

GOULBURN GREYHOUND RACING CLUB



DOGS' DAY OUT: Peplenish (red jacket on the inside) on its way to smashing the 700m course record in the first at Greyhound Racing Club's historic TAB meeting. Photo: Darryl Fernance.

TAB meetings off and racing ...

Greys on right course

By LLOYD SCROOPE

FITTINGLY, the first race at yesterday's historic Goulburn greyhound TAB meeting, was a course record.

Not only do the punters love the new facilities, the dogs do too. Gone are the days of early 20th century dog kennels, erratic interest and minimal revenue.

The Goulburn Greyhound

Racing Club yesterday cut the ribbon on a new era that features state-of-the-art facilities and TAB access, and one that mayor Geoff Kettle says has the ability to reel in dollars for the town.

Patrons, officials and trainers alike gathered to admire the Recreation Area's new dog kennels and officials' quarters – a \$900,000 project funded in thirds by Goulburn Mulwaree Council, the state government and

Greyhound Racing NSW.

The opening was followed by a full card of TAB covered races in the new and soon-to-be familiar Tuesday afternoon time bracket.

It took nigh on 10 minutes for the new facility, declared by Cr Kettle as 'the best in the state', to have an effect.

At 2.02pm Goulburn appeared on television sets across Australia and to select audiences around the world.

And Michael Clayton's three-year-old Peplenish put on a show, gapping nearest greyhound Big Daddy Boy by nine lengths and setting a 700 metre course record in the process.

It was an apt beginning to a bright future.

"It's been a lot of hard work by the Goulburn Club, their committee and all the staff after the last seven years," Greyhound Racing Club president Gary Clark said

minutes before a commemorative plaque was unveiled to a sizeable attendance.

"Of course, there's been three parties that have been highly responsible. And for that, we thank them."

Council's decision to commit \$300,000 of ratepayers' money towards the project was prudent, and one which is likely to pay-off immediately, Cr Kettle said.

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