



Media Release
1st March 2020

GCA RUN OF THE MONTH AWARD FEBRUARY 2020

“PINDARI EXPRESS”

The GCA Run of the Month for February 2020 has been awarded to speed machine Pindari Express after he stormed home at Bulli to win his second Group 2 Bulli Gold Cup in consecutive years on February 22nd.



Pindari Express in action winning at Wentworth Park

THE remarkable racing career of Pindari Express has drawn to a close with Tracey Scrusse electing to retire her star galloper following his successful Group 2 Bulli Gold Cup defence on February 22nd.

“It’s the perfect way for him to finish,” beamed a proud Scrusse.

“It all started for him at Bulli and to finish up by becoming the first dog to win two Bulli Gold Cups – **and to do it the way he did – is the ideal way for him to retire.** As a family we couldn’t be any prouder of him.”

Victorious at 18 of his 32 starts, and placed on another 10 occasions, Pindari Express, or Charlie as he’s more affectionately known, retires as one of the most gifted chasers the sport’s seen in its rich history.

To put it simply, he could do things and run times few thought possible, attributes that will launch what's anticipated to be a spectacular career at stud.

"I think it's sometimes lost a bit just what a ferocious chaser he is," Scrusse said.

"He gives you 110 percent whether it's in a group race final or a hand-slip at Bankstown slipping track. He's got a wonderful conformation and laid back temperament – when you look at his rump you know where all that power comes from."

For Scrusse, it seems like just yesterday that Pindari Express made his debut at Bulli in May, 2018, powering away for a flying 22.18 maiden success over the 400 metres, equalling Barcia Bale's track record in the process.

It was a performance that had racing fans abuzz, greyhound racing's brightest young star had hit the scene, creating a huge impression.

The son of Fabregas and Brook's Doll went on to win his first six starts in best of meeting times, included in those victories a then track record run at Maitland over the 450 metres of 24.59.

To put that performance into context, the next best time on the program was 25.24 ... on a cold winter's night.

Following the unblemished start to his career, Scrusse headed south with Charlie to contest the Group 3 Warragul St. Leger series, finishing a gallant second to Aston Kimetto in the final.

"That was his first trip away from home ... what a race that turned out to be," Scrusse said.

"Behind Charlie in the final was My Redeemer who went on to win the Melbourne Cup, Black Forge who won the Maitland Cup, Emerald Rainbow who won a Goulburn Cup and Nervous An Weird who won a group race as well."

Not surprisingly, 16 of Charlie's 18 wins were in best of meeting times, included in those performances his remarkable 21.93 track record run at Bulli over the 400 metres last February.

At each of his blistering wins he'd leave racegoers mesmerised with his withering run home sectionals, setting new benchmarks almost everywhere he went.

Last October, Pindari Express made the final of the TAB Million Dollar Chase at Wentworth Park, a track he posted a scintillating 29.41 at when winning a heat of the Golden Easter Egg last April.

"In the regional final of the Million Dollar Chase at Bulli he beat home dogs like Whiskey Riot, Premium Share and Western Envoy – it was a great race," Scrusse said.

"He proved time and time again he could match and beat the best."

Scrusse says she's been grappling with the idea of retiring Pindari Express since December, but after his barnstorming 26.07 Gold Cup success on Saturday night, the decision became a rather easy one.

"I had in the back of my mind that if he won on Saturday night that would be it for his racing," Scrusse said.

"It's the right time. He's almost four and he's got nothing left to prove to me. We could have gone to the Maitland Cup in a few weeks but I'm happy with the decision."

And as for Charlie's prospects at stud?

"I might be biased but he's got everything you could ask for in my opinion," Scrusse said.

"He wasn't over-raced, is wonderfully bred, is a great looker and never had any major injuries."

For Tracey and father Jack, their ride with the freight train over the past two years has been a life changer.

“Yes, he’s a once in a lifetime dog that’s given us so many great memories,” Scruse said.

“It’s mixed emotions. In a way it’s sad that his racing days are over but we’re really looking forward to the next chapter with him at stud.

“Dad taught me a long time ago that if you look after the dog, they will look after you in return. With Charlie, that’s definitely been the case

As usual there were some great greyhounds competing in February on various tracks around Australia. However, it was a rare performance not often seen and he got the nod as the Run of the Month.

Pindari Express is a Black dog whelped May 2016 by Fabregas from Brook’s Doll (Collision x Monique’s Doll). He is raced and trained by Tracey Scruse at Chifley in New South Wales. He won 18 races and was placed on 10 occasions from his 32 starts. His prizemoney was \$138,470.

GCA congratulates owner - trainer Tracey Scruse and Pindari Express after being judged the GCA Run of the Month for February 2020. He joins last month’s winner Here’s Tears, Zipping Cosmo, Hooked on Scotch (2) Feral Franky, Sennachie and Shima Shine as the winners of the GCA Run of the Month for 2019-2020.

Thanks for Story content Greyhound Recorder Website

Checkout the GCA Website at www.greyhoundclubsaustralia.com.au for a replay of the run of the Month

For more information please contact:

**Neil Brown
GCA Publicity Officer
Tel: 03 97691234
Mob: 0423 129 950**