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Media Release

Tommy and Artie do it “Doggie Style” for Origin

STATE of Origin legends Arthur ‘Artie’ Beetson and Tommy Raudonikis will do it Doggie Style to finally settle which State is the best.

Named ‘Birth Of Origin - Doggie Style’, the two Rugby League greats are holding a series of match races in Queensland and New South Wales with their new greyhounds to decide the title.

The two greyhounds will appear for the first time in solo trials at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club at Albion Park on Thursday night, May 14, to launch the competition. The event will kick off at 6pm and entry is free.

Mr Raudonikis’ greyhound has been named ‘*Harden Up Tommy*’ (aka *Cattledog*), while Mr Beetson’s has been named ‘*Murri Yaxa*’, which is the aboriginal dialect for ‘Queenslander Mud Crab’ from his home town, Roma.

Mr Beetson said that *Murri Yaxa* was ‘fighting fit’ and had the spirit of a Queenslander.

“Like most competitions between Queensland and New South Wales, it is going to be a tough battle,” said Mr Beetson.

“*Murri Yaxa* has the spirit of a Queenslander and that will always overcome a Blue.”

Mr Raudonikis, who coined the term ‘Cattledog’ as a verbal trigger for his team to start ‘biffing’ when coaching New South Wales, said *Harden Up Tommy* would be lengths ahead of his rival.

“I love greyhounds, and I can just tell that *Harden Up Tommy* is going to run well,” said Mr Raudonikis.

“We have held some ‘secret’ trials of course, and she is running beautifully,” he said.

The launch on May 14 will be held at the Brisbane Club’s trackside marquee. Alongside the greyhound time trial, Artie and Tommy will feature a sneak preview of their new dinner show, titled ‘Birth Of Origin’, and share their Origin tips with Mark Braybrook of Fox Sports, the MC of the evening.

Guests will be able to mingle with the former Origin captains and buy Official Cattledog and Murri Yaxa merchandise on the night.

Those keen to get involved in greyhound racing will also be able to buy limited shares in *Murri Yaxa* and *Harden Up Tommy*.

Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club general manager Luke Gatehouse said the two dogs had good breeding, and were looking fit.



“It is going to be a great match up I think,” Mr Gatehouse said.

“They look great, have decent pedigrees and are sure to come out firing with the cheer of the crowd.”

The first match race will take place on the afternoon of the first Origin match and tickets will be made available on Thursday.

The exclusive Birth Of Origin Lunch at the Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club on June 3 will feature the Birth Of Origin Show, the first match race of *Harden Up Tommy* and *Murri Yaxa* as well as an afternoon of Albion Park greyhound racing. 13 match races will be held in total across the two states.

The two greyhounds are trained by Lee Elgood, who coincidentally trained the top performing greyhound named *Mr Raudonikis*.

For further information on the match races, or to pre-purchase tickets to the events, see www.brisgreys.com

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