



**Media Release**  
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## **GCA RUN OF THE MONTH AWARD MAY 2022**

# **“HANK THE HUSTLER”**

The GCA Run of the Month for May 2022 has been awarded to dour distance campaigner Hank The Hustler. For his courageous win in the Group 3 Wentworth Park Gold Cup on Million-dollar final night May 7th.



**Hank The Hustler winning at the Meadows.**

Hank The Hustler claimed the group 3 Gold Cup at Wentworth Park with a stunning last-to-first victory over the 720m journey.

Second favourite Super Estrella was expected to lead but found traffic in the midfield after mistiming the start as Holistic Key railed to take the lead through the first turn.

Hank The Hustler was a clear last as they settled and with a lap to run and spotted the leaders around eight lengths.

The Jeff Britton trained stayer quickly cut that margin, sticking to the fence as the pack fanned wide through the third turn.

Full of momentum, he decisively split the tiring Holistic Key and Paris And Rome down the back straight and took off in pursuit of Super Estrella who had taken the lead passing the starting boxes for the final time. In the run to the line, Hank The Hustler proved too strong, nabbing the favourite in the final strides to claim a one length victory in 42.27.

The win was just reward for the Britton kennel with handler Craig Solkhon revealing he had made the trip north to Sydney six times in the previous seven weeks.

“It’s been a pretty hard slog but this makes it all worthwhile,” he said.

“There was a bit of trouble down by the bend through the catching pen and he snuck up the inside. I thought he’ll run a place cos the other dogs were a mile in front and then coming off the last bend he kept going and going and I thought he might win this. It’s just absolutely unreal.”

The win came two years and three days since Hank The Hustler made his debut in South Australia for owner Nathan Wilson, and Solkhon was full of praise for the dog’s consistency at the sport’s upper echelons, the Gold Cup being his fourth victory from 12 group finals.

As usual there were some great greyhounds competing in May on various tracks around Australia. However, it was a super chasing effort to come from last, travel between dogs at various times of the journey before racing home hard to get up and win in top company. The performance won him the Run of the Month.

Hank The Hustler is a Black Dog whelped September 2018 by Fernando Bale from Oakvale Destiny (Vapour Whirl x Foot Luce). He is raced by the Wilson Syndicate and trained by Jeff Britton at Anakie in Victoria. He has now won 24 and 23 placings from 78 starts. Hank’s overall prizemoney stands at \$266,010.

GCA congratulates owners the Wilson Syndicate, trainer Jeff Britton and Hank The Hustler on winning the May 2022 Award. He joins Knicks Bale, Zipping Novak, Aston Rupee twice, Wow She’s Fast, Jayville Slick, Extra Malt, Collinda Patty and Equalizer as the monthly winners of the GCA Run of the Month award for the financial year of 2021-2022.

**Thanks for story information Mick Floyd Greyhound Recorder Website**

**Checkout the GCA Website at [www.greyhoundclubsaustralia.com.au](http://www.greyhoundclubsaustralia.com.au) for a replay of the run of the Month**

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