



MEDIA RELEASE

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“Chuck’s Princely Cup Win”

BUCKINGHAM Chuck atoned for his luckless third in last year's Gold Coast Cup with victory in the Group 2 race this year.

The royally bred Token Prince-Stargari Heiress dog led virtually throughout to win by two and a quarter lengths in 25.87.

He downed fellow Queenslander Dirty Vegas with a head to Victorian visitor Big Tone Bale in third.

Buckingham Chuck is raced by Laurie Meteyard and brothers Trevor and Gary Taverner.

For the Taverners it is their first greyhound.

Trainer Greg Cannon was relieved that victory in a big race had finally come for his dog.

It was his 21st victory in 39 starts, but he is a real Gold Coast specialist with eight wins from 10 starts on the track.

"He deserved to win a big race," said Cannon who also trained the dog's mother and her litter brother the Ipswich Gold Cup winner Scottish Express.

Cannon showed just what a superb trainer he is.

Buckingham Chuck suffered a broken hock and a dropped back muscle early in the year and his racing future was in grave doubt.

"I honestly thought he was a good thing in the final from box eight but in a big race you can't make statements like that," he said.

Cannon and Meteyard syndicated the dog as a pup with the Taverener brothers.



Buckingham Chuck in full stride winning the 2007 Parklands Gold Cup. (Corey Pearce pic)

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

"We all have a drink at the Arana Leagues Club near where Greg lives," said Meteyard.

"Trevor and Gary had raced trotters with not much success so Greg and I tempted them into this dog."

All three owners proudly wore pink shirts and pink ties to the race meeting to match Buckingham Chuck's eight box.

Cannon declared his dog should have won last year but he was dragged down at the turn out of the back straight by eventual winner Vapour Whirl.

"It almost happened again this year," said Cannon.

"Big Tone Bale galloped on him at the same spot, but this time he got clear and that's when he opened up a winning break."

Dirty Vegas missed the start but was powering home in the straight to get second.

He is a youngster full of promise.

Buckingham Chuck will now go on to the state heats of the National Sprint at Albion Park next week.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Shades Of Red (\$35.60), 5th Axe Handle (\$5.40), 6th Cellarman Bob (\$48.50), 7th Rumble Fire (\$45.80) and Black Cobra (\$9.50).

Buckingham Chuck is a White & Fawn dog whelped September 2004 by Token Prince from Stargari heiress (Just The Best x Stargari) he has now raced on 39 occasions for 21 wins and 12 placings and the \$25,000 first prize for the Gold Coast Cup took his over all stake earnings to \$79,605.

The club's Cup has been up and down in prizemoney over the years they hosted the \$70,000 Gold Coast Cup in July 1995 (\$30,000-to-the-winner), and it went to an all time high of \$35,000 to the winner when won by Hot Shot in 1998. But like many clubs in Queensland they have done it tough from time to time and maintaining that extremely high prizemoney levels seems a thing of the past. However after a couple of years at \$20,000 to the winner the race was again elevated to Group 2 status this year with \$25,000 to the winner. The Gold Coast Cup was at its most famous creating nation-wide interest went won in back to back fashion by superstar Flying Amy in 95-96. It has been won by some star performers over the years. Listed below is the past winners.

1978 **Drum Brae**, 1979 **Secret Academy**, 1980 **Camaieu**, 1981 **Bianca Lee**, 1982 **Carnival Melody**, 1983 **Mathew's World**, 1984 **Jatasha's Star**, 1985 **Sharyn's Vogue**, 1986 **Fifi She's Not**, 1987 **Whip Tip**, 1988 **Riviera Chris**, 1989 **West Cape**, 1990 **Key Dancer**, 1991 **Wallowa Flash**, 1992 **Tickety Boo**, 1993 **Star Title**, 1994 **Flying Amy**, 1995 **Flying Amy**, 1996 **Sleepy Saint**, 1997 **Roanoke**, 1998 **Hotshot**, 1999 **Faithful Hawk**, 2000 **Ngarutao**, 2001 **Sydney Tiger**, 2002 **Mr Faithful**, 2003 **Elite State**, 2004 **Lethal Weapon**, 2005 **Magic Trance**, 2006 **Vapour Whirl**.

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