



Media Release  
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## **GCA GREYHOUND OF THE MONTH AWARD SEPTEMBER 2019**

# **“HOOKED ON SCOTCH”**

The GCA Greyhound of the Month for September 2019 has been awarded to Victorian speed machine Hooked On Scotch for his outstanding display in the Sandown Speed Star and the Adelaide version that saw him qualify with direct passage into the Group 1 Adelaide Cup on October 11.



**Hooked On Scotch winning the Sandown Speed Star**

Jason Thompson was quick to put the Sandown 515 metre track record on notice following Hooked On Scotch's stunning Speed Star victory at a wet and blustery Sandown Park on Sunday September 15.

While the weather gods were far from kind for what was a fabulous card of racing, the elements did nothing to deter from the powerhouse performance of Hooked On Scotch in the feature event of the night, the number one seed carving out a sizzling 29.11 to secure the \$20,000 first prize for connections.

“I’ve got no doubt under the right conditions this dog is capable of breaking [Unlawful Entry’s 28.95) record here,” said Thompson directly following the son of Barcia Bale’s group 3 success.

After the Speed Star he had won four of his eight career starts, included in those wins the remarkable 29.09 he posted at Sandown to shoot to the top of the Speed Star pecking order, Thompson was toying with the idea of a trip to Wagga on the following Friday with the prodigious talent, joining kennelmate Black Opium for a qualifier of the TAB Million Dollar Chase. He elected to go to Adelaide instead.

Adding further merit to Hooked On Scotch’s dazzling performance in the Speed Star was that the remaining match races in the main event were annexed by Sennachie in 29.54, Lucy’s Milo in 29.69 and Got Some Wheels in 29.76 – meaning the younger half-brother to group 1 heroes Poke The Bear and Out Of Range had the best part of four tenths on his nearest rival.

Just amazing for a wet behind the ears pup still learning his craft.

His next mission was on September 26 at Angle Park, Hooked On Scotch recorded a blistering 29.19 to take out the State Of Origin series for Victoria and cement his spot in October 11’s Group 1 Adelaide Cup Final.

Racing ultra-talented SA galloper Fly For Fun in his match-race, Hooked On Scotch surged late to just better the sizzling 29.21 Sennachie had posted defeating Crash Bandicoot earlier in the night.

Hooked On Scotch’s State Of Origin success solidified the regally bred chaser’s Group 1 Adelaide Cup claims for Jason Thompson, the \$75,000 to-the-winner series getting underway next week.

The potential clash of Hooked On Scotch and Sennachie in the Adelaide group 1 finale in a fortnight’s time is shaping up as a mouth-watering spectacle, providing Sennachie progresses through next week’s heats with minimum fuss.

It rounded off a top month for the youngster having led all the way in a best of night win at Geelong on September 6th in a blistering 25.34 over the 460 metres.

Hooked On Scotch is a Black & White Dog whelped December 2017 by Barcia Bale from Nicki Fields (Knocka Fields x Misty Fields). He is raced by the Darren & Michael Puleio Syndicate and trained by Jason Thompson at Peacedale in Victoria. He has now won five races and been placed on three occasions from his nine starts. Hooked On Scotch’s overall prizemoney stands at \$33,655.

GCA congratulates the owners, Darren & Michael Puleio, trainer Jason Thompson and Hooked On Scotch on being awarded the GCA Greyhound of the Month for September. He joins the August winner Premium Share, July winner Sennachie, June winner Bago Bye Bye, May & March winner Orson Allen, April winner Zipping Bailey, Pindari Express and Buck’s Future as the GCA Greyhound of the Month winners for 2019.

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