

Two out of two for Bell

KENNY BELL made it a night to remember with his first runners at the track this season.

The Belfast licence-holder brought two runners with him and won with both, Bodyline scoring over the sprint distance and Line And Length taking the concluding 525.

Both are the property of Ms Mel Trafford, who went close to finishing top owner at Dowdallshill last year, all of her winners running for the Bell kennel.

An experienced sort who's done most of her recent running at Drumbo Park, Bodyline wore the blue sheet, and benefitted from a vacant trap on her inside. She went down fast to the bend, chased by You're Only Joking, and ticking to the inside went right away to win by almost four lengths in 21.82, Kings Cove putting in a good finish to take the runner-up spot.

There was a good line-up for Line And Length's 525, with Ashcame Nina, a winner at the track on the previous Friday, coming in to replace the absent Ballymaglave. Also there were track regular, Bernini, and Lissarra Star, another who's been strutting his stuff at Drumbo.

The Bell racer was out and away, and after opening up a sizeable gap going down the back, always looked likely to succeed. He maintained a strong gallop all the way, winning by three lengths in a night's fastest 29.36. Bernini put in a strong finish to take the

runner-up spot.

The rest of the 10-race card was highlighted by Make My Days' sprint win and a double for young Navan brothers, Charlie and Peter Sheridan.

Race 1: Six of the ten winners hailed from Meath kennels, beginning with Princess Gaga in this sprint.

Owned by Eva Abedi, Princess Gaga made a flying start to build a big lead on the run to the corner. Coolavanny Mist came away from the chasers to throw down a challenge, but there was no catching the one in front, whose 22.17 was a career-best.

Race 2: Congress Bossman was outsider of the field, but belied his 6/1 quote to win easily for Drogheda owner, Michael Cunningham.

The home-bred (Astronomic-Congress Flow) was drawn on the wide outside, and was the first to show. He led Accountable on the run to the bend, and wasn't hard pressed to hold out for a length-and-a-half win from the Francie Murray-trained newcomer in 22.04.

Race 3: Martin Lanney's Ranger Billy made in two in a row, getting back up to finish a length clear of Dilly Dally.

After the Razidazi Billy dog had seen off Emo Lad's challenge going down to bend, he had Dilly Dally to contend with, the locally-owned bitch grabbing the lead after turning in. But Ranger Billy got another run going, and just short of

the line went to the front again.

Race 4: The locally-owned Coopers Creek made every post a winning one in the opening 525.

Colm Farrelly's home-bred, a son of Pats King and Barton Creek, was chasing a first win on his sixth outing, and showing a huge improvement on recent outings put himself in a favourable position with a swift run to the opening bend.

Having shown four lengths in front of Shauneens Daisy going down the back, Coopers Creek had to run all the way to the line to hold out by a half-length in 29.86.

Race 5: Lady Fabregas was the first of the Sheridan boys' winners, the Droopys Vieri bitch turning in a fine 525 performance to score by almost four lengths in 29.72.

Boasting of just one win from her previous 19 outings, Lady Fabregas was fast away from four, and after showing in front by two lengths on the far side, ran on strongly to increase her advantage over Kielduff Millie. Her time was a career-best.

Race 6: Won by Bodyline.

Race 7: Lukessam proved the stronger in a tight finish, just getting the better of Darragh Robinson's debutant, Cornamaddy Gun.

These two were joined by Blenheim Apollo in the home straight, and in the run to the line, Lukessam - trained by Jimmy Slevin for

Dundalk Monday, February 8



Therese and Catherine Cogan - made it with a head to spare in 22.14.

Race 8: The second of the Sheridan boys' winners, Gibbstown Turbo, won from the front, just like her kennelmate.

The daughter of Crash was in six for the 525, and a quick break and a trouble-free shift over to the inside had her slightly ahead of Clear Bess going down the back.

After seeing off that challenger, Gibbstown stayed on really well to win by three lengths from Watergrange Josh in 29.57.

Race 9: The wonderfully consistent Make My Day

got into double figures with this Open sprint win.

Trained by Dan Kavanagh for his sister, Susan Hennessy, the Brett Lee heavyweight for once vacated his favourite trap six, this time running from next door.

It made not a jot of difference. He was quickly into his stride and had a couple of lengths' lead on his chief market rival, Impressible, at the bend. There was more in it than that early in the home straight, but Impressible closed to get to within three-quarters of a length of the 21.59 winner.

Race 10: Won by Line And Length.



ICC President Brian Divilly and CEO DJ Histon present a medal to National Meeting judge John O'Connell.

Picture: Imelda Grauer