



NEW SOUTH WALES HARNESS RACING CLUB LTD.

MEDIA RELEASE

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BUTT RELIEVED

ANTHONY BUTT IS A VERY RELIEVED MAN AFTER THE RELEASE OF THE DRAWS FOR THE SECOND ROUND HEATS OF THE WATPAC INTER DOMINION TODAY.

Butt was thrilled with Mr Feelgood's fighting fourth in the opening round of Watpac ID10, but knew it left him needing luck to qualify for the \$1 final at Menangle on March 7.

A big slice of that luck went Butt's way when the defending Watpac Inter Dominion champion drew well in gate five for the second of four heats over 2030m at Newcastle on Saturday night.

Adding to Butt's good fortune was the fact his main danger, Blacks A Fake, drew out wide in gate nine.

"That's fantastic," Butt said when told the draw. "I was desperate for him to draw inside Blacks A Fake and in a spot where I could find the lead.

"It's fallen into place well. I think he'll have enough speed to cross the four horses drawn inside him and that's half the battle.

"If I lead I'll have my chance to qualify."

Butt said he figured Mr Feelgood needed a top-two finish to be sure of making the final.

"He might even sneak through with a third, depending on the other results, but I hope it doesn't come to that," he said.

"We're really happy with the horse and thought his run excellent at Harold Park. Coming three-wide by himself like that is not his go, but he really fought the race right out.

"I'd love him to get through to the final. That's what he loves the best, sitting back minding his own business while the other big guns put the pressure on each other up front.

"I really think he's a chance to win the final again if he gets a go at it."

Butt said Monkey King, who has drawn well again in gate three at Newcastle, was clearly the horse to beat in the Championship.

"He's had a great season and he showed the other night with his heat win he was still at the top of his game," he said.



Newcastle - Saturday 27th February
Tabcorp Park Menangle - Sunday 7th March



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