunter Valley at The Gardens [Newcastle] has made the event a race that heavily favours on-pace runners. Elite Blue Size fits that bill; he is undefeated throughout the series, and his semi-final win in a near record 29.42 seconds takes him to almost unbeatable territory in tonight's final given his cannonball pace from the lids.

Trained by the legend Reg Kay, he comes up with the prized red rug and from the rails, should be able to hold out St. Pierre into the first bend with main danger Silent Guardian facing the tricky task of carving across the field safely before the hairpin first turn at The Gardens. Elite Blue Size is bound to start in the red, and a price beyond \$1.70 represents good shopping for the Queenslander.

Kennelmate Outa Credit would more than likely win the race if it was staged down the Flemington straight, but on the tight-turning 515-metre Gardens circuit, his mixed box manners place him in the lap of the racing gods as to whether he gets a smooth run or finds big trouble at the first turn. He will be well supported by those looking to recoup investments when he was beaten in both heat and semi-final as a hot favourite, but at anything under each-way odds (\$5.00), he quickly becomes a lay-worthy option in the leader-friendly final.

Recommended bet: Back Elite Blue Size at \$1.70 or better, lay Outa Credit at \$5.00 or under; and look to the value of St. Pierre at around \$15.00.

**BOX 4. – 41451 – ST PIERRE
- \$15.00**

Career Statistics: 20 starts [8 – 4 – 2]

**The Gardens 515m Statistics:
3 starts [2 – 1 – 0]**

**Semi-Final: 1st running 29.73 seconds
[Box 1], beating Gnarley Boy by
5.75 lengths**

Speedy beginner who returns to the scene of his greatest triumph, when he toppled Elite Blue Size and Lochinvar Marlow in a methodical all-the-way display in the 2009 G3 NSW St. Leger [515m] last year. That win granted him a seeding straight into the semi-finals of the 2010 G1 National Derby series where he again used his explosive box speed to full effect. He was never headed, leading from the boxes, recording a slick 29.73 seconds. His hopes depend on him being able to cannon from the lids and head off Elite Blue Size into the back straight. Not many runners get reeled in at The Gardens and, as he is likely to start at well over double figures, he certainly creates a little outsider interest.

**BOX 5. – 32223 – JEDD LION
- \$21.00**

Career Statistics: 34 starts [11 – 8 – 11]

**The Gardens 515m Statistics:
2 starts [0 – 1 – 1]**

**Heat: 2nd running 30.02 seconds [Box
1], beaten by Tuiaki**

**Semi-Final: 3rd running 29.82 seconds
[Box 2], beaten by Elite Blue Size and
Silent Guardian**

The son of Bombastic Shiraz is gunning for more age classic glory after having secured both the 2009 G3 Nowra Puppy Classic [520m] and G2 Dapto Winnebago Classic [520m] around his home base on the South Coast of NSW. His path into the Derby final has been

solid; he was just edged out in his heat behind Tuiaki before sticking firmly to the rails in his semi-final last week when a third behind the more touted pairing of Elite Blue Size and Silent Guardian. The box draw has done him no favours but with Outa Credit tending to walk from the lids, he can get a cart into the race from St. Pierre and pose some threat in the run home. Don't dismiss him, especially if he hovers past the \$26.00 mark.

**BOX 6. – 11344 – OUTA CREDIT
- \$5.00**

Career Statistics: 11 starts [7 – 0 – 2]

**The Gardens 515m Statistics: 2 starts
[0 – 0 – 0]**

**Heat: 4th running 30.04 seconds [Box
7], beaten by Droopy's Fool, Silent
Guardian and co.**

**Semi-Final: 4th running 30.30 seconds
[Box 8], beaten by St. Pierre, Gnarley
Boy and co.**

Trainer Reg Kay has often said that Outa Credit would account for kennelmate Elite Blue Size in a trial but under race conditions, his wayward box manners have left him with two defeats as a well-backed favourite in both heat and semi-final of this year's Derby series. Nominated for 2009 NSW Run of the Year with an astonishing come from behind placing at Wentworth Park, he has had to replicate those sorts of deeds just to sneak into his first Group final. Another of the progeny of champion sire Surf Lorian to be engaged here, he brings the X-factor to the contest but the venue of the race [The Gardens] seems to conspire against his racing style as he needs a more open track with bigger bends. You can never write him off but at anywhere under \$4.00, he will need to be classified a risky proposition.

**BOX 7. – 32234 – ALL MAGIC
- \$41.00**

Career Statistics: 33 starts [8 – 10 – 5]

**The Gardens 515m Statistics: 13 starts
[4 – 3 – 2]**

**Heat: 3rd running 30.14 seconds
[Box 6], beaten by Vagrant and Reddy
To Whine**

**Semi-Final: 4th running 29.99 seconds
[Box 1], beaten by Elite Blue Size,
Silent Guardian and co.**

The fourth son of Surf Lorian to qualify for the 2010 G1 National Derby final, All Magic has had the most track experience of the final field with 13 starts around the Newcastle circuit, netting him four wins. Lacking box speed, he has drifted too far back in running, only to come on late to progress through to the final. Having won just the once from 16 starts when drawn wide [Boxes 6 – 8], the chance of him dropping out and circling the entire field looks remote.

**BOX 8. – 61122 – SILENT
GUARDIAN - \$5.00**

Career Statistics: 21 starts [12 – 6 – 0]

**The Gardens 515m Statistics: 2 starts
[0 – 2 – 0]**

**Heat: 2nd running 29.92 seconds [Box
2], beaten by Droopy's Fool**

**Semi-Final: 2nd running 29.77 seconds
[Box 7], beaten by Elite Blue Size**

Carrying the hopes of the Big V, trainer Darren McDonald will need to find some improvement in Silent Guardian's finishing power after somewhat disappointing heat and semi-final losses. In his heat, he found the lead from the rails but couldn't hold out Droopy's Fool in average time before failing to make up any ground on Elite Blue Size when

HISTORY OF THE NCA DERBY (LAST 5 YEARS)

YEAR	GREYHOUND	TRAINER	BOX	S.P.	MARGIN	TIME
2009	Fedex	J Thompson	2	\$3.80	2.75L	29.37 [515m]
2008	Borat	J Carruthers	6	\$4.50	1.5L	30.17 [520m]
2007	Slater	D Murray	7	\$2.40	4L	29.99 [520m]
2006	Brother Knows	P Turner	8	\$6.00	Head	29.85 [520m]
2005	Eiffella	M Wright	2	\$2.80	4L	29.89 [520m]

a well-beaten second in their semi-final encounter, after getting a lovely cart into the race from out wide. A beaten favourite in the 2009 G1 Hobart 1000 [457m] final, he will take some big race experience from that and travelling doesn't seem to faze the burly Victorian. If the favourite were to blow the start and get cluttered up, he could be the main benefactor; he is superior to that of the other front-runner St. Pierre.

**1ST EMERGENCY – 22135
– KEVIN OH SEVEN****Career Statistics: 12 starts [2 – 4 – 3]****The Gardens 515m Statistics:
12 starts [2 – 4 – 3]****Heat: 3rd running 30.17 seconds [Box 2], beaten by Tuiaki and Jedd Lion
Semi-Final: 5th running 30.06 seconds [Box 8], beaten by Elite Blue Size, Silent Guardian and co.**

Local hope who has had all 12 career starts at The Gardens; he has started at monster odds through the series, but only just missed out on a final appearance when run down by All Magic late. Outclassed.

**2ND EMERGENCY – 16145
– HOT SIZE****Career Statistics: 12 starts [7-1-0]****The Gardens 515m Statistics:
3 starts [1-0-0]****Heat: 4th running 30.15 seconds [Box 1], beaten by Vagrant, Reddy To Whine and co.
Semi-Final: 5th running 30.42 seconds [Box 6], beaten by St. Pierre, Gnarley Boy and co.**

Overshadowed by his litter brother Elite Blue Size, Hot Size hasn't been a major Derby player – unplaced in both his heat and semi-final runs. Out of his class depth against Group racing's next generation, he won't make much of an impression if he somehow snuck into the final field.