



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 16 August 2018

GRV Media Release – Strong field set for 2018 CKH Painting Shepparton Cup this Saturday

A strong field will line up for the 2018 CKH Painting Shepparton Cup at the Shepparton Greyhound Racing Club on Saturday night, August 18.

Seven heats were held on Monday night, with the winners of each heat and the fastest runner-up making it through to the \$67,000 final. The winners through to the 450m final are: Zoom Out (25.12sec), Peter Galo (25.20sec), Elevated (25.37sec), Extra Gear (25.39sec), My Name's David (25.42sec), Despacito (25.45sec) and Hone In (25.63sec). At 25.34sec, Mayor Digby was the quickest runner up, finishing second to Zoom Out in Heat 3.

Zoom Out who finished with the quickest time, has firmed as the \$3 favourite. Avalon trainer Michelle Mallia-Magri is chasing her second Shepparton Cup with this speedster, having won the Cup with Blackalls Boss in 2012. Zoom Out has won seven from seven over the 450m distance at Shepparton so she will be hard to beat, however the last female greyhound to claim the Cup was Hanify's Impact in 2008.

Peter Galo is contesting his third Victorian country cup, having run sixth in the Healesville Cup and eighth in the Bendigo Cup. Peter Galo started his career impressively, claiming four consecutive victories at Healesville. Trainer Gary Selkrig has said that this greyhound has the potential to dominate not only on the straight track but around the circle too.

Elevated ran the third fastest time in the heats but he could be saving his best for Saturday. Trained by Harry Manolitsis from Devon Meadows, he won the 2018 Group 1 \$100,000 to-the-winner Sapphire Crown at Sandown Park in May. Manolitsis is no stranger to group race success, having bred the 2016 Group 1 Golden Easter Egg winner, Moreira.

Heathcote trainer, Raymond Henness, will be looking for something special from Extra Gear who will be running in his first group race.

Trained by Alan Ferguson in Girgarre, My Name's David is the only local greyhound to get through to the final. Superbly bred, he is a son of Australian Cup and Adelaide Cup winner, Spud Regis. He might have the local crowd on his side on Saturday night, but he will have history working against him as the last time a local chaser claimed this event was 24 years ago.



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Pearcedale trainer Seona Thompson's Despacito is chasing the fifth Shepparton Cup title for the Thompson kennel. Although he has only contested one group race to date, he consistently races against group-class greyhounds and last year took out the Great Chase Final at The Meadows.

A few months shy of his fourth birthday, Hone In is the oldest greyhound in the final. This will be his 70th career start and his third group race attempt. Trained by Stephen Lambert, Hone In won the Group 2 Richmond Derby (535m) and finished second in the Group 2 Maitland Gold Cup over 450m.

The Cup is Shepparton's premier greyhound racing event and is one of the major Country Cups on Victoria's greyhound racing calendar. The evening will also feature the Ron Nestor Memorial over 450m and the Byers Electrical Cup Night Stayers 650m.

The Shepparton club has been an integral part of the community since the early 1970s and staged its first Shepparton Cup in 1973. More than 1000 people participate in greyhound racing in the Goulburn region and it is estimated that it contributes \$13.1 million to the local economy each year.

2018 Group 2 CKH Painting Shepparton Cup Final (450m)

Saturday, 8:09pm

- 1 **HONE IN** (Brett Bravo, Lovely Banks)
- 2 **DESPACITO** (Seona Thompson, Pearcedale)
- 3 **MY NAME'S DAVID** (Alan Ferguson, Girgarre)
- 4 **ELEVATED** (Harry Manolitsis, Devon Meadows)
- 5 **EXTRA GEAR** (Raymond Henness, Heathcote)
- 6 **PETER GALO** (Garry Selkrig, Devon Meadows)
- 7 **MAYOR DIGBY** (Darren Brown, Lara)
- 8 **ZOOM OUT** (Michelle Mallia-Magri, Avalon)

Reserves

- 9) **UP HILL JILL** (David Geall, Lara)
- 10) **REGAZZONI** (Angela Langton, Anakie)

For media inquiries please contact:

Luke Holmesby | Public Affairs Manager | 0478 473 570 | lholmesby@grv.org.au

Suzanne McKenzie | Public Affairs Coordinator | 0437 570 739 | smckenzie@grv.org.au