

MEDIA RELEASE

9th July 2006

***“Stryker’s Shadow to good in the Bob
Payne Winter Stake final”***

Wentworth Park specialist Stryker’s Shadow (\$2.80 favourite) proved to good for a classy field when he lead for most of the trip to win the Group 2 Bob Payne Winter Stake final at Wentworth Park on Saturday night.

Stryker’s Shadow qualified with the fastest heat win last week in 30.30. The time was clearly the best on an unprepared track that produced extremely slow times throughout the entire meeting. However a tidy field of in form sprinters made the final including Easter Egg victor Edie Beauchamp (30.48), Zin Zin Zanziba (30.71), Highlee (30.86), Banklee, Modern Love, History Unfolded and Cincardo.

week on and the track after plenty of criticism was much better, but the result was similar nicely drawn in box two Stryker’s Shadow begun well and forced his way to the front from a determined Banklee. At the first turn and down the back Banklee (\$4.70) was as game as they come and put down a challenge but the leader extended in the home straight and raced away to record an impressive win by a length and a half.

Time for the final was 30.25 with sections of 5.46 and 13.96 the much improved Zin Zin Zanzibar (\$13.10) was a further length and half away in third place. Edie Beauchamp (\$2.90) was well fancied from her preferred outside draw in seven and after beginning only fairly she raced up behind the leaders at the first turn and looked in good position travelling into the back. Her challenge, however, was short lived and after checking off other runners she drifted back through the field only finishing in front of History Unfolded.

Owner – trainer Tony Pagano was very excited after the race, and was delighted to win a Group 2 feature with his ultra consistent sprinter. Pagano also raced Stryker’s Shadow’s dam Stryke Me Out and enjoyed the extra satisfaction of breeding the black dog, his sire Solve The Puzzle won the Bob Payne in 1998.

Besides his many wins at Wentworth Park Stryker’s Shadow was also a finalist in the National Derby earlier in the year and he won the Dapto Derby in fine style.

In his current form Stryker’s Shadow is certainly going to be a front runner in the up coming Group 1 National Sprint Championship series. Given his outstanding Wentworth Park record the black dog may just represent New South Wales in Launceston come the first week of September.

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AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Stryker's Shadow is a black dog Whelped January 2003 by Solve The Puzzle from Stryke Me Out (Stryker Bale x Hidden Chicquita), he has now had 47 starts for 21 wins and 15 placings and the \$25,000 first prize for the Bob Payne Winter Stake took his over all stake earnings to \$101,225. He has a brilliant record at Wentworth Park where this year he is Sydney's best performed and most consistent performer at headquarters from 26 starts he has won 15 and been placed on seven occasions.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order Cincardo (\$45.50), Highlee (\$11.40), Modern Love (\$55.70), Edie Beauchamp (\$2.90) and History Unfolded (\$14.80).

First run in 1961 the Winter Stake is a time honoured GBOTA feature sprint event. It was sponsored for many years commencing in the early 80's by Bradshaw's Waste one of Greyhound racings major contributors during that period. The company shared a long affiliation with former GBOTA Chairman of eight years Bob Payne and following his retirement from that position Bradshaw's requested the Winter Stake be named after Payne to commemorate his massive contribution to Greyhound racing in New South Wales and in particular the GBOTA, he had first joined as a member in 1943. The feature race has remained named in his honour and is now held as a memorial following Bob Payne's passing three years ago. The race has been won by some of the sports finest sprinters and listed below is the honour roll.

1961 **Valadina Boy**, 1962 **Kelly's Reject**, 1963 **Glitter Girl**, 1964 **Cream Range**, 1965 **Kewin**, 1966 **Jet Again**, 1967 **Meg's Delta**, 1968 **Gold Hero**, 1969 **Silent Retreat**, 1970 **Linen's Charm**, 1971 **Gemini Todd**, 1972 **Woolley Wilson**, 1973 **Silent Wonder**, 1974 **Buffateer**, 1975 **Smooth Approach**, 1976 **Lord Zephyr**, 1977 **Treacherous Gal**, 1978 **Riviera Tiger**, 1979 **Rusty Brian**, 1980 **Lovely Kathy**, 1981 **Franc Meteor**, 1982 **Better Future**, 1983 **Bobby Rich**, 1984 **Switch Blade**, 1985 **Snow Report**, 1986 **Camden's Ghost**, 1987 **Crotty Kid**, 1988 **Rumpus Brandi**, 1989 **Valley Mail**, 1990 **Noble Spades**, 1991 **Mountain Red**, 1992 **How's The Fort**, 1993 **Dynamite Lad**, 1994 **Gallant Ruler**, 1995 **Warrigal Road**, 1996 **Midnight Flirt**, 1997 **Honcho Flash**, 1998 **Solve The Puzzle**, 1999 **Faithful Hawk**, 2000 **Go Wild Teddy**, 2001 **Winsome Dollars**, 2002 **Phantom Devil**, 2003 **Kumta Chase**, 2004 **Juney Reltub**, 2005 **Over Flo**.

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