



AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RAGING ASSOCIATION

MEDIA RELEASE

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Smooth Fancy Leads Paws Charge

By Adam Dobbin GANSW Website

The final make-up of the Group One Rock Energy Drinks NCA Paws Of Thunder has been determined, following four action packed semi-finals under lights at Wentworth Park on Saturday night.

With \$100,000 the ultimate prize for next Saturday night's winner, the stars of the series didn't fail to deliver, with all four semi-final victors comfortably eclipsing the magical 30 second barrier.

In the opening run-off, Anthony Azzopardi's Smooth Fancy showed his upward spiral isn't going to peak anytime soon, with the reigning National Sprint Champion leading all the way to record a breathtaking 29.48s.

Starting a raging \$2.10 favourite, Smooth Fancy ran a remarkable 5.37s for the first split, a section that is a glowing recommendation for his Paws Of Thunder final prospects this week

His bid to win back-to-back Group One finals was further aided at the box draw, with the son of Collision and Flash Fancy drawing a suitable box three.

Victorian Enry Walt finished stoutly behind Smooth Fancy, nabbing second on the line to qualify for the final. The Group One Silver Chief winner from earlier in the year has drawn box two for this week's final.

Emerging talent Greywind's Doll kept on her winning way in the second semi-final, carving out a strong 29.74s heat victory – posting sections of 5.48s and 13.89s.

Trained by Tina Womann, the daughter of Trewly Special has taken a distinct liking to Wentworth Park in the past fortnight, but will need to contend with a horrid box six draw if she is to go through the series undefeated.

Kristy Sultana's Supreme Odessa finished like a train along the rails to claim second and a final berth in the latter stages.

The Robert Smith prepared Lochinvar Marlow brought his A-game in semi-final three, disposing of his opposition in relentless fashion, running a career best 29.71s.

The son of Bombastic Shiraz is hitting his straps at the right time, and after drawing box one, connections are in the mix for a \$100,000 pay day next Saturday evening.

Cosmic Planet finished second, giving trainer Darren Brown a two pronged attack in next Saturday's final.

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All eyes were on Victorian Cosmic Chief in the final run-off following his all-the-way 29.70s heat win last Saturday.

The son of Brett Lee and Cosmic Goddess didn't disappoint, handling box eight to perfection, recording 29.66s with sections of 5.47s and 13.84s.

Darren Brown's charge has taken a real liking to Wentworth Park, seemingly beginning better than what we have become accustomed too in his home state.

To win the Paws Of Thunder, he will need to contend with box five, the same draw he landed his 29.70s heat win from.

Proven Jett made it a Victorian quinella, trailing the winner throughout to qualify for another Group One final.

The final field comprises five Victorians and three NSW-trained greyhounds which is sure to add to the theatre of the lead-up to the Group One finale.

There is sure to be plenty of opinion on how the race will pan-out, but no matter what the theory, you would imagine most pundits will have likely favourites Smooth Fancy and Cosmic Chief high in calculations.

Bring on Saturday night!

GROUP ONE - Rock Energy Paws Of Thunder \$100,000 to the winner



Lochinvar Marlow

31 starts 16-3-4 (\$67,845)

Bombastic Shiraz – Sensation Lee

Black Dog July'07

Owner: Clare Gordon Trainer: Robert Smith

Wentworth Park best: 29.71 (4) (9 Starts 5-1-0)

Excellent win last week in a personal best of 29.71 his fifth at Wentworth Park. Nice type and box one will help in this classy field. Needs to begin flawless and put himself in the race early. Place chance best.



Enry Walt (VIC)

31 starts 11-8-2 (\$108,645)

Primo Uno – Awesome Saint
Black Dog January'08
Owner/Trainer: Garry Ennis

Wentworth Park best: NBT (3 Starts 0-1-0)

Lucky to make the final after coming into the semis from the reserve bench. Silverchief winner at the Meadows and he has been in great form at Sandown of recent months, named after the St.Kilda Captain he might be an omen if the right thing happens at the MCG Saturday afternoon. Hasn't won on the track which is a worry in this elite company, place chance best.



Smooth Fancy

28 starts 15-4-3 (\$106,640)

Collision - Flash Fancy

Black Dog November '07

Owners: Terry Kingcott Trainer: Anthony Azzopardi

Wentworth Park best: 29.48 (6) (14 Starts 8-4-1)

The favourite and quite rightly so was awesome last week when he recorded scintillating sections before running 29.48 a PB and just outside the Wentworth Park record. Won the National Sprint Championship in August and he has brought his A game to Wentworth Park a track he has performed so well on with eight wins. The one to beat



Proven Jett (VIC)

33 starts 14-6-3 (\$46,580)

Vapour Whirl – Proven Tops

White & Blue Dog July'07

Owner: McGrath Syndicate Trainer: Michael Carter

Wentworth Park best: 30.05 (3) (7 Starts 1-2-2)

Another smart Victorian, he has won 14 of his 32 starts and has performed well in this series winning a heat in 30.05 and chasing home the brilliant Cosmic Chief in the semi. Will need some luck from box four and might be stretched to match the top liners here. A place chance with luck.



Cosmic Chief (VIC) 44 starts 20-7-5 (\$166,110)

Brett Lee – Cosmic Goddess

White & Black Dog January'08

Owner: Brian Parkinson Trainer: Darren Brown

Wentworth Park best: 29.66 (8) (2 Starts 2-0-0)

Has continued his outstanding form from the National Sprint where he was beating narrowly by Smooth Fancy. Has performed with high speed in his two Wentworth Park wins of 29.66 last week and a best of the night 29.70 in his heat. This talented Victorian looks destine to win a Group 1 at some stage in just might be next week. Big Chance.



Greywinds Doll (VIC) 24 starts 10-0-5 (\$50,090)

Trewly Special - Greywinds Girl

Fawn Bitch December '07

Owners: Craig Provost Trainer: Tina Womann

Wentworth Park best: 29.74(3) (3 Starts 2-0-0)

A very honest high class chaser from Victoria she has only had 24 starts for 10 wins. Looked good winning last week's semi in 29.74 leading most of the way. Certainly going to need a bit of luck from box six and maybe her best is in front of her. Place chance best.



Cosmic Planet (VIC) 42 starts 14-10-5 (\$65,990)

Brett Lee – Cosmic Goddess

Black Dog January'08

Owner: **Brian Parkinson** Trainer: **Darren Brown**

Wentworth Park best: NBT (2 starts 0-1-0)

Litter brother to Cosmic Chief and a wonderful training performance from Victorian Darren Brown to make a Group 1 final with both dogs. Another lucky to make the final coming into the semi's as a reserve he is a very hard chaser, but might be a bit outclassed also hasn't won on the track. Need plenty of luck from the wide draw.



Supreme Odessa

24 starts 7-4-2 (\$22,045)

Bombastic Shiraz – Viva Odessa Black Bitch April '08

Owner: J Healey Trainer: Kristy Sultana

Wentworth Park best: 30.12 (3) (9 Starts 3-2-0)

Handy sprinter she will start the rank outsider of the field, hasn't yet won in the series and had the red last week when she finished second behind Greywinds Doll. Has won here at Wentworth Park in a best of 30.12, but looks to have the job in front of her from box eight. Place chance at very best.



Snozz 73 starts 27-13-17 (\$162,690)

Bombastic Shiraz – Special Osti

Very smart chaser he has been in super form but hasn't had much luck in this series, could make his presence felt if he made his way into the field.



New Divide

34 starts 18-3-5 (\$54,366)

Big Daddy Cool – Proper Honey

Has won seven on the track and is a pretty smart sprinter on his night would start big odds to upset this lot if he gained a start.



Local expert's selections for the NCA Paws Of Thunder final are as follows.

Mick RadleyRon ArnoldGerard Guthrie1st Cosmic Chief1st Cosmic Chief1st Smooth Fancy2nd Smooth Fancy2nd Lochinvar Marlow2nd Cosmic Chief3rd Lochinvar Marlow3rd Greywinds Doll3rd Proven Jett

Local Market for the Rock Energy Group 1 Paws Of Thunder Final:

Group 1 Rock Energy PAWS OF THUNDER (520m)			
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price
1	Lochinvar Marlow	Robert Smith	5/2
2	Enry Walt	Garry Ennis	12/1
3	Smooth Fancy	Anthony Azzopardi	9/4
4	Proven Jett	Michael Carter	8/1
5	Cosmic Chief	Darren Brown	4/1
6	Greywinds Doll	Tina Womann	7/1
7	Cosmic Planet	Darren Brown	12/1
8	Supreme Odessa	Kirsty Sultana	66/1
(9)	Snozz	Jason MacKay	RES
10	New Divide	Ken Cheetham	RES

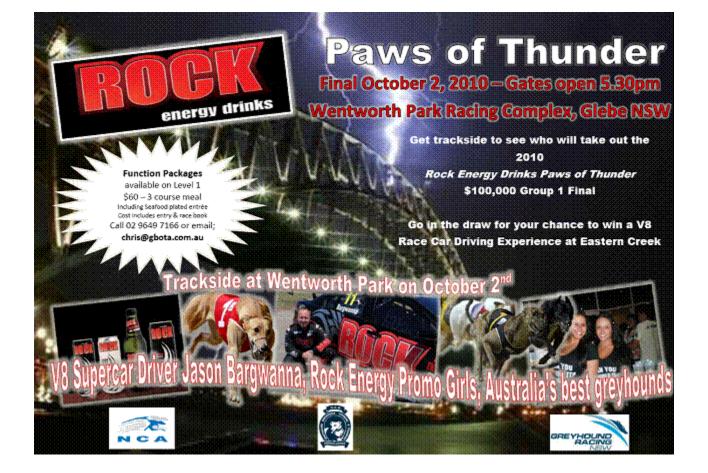
What's happening on race night?

The final goes as race 8 at 9.57 pm on Saturday's ten race program. Gates open at 5.30 pm with the first race at 7.28 pm. Entry is \$5.50 for adults with children free.

Patrons, in addition to seeing Australia's best greyhounds in action, will have a chance to meet V8 Supercar driver Jason Bargwanna (member of the Rock Energy Drinks V8 Supercar team) and the Rock Energy Drinks Grid Girls, who will have various promotional giveaways for race goers.

There is also a chance for one lucky patron to win a great prize of a V8 Hot Lap Driving Experience at Eastern Creek. All patrons will receive a lucky draw entry form to complete and put in the entry barrel near the main tote. The winner will be drawn trackside after the presentation ceremony for the final.

Dining packages in the first floor function centre are available for next Saturday's final – at \$60 for a three course meal including seafood plated entrée, it's great value and this cost includes entry to the track and a race book. Bookings deadline is close of business Wednesday next with Chris McKay, NSW GBOTA Racing Department on (02) 8587 1202 or 0412 235 479 (email chris@gbota.com.au).



Listed below are the past winners of Paws Of Thunder which was formerly known as the St.Leger and first run in 1957. The NSW NCA restructured the prizemoney and the race name in 2001.

1957 Idle Sign, 1958 Ebony Minda, 1959 Super Samson, 1960 Constant Raider, 1961 Elsie Moss, 1962 Black Top, 1963 Miss Warcroft, 1964 Revival King, 1965 Daily Tide, 1966 Sunset Fire, 1967 Another Glitter, 1968 Zoom Top, 1969 Beau Brin, 1970 Size Seven, 1971 Romantic Top, 1972 Likely Light, 1973 Trella Light, 1974 Busy's Chief, 1975 Mighty Aussie, 1976 Palaver, 1977 Fine Arama, 1978 Oberon Lily, 1979 Lord Raleigh, 1980 Glider's Son, 1981 Promises Free, 1982 Winifred Bale, 1983 Winston Lass, 1984 Beach Rhythm 1985 Another Flash, 1986 Memories Gate, 1987 See Yah, 1988 Grizzly Bear, 1989 Jessica Kate, 1990 Dixie Lass, 1991 Little Denver, 1992 lago, 1993 Leon Mal, 1994 Zazziam, 1995 Nine Inch Nails, 1996 Tamborine Dancer, 1997 Elle's Commando, 1998 Waiwera Marika, 1999 Stately Bird, 2000 Some Secret, 2001 Suellen Bale, 2002 Modern Assassin, 2003 Winsome Shot, 2004 Kobble Rock 2005 Pure Octane 2006 Suave Fella, 2007 Leprechaun Pace, 2008 One Tree Hill, and 2009 Cindeen Shelby.



Last year's winner the talented Cindeen Shelby Australian Greyhound of the Year

For any further information contact NSW GBOTA Chris McKay on Tel: (02) 8587 1202 or Jeff Browne (02) 9649 7166.

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