



MEDIA RELEASE

16th April 2010

**Elite Speedster's A Maitland
Marvel**

Story Courtesy Gerard Guthrie Greyhound Recorder

Reg Kay's high class sprinter Elite Blue Size continued his fantastic start to 2010 with a dominant victory in Thursday night's Group Two J&H Air Conditioning Gold Cup Final at Maitland.

The Maitland Cup was Elite Blue Size's third Group victory already this year, following his successes in the Group One National Derby at The Gardens and the Group Two Gosford Gold Cup.



Elite Blue Size in action winning the Gosford Cup (Pic Craig Youll)

Kay, 2008 Australian Trainer of the Year, is also entitled to be wondering what might have been as a tail injury forced Elite Blue Size to miss the \$250,000-to-the-winner Macro Meats Golden Easter Egg, for which he would have undoubtedly been a leading contender.

After a month on the sidelines with his tail problem, Elite Blue Size resumed with a near-record 24.94s victory in his Maitland Cup heat and as a result the son of Reg Kay's 2003 National Sprint champion Elite State started \$1.80 favourite in the \$25,000-to-the-winner decider.

Continued on page 2...

**M
E
D
I
A
R
E
L
E
A
S
E**

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Drawn in box three, Elite Blue Size (\$1.80) came out running to lead clearly and from that point it was a matter of times and margins as he bettered his heat time by running 24.93s, missing the 450m record by the barest possible margin.

Elite Blue Size defeated outsider Miss Peru (\$17.30) by two lengths with Pulp (\$13.50) grabbing third just ahead of youngster Chief Relief. Defending Cup champion Magnifique was never a winning chance from his wide draw.

Elite Blue Size certainly loves Maitland and he remains undefeated in seven appearances at the track, while his overall record of 17 wins from 22 starts is equally impressive.

The Cup success was yet another testament to Kay's training nous, with the affable Queenslander having Elite Blue Size primed to dominate a red hot Maitland Cup series off a limited preparation.

On a great night of racing, there were several other performances of note, including Shirl's Magic's victory in the Maitland Mercury Gold Cup Consolation.

After running fourth in Orbison's Cup heat, Mark Davidson's Shirl's Magic started at \$4.50 from box one in the Consolation and she led throughout to defeat reserve Boss Number One by 2¾ lengths in a slick 25.14s, with Drover running third.

That's Just Me, trained by the astute Dave Irwin, prevailed in a thrilling finish to The Good Guys Middle Distance Championship Final, using every one of the 565m to grab recent Richmond Derby winner Bogie Brave in the shadows of the post, scoring by a head in 32.02s.

Jason Mackay received some consolation for Bogie Brave's narrow defeat when the promising Mr Mutola made it four wins from five career starts with a strong-finishing win in the CBA Local Business Banking over 565m.

After the placings the field finished in the following order 4th Chief Relief (\$7.50), 5th Little Sparkle (\$6.40), 6th Orbison (\$11.30) 7th Magnifique (\$10.30) and Ripley (\$53.10).

Elite Blue Size is raced by Julie Edmondson and trained by Reg Kay he is a Blue dog whelped February 2008 by Elite State from Size 'Em Up (Shape Shifter x Queen Size). Elite Blue Size has won 17 of his 22 starts and has been placed on three occasions and his current stake earnings stand at \$132,150.

The Maitland Cup was first run in 2003 and was awarded Group 3 status, paying \$12,000 to the winner. Due to track conversion the race was not conducted in 2004, but every year it has been run it has been supported by the Maitland Supporters Club and in 2005 and 2006 the Maitland Branch of the GBOTA has joined the Supporters Club as co-sponsors.

Maitland 457m - Grass Track **Thread Prince** 26.72, 2004 Track Conversion - not conducted, Maitland 450m - Loam Track 2005 **Whatuira Banner** 25.46, 2006 **Needa Mint** 25.62, 2007 **Run The Risk** 25.09, 2008 **Awesome Hustler** 25.43, 2009 **Magnifique** 25.14.

For more information please contact:

Neil Brown
AGRA Publicity Officer
Tel: 03 97691234
Mob: 0423 129 950

Brenton Scott
AGRA Executive Officer
Tel: 02 96497166
Mob: 0438 402 198