

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RAGING ASSOCIATION

MEDIA RELEASE







18th August 2013

BRING ON THE NATIONALS

The Nationals is Australia's most prestigious Greyhound racing event on the Annual Calendar, attracting the very best chasers from around Nation. State pride is always on the line and participants love nothing more than to represent their state in the National finals.

Master trainer Graeme Bate will be looking to add yet another major trophy to his amazing list of achievements after gun sprinter Xylia Allen drew box one in Saturday night's Group 1 National Sprint Championship.

The daughter of Turanza Bale and Tayah Bale qualified for next week's final as an AGRA wildcard after finishing fourth in Saturday night's state final behind the very impressive Tomac Bale (box seven), who ran down early leader Paw Licking (box six) in a fast 29.83.

The three Victorian finalists will have to contend with New South Wales representative Zulu Zeus, who backed up his amazing 29.32 Wentworth Park victory last week with a very impressive 29.79 trial at The Meadows tonight (5.25 and 17.77).

The son of Where's Pedro and Fancy Jaffa has drawn well in box two, looking for his first Group victory after finishing second to Jagger Swagger in the Group 3 Bulli Gold Cup in May.

Next week's final is worth \$75,000 to the winner, with Victoria looking to win back-to-back titles after Fabregas took out last year's event at Hobart. Victory for New South Wales will give them four titles in the last eight years. Held in August-September each year, the month of August is devoted to state heats and finals that in turn determine the grand finalists from each state. A finalist in both the sprint and distance has received a wild card entry since 2009. The golden ticket goes to the highest AGRA ranked greyhounds in sprint and distance at the end of July, that makes their state finals without winning. Rankings are determined by points accumulated from competing in Group races throughout the year. It was introduced by the Brisbane GRC and has proved a popular innovation.

Prior to the wild card entry the final finalist was the runner-up from the New South Wales or Victoria state final and alternated yearly. The host state always has two runners in each final and also provides the reserves. The National Championships is also a time when many yearly friendships are re-kindled as the greyhound fraternity from each state assembly for almost a week of conferences, socialising and of course outstanding greyhound racing.

Two more stars will entry the honour roles this year after the finals are decided next Saturday night August 25th.

AUSTRALIAN BREYHDUNU RABINB ASSUBIATION

GROUP ONE - AGRA NATIONAL SPRINT \$75,000 to the winner



Xylia Allen (VIC)

37 starts 16-7-5 (\$288,260)

Turanza Bale – Tayah BaleBlack Bitch April '11

Owner: Janice Wheeler Trainer: Graeme Bate

Meadows best: 29.91 (1) (6 Starts 2-0-2)

Highly talented all distance performer she is the top rated Greyhound in 2013 which gained her entry via the Wildcard. Finished fourth last week in a below par effort but she can turn it around very quickly. Has the advantage of the G Bate polish he won the sprint title last time it was here at the Meadows with Henerik Bale. Look for a forward showing from box one a bitch with loads of ability.



Zulu Zeus (NSW)

17 starts 9-3-2 (\$37,380)

Where's Pedro - Fancy Jaffa

Black Dog August '11

Owner: Frank Sanotti Trainer: Frank Hurst

Meadows best: Trial 17/08 29.79

Star New South Wales sprinter with a big motor. Very impressive state final winner with a blistering 29.32 at Wentworth Park backed it up here in a brilliant trial last week between races recording 29.79 first look. Was lost early but knuckled down well and is sure to improve. Nice draw in two and he is in this with a big chance. Will enjoy plenty of support.



Rumbling Rick (WA)

26 starts 10-5-3 (\$33,125)

Cosmic Rumble – Ricky's Angel Red Fawn Dog March '11

Owner: Ricky Ponting Trainer: Linda Britton

Meadows best: 525 trial 17/08 30.13

Punters Pup, surprise West Aussie final winner where he beat some big names home. Linda Britton eight National finalist in a mighty training performance. Trialed impressively last week between races where he went 30.13, and ran very quick sections of 5.05 and 17.76. Showed a lot of early speed. Looks a place chance for sure. Would be great for former Australian superstar batsman and tremendous greyhound supporter Ricky Ponting to have a bit of luck in this.



Hope's Up (SA)

71 starts 39-12-8 (\$84,580)

El Galo – Little Lopper

Blue & White Bitch May '10

Owner: **Butcher Syndicate**Trainer: **Cameron Butcher**

Meadows best: 525 trial 17/08 30.40

Top sprinter in South Australia she is that state's reigning Greyhound of the Year. She won the state final after leading early and has enjoyed a heap of success at home where she has won 39 races. Trialed in 30.40 last week and would need to improve her early section to match the big guns here and from box four her task is even harder. Place chance best in her first effort on the National stage.



She's All Class (TAS)

25 starts 19-1-1 (\$35,500)

Dyna Lachlan - It's A She

Red Fawn Bitch December '09 Owner / Trainer: **David Crosswell Meadows best:** 525 trial 17/08 30.52

Fabulous record in Tassie with 19 wins from 25 starts. From a wonderful producing dam, she has a fair slice of ability and the polish applied by one of the best to ever grab a lead and collar in Tasmania David Crosswell. Her trial last week was only a handy 30.52 and she would need to find a bit from box five to trouble some of this lot. Place chance best.



Paw Licking (VIC)

31 starts 20-5-1 (\$117,755)

Elite State - Kingsbrae Di

White & Black Dog March '11

Owners: **Allan Lang** Trainer: **Kelvyn Greenough**

Meadows Park best: 30.03 (2) (5 starts 1-3-0)

Former Northern Rivers star sprinter he has raced in great heart with Kel Greenough here in Victoria. Led everywhere but on the line last week and he has the ability to find the front again this week. Might just find the 500 in top company a tough task however he will be in great order for the final and is not without a chance. Don't leave him out of the trifectas.



Tomac Bale (VIC)

17 Starts 11-0-0 (\$104,060)

Dyna Lachlan – Princess Bale Red Fawn Dog April '11

Owner: Paul Wheeler Trainer: Mark Delbridge

Meadows best: 29.67 (2) (9 starts 7-0-0)

Very exciting sprinter, he is lightly raced due to injury. Has an outstanding record here at the Meadows with six wins from nine starts. Has hit top form at the right time recording 29.83 winning the final last week following a blistering heat win of 29.67. Certainly the dog to beat may need a little bit of luck from the wide draw but is racing like a winner. On track for his first Group One.



Innisplain Jet (QLD)

37 starts 13-5-4 (\$35,206)

Where's Pedro – Something Wild Red Fawn Dog April '10

Owners: **Two Bros Partnership** Trainer: **Darren Russell**

Meadows best: NBT

Shock state final winner when he proved too good for Glen Gallon. Not the best of draws here in eight and he'll have to come out running to cross the speed on his inside. Has won 13 of 37 in Queensland but this is a big ask, great thrill for connections to make the National final but he'll need some luck in running to feature here.



Imry Bale (VIC)

69 starts 24-17-9 (\$179,275)

Go Wild Teddy – Amity Bale

Local top class sprinter he has won 24 races and almost \$180,000 in stakes. If he gained a start could make his presence felt.



Dyna Oaks (VIC)

30 starts 9-8-4 (\$41,155)

Ashom Bale - Maple Bale

Finished fifth in the state final has won two on the track from eight starts would be an outsider if he gained a start.

National expert's selections for the Sprint final are as follows.

Ron ArnoldJohn BrashPeter O'Neill1st Zulu Zeus1st Zulu Zeus1st Tomac Bale2nd Paw Licking2nd Tomac Bale2nd Rumbling Rick3rd Tomac Bale3rd Paw Licking3rd Zulu Zeus

Matt Corby 1st Zulu Zeus 2nd Xylia Allen 3rd Paw Licking <u>Greg Fahey</u> 1st Zulu Zeus 2nd Xylia Allen 3rd Tomac Bale

Rob Testa

1st Tomac Bale

2nd Paw Licking

3rd Zulu Zeus

Local Market for the National Sprint Final:

Group 1	AGRA National Sprint Cha	ampionship (525m)	
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price
1	Xylia Allen (VIC)	Graeme Bate	\$3.50
2	Zulu Zeus (NSW)	Frank Hurst	\$3.80
3	Rumbling Rick (WA)	Linda Britton	\$15.00
4	Hope's Up (SA)	Cameron Butcher	\$26.00
5	She's All Class (TAS)	David Crosswell	\$34.00
6	Paw Licking (VIC)	Kelvyn Greenough	\$5.00
7	Tomac Bale (VIC)	Mark Delbridge	\$2.50
8	Innisplain Jet (QLD)	Darren Russell	\$31.00
19/2	Imry Bale (VIC)	Graeme Bate	RES
10	Dyna Oats (VIC)	Graeme Bate	RES

What's happening on race night?



Dining Options:

Dining Room: \$45 Per Head includes Entrance & 3 course Buffet.

Marquee: \$35 Per Head.

Includes Entrance and Finger Food.
Prizes to be won in the Marquee, DJ, Punters Club. Booking essential call the club on 039355 5222.

National Sprint Honour Roll

1965	HAROLDPARK	BEST SUN (NSW)	500 yds.	26.6/10
1966	OLYMPIC PARK	KINTA'S SON (VIC)	560 yds.	30.9/16
1967	WENTWORTH PARK	METEOR PASO (NSW)	580 yds	31.8/16
1968	SANDOWN PARK	PRINCESS KERRY (VIC)	555 yds.	31.2/16
1969	HAROLD PARK	RED ZERO (NSW)	500 yds.	26.71
1970	OLYMPIC PARK	REGAL HERMES (VIC)	560 yds.	30.7/16
1971	WENTWORTH PARK	KING MILLER (NSW)	580 yds	31.1/16
1972	SANDOWN PARK	LORD GALAXY (NSW)	555 yds.	30.91
1973	HAROLD PARK	NEW MARINER (VIC)	457 mts.	26.28
1974	OLYMPIC PARK	TEMLEE (VIC)	511 mts.	29.71
1975	WENTWORTH PARK	COOPERROO FLYER (NSW)	530 mts	31.36
1976	SANDOWN PARK	CLOVER DUKE (NSW)	513 mts.	30.65
1977	GABBA	BOWETZEL (VIC)	558 mts.	32.70
1978	ANGLEPARK	MR TOEWHYTE (WA)	512 mts.	30.69
1979	CANNINGTON	ACCLAIM STAR (NSW)	530 mts.	30.95
1980	HAROLD PARK	FAST SAPPHIRE (NSW)	457 mts.	26.72
1981	OLYMPIC PARK	KATE'S A SCANDAL (SA)	511 mts.	30.70
1982	GABBA	MADONNA LEE (QLD)	558 mts.	32.73
1983	HAROLD PARK	WINIFRED BALE (NSW)	457 mts.	26.13

1984	HAROLD PARK	BUSY VINTAGE (TAS)	457 mts.	26.38
1985	SANDOWN PARK	SCENIC SPA (SA)	513 mts.	30.70
1986	ANGLEPARK	STETSON (SA)	512 mts.	29.98
1987	HOBART	FREMANTLE ECHO (WA)	457 mts.	26.39
1988	GABBA	DANCING GAMBLE (QLD)	558 mts.	32.89
1989	CANNINGTON	SANDI'S ME MUM (WA)	530 mts.	31.78
1990	SANDOWN	SANDI'S ME MUM (WA)	511 mts.	30.70
1991	WENTWORTH PARK	JESSICA CASEY (NSW)	520 mts.	30.66
1992	OLYMPIC PARK	MR. SLICK (VIC)	511 mts.	30.02
1993	ANGLE PARK	CASINO TOM (SA)	512 mts.	29.98
1994	WENTWORTH PARK	GALLANT RULER (NSW)	520 mts.	30.38
1995	SANDOWN PARK	FLYING AMY (QLD)	511 mts.	30.08
1996	ALBION PARK	SHAYNE'S CHAMP (VIC)	520 mts.	30.23
1997	ANGLEPARK	PRINCE OF TIGERS (WA)	512 mts.	29.68
1998	CANNINGTON	RAPID JOURNEY (NSW)	530 mts	31.22
1999	WENTWORTH PARK	HARRY HAND (NSW)	520 mts	30.31
2000	LAUNCESTON	PLACARD (NSW)	522 mts	30.76
2001	MGRA (MEADOWS)	HENERIK BALE (VIC)	518 mts	29.82
2002	ALBION PARK	IN THE FRAME (VIC)	520 mts	30.26
2003	ANGLE PARK	ELITE STATE (QLD)	515 mts	29.33
2004	CANNINGTON	IN FOR LIFE (NSW)	530 mts	30.78
2005	WENTWORTH PARK	PURE OCTANE (VIC)	520 mts	29.91
2006	LAUNCESTON	IMMORTAL LOVE (NSW)	515 mts	29.52 (Rec)
2007	SANDOWN PARK	BIT CHILLI (NSW)	515 mts.	29.88
2008	WENTWORTH PARK	KNOCKA NORRIS (QLD)	520 mts.	29.83
2009	CANNINGTON	DASHING CORSAIR(QLD)	530 mts.	30.29
2010	ANGLE PARK	SMOOTH FANCY (NSW)	515 mts	29.49
2011	ALBION PARK	METZ MAGIC (QLD)	520 mts.	30.04
2012	HOBART	FABREGAS (VIC)	461 mts.	25.85

GROUP ONE – AGRA NATIONAL DISTANCE \$75,000 to the winner



Smart Valentino (NSW)

22 starts 9-2-3 (\$33,130)

Where's Pedro – Smart Betsy Black Dog March '11 Owner / Trainer: Mark Swift

Meadows best: NBT

Lightly raced New South Wales stayer he did a great job to run down a tearaway leader to win the state final. In a very open race he is certainly given a solid chance here won't want to give to many of these a big start, he is first up on the track and it's not easy to win. More than capable of running a place as well being a winning chance.



Destini Fireball (vic)

46 starts 23-6-4 (\$501,035)

Where's Pedro - Grey's Destini

White & Black Dog March '10

Owner / Trainer: Norm Rinaldi

Meadows best: 42.39 (2) (10 starts 7-1-1) Meadows best: NBT (1 Start over 600 unplaced)

Clearly the best stayer racing this year going for his fifth Group 1 but is under a cloud after being given a seven day stand down with injury. Hopefully will be re-vetted and take his place in the final. Hard to beat if he is at his best certainly below par last week and reached the final via the Wildcard. Interesting week coming up for the star performer.



Wag Tail (QLD)

22 starts 7-6-3 (\$23,465)

Velocette - Bacardi Cruiser

Black Bitch February '11

Owner: A Team Partnership Trainer: Christina Harman

Meadows best: Will trial 19/08

Impressive Queensland state final winner she is new to the staying caper but has taken to it very nicely. Big ask here stepping up in class but she looks a capable type and can run a forward race if she has a bit of luck in running. Chance to find the front from this draw and might be an outsider with some hope. Place chance looks best.



Lashing Jill (TAS)

36 starts 8-3-11 (\$19,185)

Lilli Pilli Lad – Illusion

June '10 Black & White Bitch

Owner: Neil Sargison Trainer: Allan Anderson

Meadows best: NBT 600 Trial 17/08 34.96

Tasmanian state winner she beat Bell Haven in a field of four which came as a surprise. She has won her last three on the trot at Launceston and is in good form. This looks a big assignment from box four and she'll need a fair slice of luck. She trialed over 600 last Saturday night and ran a handy 34.96. Place chance best.



Kalden Mayhem (SA) Big Daddy Cool – Abbadale Gold

119 starts 57-11-18 (\$191,795)

Blue Dog October '08

Owner: Murray Syndicate Trainer: **Troy Murray**

Meadows Park best: NBT (1start (600) 0-0-0)

Grand campaigner of a 119 starts got a run as a reserve in the South Australian state final and made every post a winner. No stranger to big races finished third in the National Distance final in 2011 at Albion Park. Tends to get a long way out of his ground and comes home like a train. Place chance best here.



Mimicking

69 starts 12-14-6 (\$98,753)

Flying Penske – Classy Creek

Black Dog December '09

Owner Cherie Ivers Trainer: Rob Britton

Meadows Park best: 42.75 (1) (17 starts 2-3-3)

Shock Victorian State final winner at 33/1 doesn't win out of turn but did a good job last week to come rattling home late and get up right on the line. His record suggests he doesn't run two races a like. He is a swooper and will be coming home from off the speed but will need some luck to win. Place chance looks best.



Set Sail South (VIC)

25 starts 8-4-3 (\$51,090)

Westmead Hawk - Shelby Shiraz

Black Dog June '11

Owner: Champagne Syndicate Trainer: Angela Langton

Meadows: NBT (2 starts 0-2-0)

Youngster with some ability almost got home last week and is pretty new to the staying caper with four starts under his belt. Well fancied in some quarters and he could run another forward race in this open final. Finds himself up against some serious stayers here and a place chance appears best.



Magpie Bob (WA)

57 starts 19-11-2 (\$74,862)

Cosmic Rumble - Amanda

White & Black Dog September '10

Owner: Paul Galea Trainer: **David Hobby**

Meadows best: NBT (10 Starts over 525 and 600 0-2-0)

Western Australian rep he did a good job to win the state final from the red box. Not overly suited by the pink but he is capable of running a forward race. Raced here in Victoria for some time before heading west and has racked up some nice wins over there. No stranger to the track with 10 starts here but most were over the 500 with a couple of 600 metre races. Place chance best.



Local that finished third in last week's state final behind Mimicking, handy record but hard to see her trouble this field if she gains a start.



Irma Bale (VIC)

89 starts 36-26-6 (\$562,201)

Bartrim Bale – Amelia Bale

Superstar she finished second in last year's final behind Miata. She will retire if doesn't get a start here and she could match them if she did gain entry into the race. Has been a great bitch.

National expert's selections for the Distance final are as follows.

<u>Peter O'Neill</u>	<u>John Brasch</u>	<u>Ron Arnold</u>
1 st Destini Fireball	1 st Destini Fireball	1 st Smart Valentino
2 nd Smart Valentino	2 nd Wag Tail	2 nd Destini Fireball
3 rd Magpie Bob	3 rd Smart Valentino	3 rd Mimicking

Matt Corby	Greg Fahey	Ron Hawkswell
1 st Destini Fireball	1 st Smart Valentino	1 st Set Sail South
2 nd Smart Valentino	2 nd Destini Fireball	2 nd Smart Valentino
3 rd Kalden Mayhem	3 rd Lashing Jill	3 rd Destini Fireball

Local Market for the AGRA National Distance Final:

Group 1	AGRA National Distance Championship (725m)			
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price	
1	Smart Valentino (NSW)	Mark Swift	\$4.50	
2	Destini Fireball (VIC)	Norm Rinaldi	\$2.80	
3	Wag Tail (QLD)	Christina Harman	\$21.00	
4	Lashing Jill (TAS)	Allan Anderson	\$26.00	
5	Kalden Mayhem (SA)	Troy Murray	\$10.00	
6	Mimicking (VIC)	Rob Britton	\$7.50	
7	Set Sail South (VIC)	Angela Langton	\$4.00	
8	Magpie Bob (WA)	David Hobby	\$20.00	
19/2	Gold Affair Two (VIC)	Martin Hanke	RES	
10	Irma Bale (VIC)	Graeme Bate	RES	

National Distance Honour Roll

1969	WENTWORTH PARK	AMERIGO LADY (VIC)	790 yds.	43.7/16ths
1970	SANDOWN PARK	SARGOOD (VIC)	785 yds.	44.00
1971	HOBART	SAKI DASHER (VIC)	737 yds.	40.00
1972	HAROLDPARK	BUBBLE'S LUCK (VIC)	732 mts.	43.4
1973	GABBA	HE'S SOME BOY (VIC)	704 mts.	43.09
1974	ANGLEPARK	CORCORAN (VIC)	731 mts.	44.56
1975	GABBA	DOTIE WILSON (NSW)	704 mts.	41.66
1976	ANGLEPARK	BOLTA'S GIFT (VIC)	731 mts.	44.66
1977	HAROLDPARK	WOOLLEY WONG (NSW)	732 mts.	43.58
1978	HOBART	DUSTY GINNY (NSW)	730 mts.	43.30 (Rec)
1979	OLYMPIC PARK	MARY MARELLA (VIC)	732 mts.	44.09

1980	SANDOWN PARK	ALL PROMISE (VIC)	718 mts.	43.92
1981	LAUNCESTON	SHAMROCK JEWEL (VIC)	722 mts.	44.87
1982	ADELAIDE	BAY ROAD QUEEN (SA)	731 mts.	44.03
1983	HOBART	TEN GUITARS (VIC)	725 mts.	43.91
1984	CANNINGTON	PRINCESS BADEN (SA)	740 mts.	44.32
1985	LAUNCESTON	MELMADE GAZZA (SA)	722 mts.	44.06
1986	GABBA	KIRSTY'S FIRST (QLD)	704 mts.	41.65
1987	OLYMPIC PARK	MYSTIC HOPE (VIC)	732 mts.	44.29
1988	WENTWORTH PARK	HIGH INTENSITY (VIC)	732 mts.	42.93
1989	ANGLEPARK	JULEP (SA)	731 mts.	43.79
1990	OLYMPIC PARK	CLEAN MACHINE (VIC)	732 mts.	44.00
1991	GABBA	JUST A CHARM (QLD)	704 mts.	41.45
1992	WENTWORTH PARK	PACE GALORE (VIC)	720 mts.	42.57
1993	CANNINGTON	BILLY'S BLONDIE (QLD)	740 mts.	44.89
1994	WENTWORTH PARK	MISS CRUISE (NSW)	720 mts.	43.59
1995	OLYMPIC PARK	BORONIA BLOSSOM (QLD)	732mts.	43.72
1996	ALBION PARK	BORONIA BLOSSOM (QLD)	710mts.	42.23
1997	ANGLEPARK	IBROX PARK (NSW)	731 mts.	43.17
1998	CANNINGTON	PARADISE STREET (WA)	700 mts.	41.75
1999	WENTWORTH PARK	KOBBLE CREEK (QLD)	720 mts.	42.55
2000	LAUNCESTON	OSTI'S JOKER (VIC)	743 mts.	45.05
2001	SANDOWN PARK	TIP TOP TEARS (VIC)	715 mts.	42.46
2002	ALBION PARK	BOOMEROO (VIC)	710 mts.	41.61 (Rec)
2003	ANGLEPAK	ARVO'S JUNIOR (VIC)	731 mts.	42.66
2004	CANNINGTON	CLASSY CUSTOMER (NSW)	715 mts.	42.31
2005	WENTWORTH PARK	TEXAS GOLD (NSW)	720 mts.	42.07
2006	LAUNCESTON	BOTHING (SA)	720 mts.	42.49 (Rec)
2007	MEADOWS	FLASHING FLOODS (VIC)	725 mts.	42.95
2008	WENTWORTH PARK	MANTRA LAD (VIC)	720 mts.	42.30
2009	CANNINGTON	JAVIS BALE (VIC)	715 mts.	41.93
2010	ANGLE PARK	BLUE LORIAN (NSW)	710 mts.	43.01
2011	ALBION PARK	DASHING CORSAIR (QLD)	710 mts.	42.09
2012	HOBART	MIATA (WA)	709 mts.	41.24

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