



MEDIA RELEASE

21st July 2012



Blackalls Is Boss

Former NSW sprinter Blackalls Boss produced a sizzling performance to land the major prize in the 2012 Group 2 Skill Training Victoria Shepparton Cup final on Friday night.

Trained at Lara by Michelle Mallia-Magri for Vince Tulio, Blackalls Boss (\$7.60) repeated his blistering sections shown in his heat victory to outpace favourite El Brooklyn in the run to the first turn and once the son of Hallucinate and Blackalls Beauty found the front the race was well in his keeping.



Blackalls Boss winning at the Meadows in May

In NSW, Blackalls Boss had built a record of thirteen wins from 27 starts with his most dominant performances being on the u-turn tracks and for Mallia-Magri has now won a further nine races from nineteen outings including making the Traralgon Cup final last month and now etching his name on the honour roll of the Shepparton Cup alongside some of the superstars of greyhound racing.

Blackalls Boss's career earnings are now nudging \$70,000 after the \$42,000 windfall at Shepparton and with his brilliant speed the Shepparton Cup may not be the only trophy making its way onto the mantelpiece in 2012.

Promising youngster Leeroy Rocker (\$11.50) was gallant in defeat chasing home the winner and he is still yet to finish further back than second place in his nine career starts while El Brooklyn (\$1.90) was honest as ever finishing in 3rd place and she will now head to Dapto for the The Megastar.

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

The powerful training combination of Jeff Britton and Angela Langton took out both staying features on the night when Quo Vadis saluted in the Quest Shepparton President's Trophy and Yowveh scored a dominate victory in the National Greyhound Form Stayers Challenge.

Forever Strong scored a barnstorming victory in the Ron Nestor Memorial while Tina Womann's Street Danger scored an upset win in the inaugural Neatline Homes Winter Maiden.

Highly promising youngster Walk Hard continued on his winning way when scoring an impressive win in the Quality Teams Goulburn Valley Sprint while the "locals" claimed a feature race victory on the night when the Kevin Eyles trained Abit Patchy took out the Topcat Video Productions Dash For Cash.

While the first class racing action dominated the proceedings there were two other special presentations on the night. Jeanette Powell, Member for Shepparton was on hand to officially open the al fresco deck that was recently constructed at the Kialla venue as a project jointly funded by the State Government and Greyhound Racing Victoria.

The other presentation was to long time race caller Paul "Happy" Hammon who after more than 25 years behind the microphone has decided to call it a day and the Shepparton Cup meeting was his farewell race meeting.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Allen Hertz (\$32.30), 5th Don't Knocka Him (\$5.00), 6th Stagger (\$13.20) 7th Bubba's Dream (\$17.90) and Classy Maldini (\$11.90).

Blackall's Boss is a Red Fawn dog whelped February 2009 by Hallucinate from Blackalls Beauty (Solve The Puzzle x Rondor's Opal). He is raced by Vince Tullio and trained by Michelle Mallia-Magri at Lara in Victoria. He has now won 22 races and been placed on nine occasions from his 46 starts. The Shepparton Cup first prize of \$42,000 brings Blackalls Boss' overall prizemoney to \$69,710.

On a monster night of racing Tina Womann and Forever Strong took out the Ron Nestor Memorial. Shepparton Greyhound Racing Club commemorate the passing of greyhound figure Ron Nestor by honouring his memory with the special event after his passing in March 2006 – Nestor was one of few people who had never missed a Shepparton Cup Final and the Committee at the time decided to make sure that spirit remains forever for a true gentleman of the sport.

The Shepparton Cup has always been a well sought after country cup and a one time a very important lead up race for the Melbourne Cup. It has been won by some brilliant greyhounds over the years none better than Hall of Famer and local superstar Highly Blessed. Other Melbourne Cup winners included Master Giant and Kantarn Bale. While like Highly Blessed, Bahama Image went on to win an Easter Egg. The race was run over the 440 metres at the old Shepparton Showgrounds until its closure in 2004.

1973 **Garner Bin**, 1974 **Morning Glow**, 1975 **Tivashley**, 1976 **Marungi Boy**, 1977 **Near History**, 1978 **Relle Louise**, 1979 **Mannerism**, 1980 **Proven Bold**, 1981 **First Question**, 1982 **Golden Impulse**, 1983 **Blue Echo**, 1984 **Blitzem Bill**, 1985 **Thorgil Magic**, 1986 **Thorgil Magic**, 1987 **Nan's Pal**, 1988 **Fantasy Boy**, 1989 **Pure Talent**, 1990 **Highly Blessed**, 1991 **Bomber Gleeson**, 1992 **Master Giant**, 1993 **Head Honcho**, 1994 **Thorgil Tex**, 1995 **Hanson Diamond**, 1996 **Bahama Image**, 1997 **World Title**, 1998 **Ashigga**, 1999 **Star Of Mine**, 2000 **Kantarn Bale**, 2001 **Salong Bale**, 2002 **Knockabout Wok**, 2003 **Puzzle Prize**, 2004 **Whisky Assassin**, 2005 not run, 2006 **Slater**, 2007 **Overflow Breaker**, 2008 **Hanify's Impact**, 2009 **Gardam Prince**, 2010 **Din's Son** and 2011 **El Grand Senior**.

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Thanks to Shepparton Manager Troy Harley for information used in the above release

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
hashton@agra.com.au