



**Media Release
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GCA GREYHOUND OF THE MONTH AWARD AUGUST 2018

“WEST ON AUGIE”

The GCA Greyhound of the Month for August has been awarded to star Western Australian sprinter West On Augie. He was the outstanding winner of the Group 1 National Sprint Championship at Sandown on August 24th.



West On Augie holds off the challengers to win the National Sprint (Pic Clint Anderson)

West On Augie claimed Western Australia's first National Sprint Championship since 1997 when he defeated a star studded line up to claim the \$75,000 first prize. Prince Of Tigers won the title for the West at Angle Park in Adelaide back in 97.

Victorian Sprint final winner Big Flood was all the rage as punters rushed to back him from \$3 into \$2.25, however it was West On Augie that best timed the start to lead through the first turn.

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The striking red fawn dog was pressured the entire journey by Hasten Slowly trained by Angela Langton but proved too strong in the run to the line, holding on by half a length in 29.43.

The gallant South Australian Cairnlea Kenny finished third a length further back in a thrilling finish that saw the first fifth greyhounds over the line separated by just two lengths.

That good early speed was the key to the race, according to kennel representative Linda Britton.

“I thought if he could jump he was a real show, but he had to jump and he’s probably been down on form just a little bit and so I was a little bit worried about that. But he’s certainly been in the good care of Robert and Mary (Britton) and he’s come out and done really well tonight.”

Not only did Britton have family members track side, a large support team also made the trek east to contest the Nationals decider.

“It really is about them being a part of it all. (Handler) Luke Townsend’s is probably the most excited man on course tonight, and the Westons (owners). Chris will be sitting at home in the lounge room, grabbing the red wine or a champagne right now. It’s fantastic.”

It was West On Augie third win for the month leading all the way in best of the night performances at Cannington to qualify for the National final at Sandown.

West On Augie is a Red Fawn dog whelped February 2016 by Fernando Bale from Te Amo (Cosmic Rumble x Osti’s Bride). He is raced by the Weston Weston Syndicate and trained by Chris Halse at Nambeelup in West Australia. He has now won 21 races and been placed on three occasions from his 33 starts. His current prizemoney stands at \$260,605.

GCA congratulates owners, the Weston Weston Syndicate, trainer Chris Halse & West On Augie on being awarded the GCA Greyhound of the Month for August. He joins Dyna Patty, Tornado Tears May & June, Trouper Monelli, Up Hill Jill, Out Of Range and Ritza Lenny as the GCA Greyhounds of the Month winners for 2018.

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