



MEDIA RELEASE

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2020 READY 2 RACE AUCTION POSTPONED TO EARLY 2021

It is with great disappointment that due to the uncertainty of allowed attendances, required Covid19 protocols and travel restrictions the Bendigo Greyhound Racing Association has had to make the decision to postpone the 2020 Ready 2 Race auction that was scheduled for mid November.

In normal times the nominations would have opened next week for the auction and need to close at the end of October or first week in November at the latest to allow time to produce the required documentation and put in place necessary infrastructure and operational requirements to conduct the event.

To be fair on both the sellers, requiring necessary time to prepare their greyhound for the event, and the buyers who prefer to be present to see the greyhounds in the flesh and bid in a traditional auction format the Club has been left with no other choice at this point in time.

“2020 continues to throw up challenge after challenge for all people and businesses and racing has not been excluded from the challenges, albeit we have been fortunate due to good management and adherence of protocols by participants to be able to continue to race” said BGRRA Manager Troy Harley.

“The racing side of the business in 2020 has continued by way of essential attendees only and as such our feature races were successfully held behind closed doors. While crowds exclusions did not stop the Clubs major races being conducted the auction is very different with the need to have additional staff as well as the need for owners, buyers and transporters to be on site. With no guarantee of that being permitted this close to the event we have had to postpone” Harley added.

All is not lost with the BGRRA looking to reschedule the auction to March or April 2021 with the traditional November auction to take place as well. Since the inception of the R2R in 2012 there has been discussion around the viability of conducting two auctions annually and since taking over the management of the R2R the BGRRA has been keen to pursue that option and grow interstate participation.

“In most negatives you can find a positive and in this case the rescheduling of the auction to March will provide the opportunity to conduct dual auctions in 2021. We are already looking at how we can structure the two auctions per year moving forward and cannot wait to provide the popular avenue for selling and buying ready to race greyhounds that the R2R has become” said Harley.

Dates, conditions and other details for the postponed R2R auction will be released in the coming weeks.