



MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 18 December 2017

GRV Media Release – Victorian Greyhound of the year to headline Gippsland Carnival

Australia's latest million-dollar greyhound Fanta Bale will headline the 650m Cup TRFM Sale Cup, kickstarting the \$800,000 Gippsland Carnival.

The 2016/17 Victorian greyhound of the year recently cracked the million-dollar prize money mark, making her only the third greyhound in Australia to achieve the remarkable milestone.

And despite a poor start in Sunday's heats, Fanta Bale surged home at the end to win her heat and secure a spot in the prestigious Sale Cup.

Sale club manager Des Dooley, a greyhound racing enthusiast of more than 50 years admits that Fanta Bale is one of the most genuine greyhounds he has seen race.

"It is going to be very exciting come Boxing Day for the 2017 Sale Cup, I think everyone in the Sale region wanted to see her perform on our biggest stage," Dooley said.

Chasin' Crackers was the fastest qualifier in the weekend's heats, clocking 37.337sec in heat one over Brueghelino.

Trainer Glenn Rounds set Chasin' Crackers up for the Sale Cup, trialling his Melbourne Cup placegetter at the track before venturing down the highway.

Rounds' approach was justified, with Chasin' Crackers leading all the way from box five in his first start over the track and distance. Brueghelino was brilliant, storming home from box three to bridge the margin to just 1.31 lengths to also qualify for the Cup.

Less than a length separated the first four placegetters in the second heat, with pre-race \$1.40 favourite Royal Intention, for Diane O'Neill snagging the win over the Gippsland-trained Inequity.

The \$75,000 TRFM Sale Cup kicks off the first leg of the Gippsland Carnival, followed by the \$47,000 Warragul Cup on 13 January, the \$47,000 Traralgon Cup on 27 January and the \$47,000 Cranbourne Cup on 10 February.

Points are allocated for first, second and third place getters throughout the series and a Gippsland Champion will be crowned at the end of the carnival. A \$20,000 bonus will be shared among the top three greyhounds of the series.

The Gippsland Carnival is Australia's biggest greyhound regional series. It was held for the first-time last year and has been finetuned for 2017 to span eight weeks. The Stayer and Sprinter competitions



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have been combined into one overall championship series and more points will be on offer in the heats.

The final of the Sale Cup will be held on the night of Boxing Day, December 26.

For media inquiries please contact: Luke Holmesby | Public Affairs Manager | 0478 473 570 | lhomesby@grv.org.au