



MEDIA RELEASE

1st November 2014

AGRA GREYHOUND OF THE MONTH OCTOBER 2014

“BUCKLE UP WES”

AGRA's Greyhound of the Month for October 2014 is Superstar Tassie champ Buckle Up Wes.

He may have only started once for the month but what a start it was a win in the Group 1 Top Gun at The Meadows. The brilliant front running sprinter coming in off an extremely limited preparation and a poor draw in box five beat the best in the land to score his second major victory at the Broadmeadows circuit.



Buckle Up Wes leads all the way in the Top Gun (Pic Clint Anderson)

Trainer Ted Medhurst did a remarkable job in getting his star up for the race after 10 weeks on the sidelines with a ligament injury and, ironically, he said the spell may have been the cornerstone of his all-the-way win.

“Greyhounds often begin better when they are fresh, and if he didn't lead he wouldn't have won because he probably didn't have enough race fitness to come from behind and win.”

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

"I've been laser-ing him every morning and every night for the past nine weeks, and walking him at a gentle pace on a walking machine every day, all in an attempt to get him right for the Topgun."

The race against time was reward for effort after Buckle Up Wes was withdrawn from the Group 1 National Sprint Championship.

"He has only had four trials since he injured himself in August, so he's still a couple of runs off his peak." "Hopefully his good form will continue into the Melbourne Cup series, because that's what I'm aiming for with him next."

Buckle Up Wes is a Black dog whelped June 201 1 by Collision from Everlong Bale (Primo Uno x Shique Bale). He is raced by the Johnson Sutton Syndicate and is trained at Mangalore in Tasmania by Ted Medhurst. He has now won 30 races and been placed on 12 occasions from his 49 starts. Adding the first prize money of \$1 50,000 for the Topgun his stake earnings went to \$551,485.

The month of October has seen ten group races decided. Buckle Up Wes got the nod for the monthly award his second this year after winning in March.

AGRA congratulates owners the Johnson Sutton Syndicate, trainer Ted Medhurst and Buckle Up Wes on being awarded the AGRA Greyhound of the Month for October. He joins the January winner Iona Seven, February winner Keybow, April winner Tonk, May winner Awesome Project, June winner Xylia Allen, July winner Mepunga Hayley, August winner Chica Destacada and September winner Tommy Brislane as the Greyhounds of the Month for 2014.

For more information please contact:

Neil Brown
AGRA Publicity Officer
Tel: 03 97691234
Mob: 0423 129 950
nbrown@agra.com.au

Howard Ashton
AGRA Executive Officer
Tel: 08 8243 7100
Mob: 0438 042 838