



Australian Greyhound
Racing Association

MEDIA RELEASE

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RSN Sandown Cup - What A Field

Burn One Down continues to do everything possible to prove just how amazing he is after running down Victoria's in form chaser Dundee Calypso in the third heat of the RSN Sandown Cup.



Burn One Down just gets there in his heat of the Sandown Cup (Pic Paul Munt)

Aiming for a fifth consecutive victory, Dundee Calypso received the clear run after jumping a length in front of the field, but it was Burn One Down who broke that winning streak after negotiating through the 715-metre field. "He had to work pretty hard tonight and has run down a good dog in Dundee Calypso but he is just a freak," co-trainer Jason Thompson said.

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“What do you say about him? They run home in 11.18 and he was four off it and probably broke 11 in the run home with no work in the lead up – he is unbelievable.”

Burn One Down wasn't the only highlight for the Thompson Kennel and for owners Dave and Danielle Pringle; Midnight Elsa put in a gallant effort in the second heat finishing second to Fanta Bale at just her fifth career start.

Trip To Eden rounded out the Thompson kennels chances in the world's richest staying race for greyhounds by finishing second to West Australian star Teddy Monelli in the final heat.

Next week in the Group 1 feature, Dundee Osprey and Fanta Bale will be fighting it out in hope of adding another achievement to their resumes – winning group races over all three distances.

“When you look at Dundee Osprey's sectionals they were all really good tonight,” trainer Geoff Scott-Smith said.

“When you look at his form of late it looks a bit mixed but he has been up against some really good dogs and it is hard to stay on top. It is amazing that he is still going so well.”

Handler Peter Riley had plenty of confidence in Fanta Bale who continues to represent the Robert Britton kennels at the elite level.

“She has shown us she can run quick splits and if she can hang on and run time like she has tonight she's a chance next week,” Riley said.

“Her run last week in the Racecallers she missed the start and found trouble but got run down by a better dog. It was the perfect lead in for a 700.”

Fanta Bale took time honours in the RSN Sandown Cup heats stopping the clock at 41.73sec.

The box draw for the world's richest staying race was broadcast live Saturday morning on RSN927 at 11am details below.

GROUP ONE – RSN SANDOWN CUP \$175,000 to the winner

Box Draw and Tab Sportsbet Fixed Prices for the RSN Sandown Cup 715:

\$175,000 to the winner Group 1 RSN Sandown Cup Final 715m				
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price	B/T
	Burn One Down	Sonia Thompson	\$1.90	41.37
	Teddy Monelli (WA)	David Hobby	\$10	42.00
	Brolly Bale	Robert Britton	\$71	42.32
	Midnight Elsa	Sonia Thompson	\$8	NBT
	Trip To Eden	Sonia Thompson	\$8	NBT
	Fanta Bale	Robert Britton	\$4.50	41.70
	Dundee Calypso	Geoff Scott Smith	\$10	41.74
	Dundee Osprey	Geoff Scott Smith	\$10	41.91
	Azurite (RES)	Graham James	\$35	41.82
	Aston Harvey (RES)	Eddie Lieshout	\$35	42.24

Local expert's selections for the final are as follows.

Mick Floyd

1st Fanta Bale

2nd Burn One Down

3rd Teddy Monelli

Jason Adams

1st Burn One Down

2nd Fanta Bale

3rd Dundee Osprey

Rob Testa

1st Burn One Down

2nd Dundee Calypso

3rd Fanta Bale

What's happening on race night?



It is always entertainment plus at a Sandown feature race night and the RSN Sandown Cup will be no exception.

The final night of the series features THREE group 1 finals on one of greyhound racing's most exciting nights of chasing!

Entry to the meeting is free, and dining packages are available for the final night of the carnival. Contact the club on 03 9546 9511 to book your table.

RSN Sandown Cup Timeline

- 1963** - The race first run on the grass track over 785 yards. The race was then known as the Woolamai Cup and had been first conducted in 1957 when won by Orialta.
- 1964** - A sand track is installed at Sandown Park
- 1971** - Prizemoney increases to \$3,000 to the winner. Paul's Thunder becomes the first greyhound to win two Cups
- 1973** - Distance reduced to 718 metres. Lizrene claims her second Cup
- 1979** - Temlee sires the first off his three consecutive Cup winners
- 1981** - Prizemoney increases to \$12,000 to the winner
- 1984** - Prizemoney increases to \$20,000 to the winner. New Zealander Raurimu wins the Cup.
- 1986** - Bold Trease claims the first of his four Cups
- 1987** - Distance reduced to 716 metres
- 1989** - At five years of age, Bold Trease claims his fourth Cup in emphatic fashion, winning by eight lengths
- 1990** - Bold Trease narrowly misses the Cup final after emerging from retirement
- 1993** - Cup given Group 3 status
- 1995** - Cup upgraded to Group 2 status
- 1996** - Cup upgraded to Group 1 status. Prizemoney increases to \$40,000 to the winner. Distance reduced to 715 metres following reconstruction of Sandown track
- 1999** - Radio Sport 927 becomes naming rights sponsor. Prizemoney increases to \$50,000 to the winner. Smart Attitude wins the race by 9.5 lengths, equalling Lizrene's race record
- 2003** - Group 3 Lizrene Classic moved to April as a logical lead in to the Sandown Cup carnival
- 2004** - Proven Lethal wins in race record time of 42.12 seconds
- 2005** - Best Quoted holds off the fast finishing Texas Gold to claim her second group race victory inside a month
- 2006** - Sargent Major leads all the way to win his first Group 1, he holds off a stout Turbo Uno this followed the shock scratching Texas Gold.
- 2007** - Sandown Cup controversially declared a 'No Race' by stewards after Don Hazzard, the trainer of Sky Hazzard, accidentally released the manual start lever.
- 2009** - Sandown Cup becomes the richest staying event ever offering a series worth \$175,000 and first time winner's purse of \$100,000.

- 2012 -** The SGRC announces an increase to the 2013 Cup series with the race worth a record \$177,500 with the winner to receive \$125,000 making it the richest staying race in the world. West Australian superstar Miata started the shortest priced favourite in the events history at \$1.20 after smashing the track record in her heat. However after missing the start badly she finished a gallant third to the Graeme Bate trained Irma Bale, his first Sandown Cup winner.
- 2013 -** Irma Bale defended her RSN Sandown Cup when she held off the fast finishing Bell Haven and the gallant Miata in one of the most exciting finishes in the races rich history. The victory saw Irma Bale become the fourth greyhound to win successive RSN Sandown Cups after Paul's Thunder (1970-71), Lizrene (1972-73) and Bold Trease (1986-89).
- 2014 -** Sweet It Is booked her place in greyhound racing folklore with a dazzling last-to-first win in the 2014 Group 1 RSN Sandown Cup. A quarter of a century after the great Bold Trease claimed his fourth and final Sandown Cup, Sweet It Is turned in a performance that matched any of the Warrnambool Warriors four cup wins. It was an amazing effort from 10 lengths a drift, she gunned down the field in front of her running away to win by a length and half.
- 2015 -** Sweet It Is rewrote the record books at Sandown Park in 2015, defending her RSN Sandown Cup title and becoming the sport's highest earning greyhound in the process. Lining up in her 18th group final – her 10th at group 1 level – Sweet It Is was sent to the boxes a \$5.80 second favourite behind Space Star (\$1.30), and it was the latter that began brilliantly to take an early lead. From that point on it was a matter of times and margins. The win improved her record to 18 wins from 58 starts and the \$175,000 winner cheque took her prize money to an Australian record \$828,515.
- 2016 -** Bells Are Ringin caused one of the biggest upsets in group racing history when she defeated the country's best stayers in the RSN927 Sandown Cup. Sent to the boxes the 50/1 outsider, Bells Are Ringin began well to cross to the rail and lead the field through the first turn. From there she was never headed, finding the line two lengths clear of Who Dey (\$10.20) in 42.02.

RSN Sandown Cup Fact Sheet:

Name: RSN Sandown Cup

Status: Group 1

Distance: 715m

Prizemoney: \$250,000 (1st: \$175,000 + trophy and rug; 2nd: \$50,000, 3rd: \$25,000)

First run: 1963 (known as the Woolamai Cup, won by Briar View)

Race record: 41.48 – Sweet It Is, 2015

Biggest winning margin: 9.5 lengths – (Lizrene 1973, Smart Attitude 1989)

Smallest winning margin: Half head (Top Sovereign 1994, Boronia Blossom 1996)

Multiple Winners: 4 – Bold Trease (1986-89) 2 – Paul's Thunder (1970-71)

2 – Lizrene (1972-73) 2- Irma Bale (2012-13) 2- Sweet It Is (2014-2015)

Going the distance: 1963 – 785 yards (grass)

1964 – 785 yards (sand)

1973 – 718 metres

1987 – 716 metres

1996 – 715 metres

Battle of the sexes: Males have won 9 of the last 17 Cups. Bitches the last 5.

When in doubt: Box 1 has provided 6 of the last 24 winners, though none since 2000.

RSN Sandown Cup Honour Roll

1957 **Orialta**, 1959 **Woodford Chief**, 1961 **Plunkett's Present**, 1963 **Briar View**, 1964 **Haleka Jewel**, 1965 **Venetian Court**, 1966 **Fawn Scout**, 1967 **Charlie Lee**, 1968 **Sprite of Egypt**, 1969 **Local Blend**, 1970 **Paul's Thunder**, 1971 **Paul's Thunder**, 1972 **Lizrene**, 1973 **Lizrene**, 1974 **Corcoran**, 1975 **Tammy Shanta**, 1976 **Brindle Norma**, 1977 **Rani's Copy**, 1978 **Kawati Boy**, 1979 **Miss Tema**, 1980 **Wynlee Wonder**, 1981 **Bianca Lee**, 1982 **Status Supreme**, 1983 **Lead Role**, 1984 **Raurimu**, 1985 **Tashla**, 1986 **Bold Trease**, 1987 **Bold Trease**, 1988 **Bold Trease**, 1989 **Bold Trease**, 1990 **Western Creole**, 1991 **Pixie Eyes**, 1992 **Village Stomper**, 1993 **Eliza Dylan**, 1994 **Top Sovereign**, 1995 **Keon Star**, 1996 **Boronia Blossom**, 1997 **Tonight's Wish**, 1998 **Red Mystique**, 1999 **Smart Attitude**, 2000 **Osti's Joker**, 2001 **Bentley Babe**, 2002 **Jennev**, 2003 **Arvo's Junior**, 2004 **Proven Lethal**, 2005 **Best Quoted**, 2006 **Sargent Major**, 2007 **"No Race"** 2008 **Chinatown Lad**, 2009 **Mantra Lad**, 2010 **Next Top Model**, 2011 **Bobby Boucheau**, 2012 **Irma Bale**, 2013 **Irma Bale**, 2014 **Sweet It Is**, 2015 **Sweet It Is** and 2016 **Bells Are Ringin**.



The immortal AGRA Hall Of Fame Superstar Bold Trease with his four Sandown Cups.

Thanks for information supplied by Michael Floyd Sandown Media Manager

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