



MEDIA RELEASE

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READY 2 RACE AUCTION A NO GO IN 2023-24

After much consideration the Bendigo Greyhound Racing Association (BGR A) has determined to not proceed with the Ready 2 Race Auction Series in 2023 and 2024 with the future of the concept in 2025 still uncertain.

First held in 2012, the Ready 2 Race Auction had been a feature of the BGR A's events calendar until covid saw the cancellation of the 2020 and 2021 events and the 2022 event cancelled.

"The Club, in conjunction with GRV personnel, have undertaken another detailed review of the Ready 2 Race Auction and the pros and cons of such an event in the current climate and have decided that the auction will not take place in 2023 and 2024 at Bendigo" said BGR A General Manager Charlton Hindle.

"It has been a difficult decision for the Club to make given the enormous hours and dedication to the event that has been put in by everyone involved here at Bendigo and at GRV in the 11 years since the inaugural R2R was conducted however we feel in the interests of majority concerned the decision to cancel is the right one" added Hindle.

The BGR A will continue to focus on strengthening its racing product through the various carnivals and feature events conducted each year as well as the continuation of the themed and charity events.

CHANGES TO THE 2024 EASTER CARNIVAL

After another successful Easter Carnival in 2023, the club conducted its yearly review to continue the betterment of the Easter Gold Rush Carnival. The 2024 carnival will have the same date structure as the 2023 Gold Rush Easter Carnival with Finals Day continuing on the Easter Sunday March 31st, 2024.

Due to the popularity of the "Rank-and-File Cup" in its inaugural year, the BGR A and GRV have agreed to add a consolation race which will be ran on the Easter Sunday the Carnival finals day. Along with the implementation of the Rank-and-File cup Consolation, another change will be that the ranking for the 2024 Rank-and-File Cup will be pushed to a 300+ ranking.

"The introduction of the Rank-and-File Cup Consolation was an easy decision for the club. The first running of the event attracted 8 full heats for a total of 71 nominations. We believe with the

introduction of the 300+ ranking we can build on last year's event and make it one of the races the trainers can aim for" said BGRA Manager Charlton Hindle.

The 2024 Gold Rush Carnival will see the continuation of its feature event the Gold Rush Maiden as well as the Belle and Beau of Bendigo, The Stayers, Easter, and Rank-and-File Cups, with the Gold Rush Maiden and Rank-and-File Consolation rounding out the features for the final day of the 2024 Gold Rush Easter Carnival.

CLUB TRIALS RECORD BROKEN

The Bendigo Greyhound Racing Association has this month ticked over 11,000 trials for the first time since records have been kept during this financial year.

BGRA prides itself on having all varieties of trials available for participants with Arm Trials ran twice a week, Pen Trials after every race meeting and education trials on a Thursday morning.

"The club has had this structure for a couple of years now. We find that the current schedule works well to cater for every participant and their busy lifestyles" says BGRA Manager Charlton Hindle.

Hindle acknowledges the work and hours the staff put in. "Of course, this would not be possible without our brilliant staff! Track Curator Mick Pell puts in countless hours behind the scenes to ensure our track is in top condition every time a dog puts paw to sand. Aaron and Cal Blake put in the hours of a race meeting and trial session to ensure everything runs accordingly. Lure Driver Glenn Bahen is one of the best in the business. Troy Morrison for all the behind-the-scenes administration work and finally all our casual staff who stay back after the races to help with trials".

"None of this would be possible without our staff who put in all this work. Next time you see them make sure to say thank you" Hindle added.

The BGRA will keep the same trials structure for the foreseeable future and appreciate the understanding of participants at times when needed.