



MEDIA RELEASE
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Suave Fella's Amazing Cup Odyssey



Suave Fella an impressive winner of the Gosford Cup

THERE was almost a "Ripley's believe it or not" edge to veteran Suave Fella's stunning win in Tuesday night's Group 2 Woy Woy Poultry Gold Cup final at Gosford.

Suave Fella, who only arrived at northern coalfields trainer Eric Castle's kennels a month ago, almost missed both the heat and final.

"The dog's registration papers got lost in the post and the Monday before the heats was a public holiday," Eric explained after the Cup final win.

"We finally managed to organise a duplicate set and arranged to have them sent to Gosford on the night of the heats.

"Then Suave Fella was a certainty beaten in his heat, losing around 10 lengths through interference before being beaten two lengths into third place.

"That only made him second reserve for the final but two scratchings miraculously put us into the race.

"I train Suave Fella for Steve Connor, who runs Funnell's Smash Repairs at Gosford.

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

“Steve has always owned the dog and had him when he won the 2006 Paws Of Thunder at Wentworth Park for Victorian trainer Jason Thompson.

“Just lately Suave Fella has not been as competitive in top grade in Melbourne as he was in his younger days, so Steve arranged for me to train him for what are probably last six months of his career.

“But I have had awful trouble getting Suave Fella to eat.

“The dog has been with Jason Thompson all his life so fretted when he came to our place.

“Finally I got him eating barbecued chicken necks, which I have to smash up with a hammer to ensure he digests them safely.

“Steve plans to race Suave Fella for a few more months and then put him stud.”

After the placings the field finished in the following order 4th Elite Impulse (\$12.00), 5th New South Baz (\$51.00), 6th Orphan Point (\$8.50) 7th Mandagery Man (\$2.20 fav) and Wild Inferno (\$15.00).

Suave Fella is raced by Stephen Connor and is trained by Eric Castle. He is a Black dog whelped May 2004 by Modern Assassin from Jessie Shiraz (Black Shiraz x Mary McGregor). Suave Fella has won 21 races from 70 starts and he has been placed 22 times. The \$25,000 first prize for the Gosford Cup took his stake earnings to \$199,390.

The greyhound industry is fortunate to have such a generous sponsor as greyhound lover, owner and trainer Laurie Refalo, the owner of Woy Woy Poultry Supplies. This week alone Woy Woy Poultry Supplies is sponsoring The Gosford Cup (\$25,000 to the winner) and the Gardens Young Guns (\$10,000 to the winner).

The Gosford Cup became the clubs feature race for the year when they changed their surface to loam in 2003. At the same time a circuit of NSW Country Cups was started. It was a Group three race worth \$10,000 to the winner to start with and has risen in status and profile to Group two in 2006 and again was worth \$25,000 to the winner. Loyal sponsors Woy Woy Poultry Supplies has been with the race in all of its four years. Listed are the past winners. 2003 **Thai Flame**, 2004 **Addis Boy**, 2005 **Cheeky Sprite**, 2006 **Cool Matt** and 2007 **Prey For Mercy**.



Trainer Eric Castle with supporters after the Cup win. (Pics Craig Youll)

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