



15 June 2023

## Turning Green into Gold

Green & Gold Athletes Australia Director, Barton Green, tells me talented young athletes are denied the opportunity to pursue their dreams to become Olympians or Paralympians because they or their families can't afford to fund competition.

The requirement for international travel, equipment, coaching, food and accommodation can mean that green and gold dreams are out of reach, especially for athletes from remote, rural and indigenous communities.

After years of investigation, engagement and passion, Nat Cook OAM OLY has founded Green & Gold Athletes Australia Ltd (Green & Gold Athletes) - a new model to directly support aspiring elite young athletes.

Nat's own experiences, and those of fellow Olympians and Paralympians, highlight that many athletes selected to represent Australia are stymied by finances.

Green & Gold Athletes' Mission is to nurture, uplift, develop and sustain athletes on their journey from emerging to elite, through education, a connected community and financial support opportunities from the first time they wear the green and gold.

Once selected to represent Australia in any Olympic or Paralympic sport, an athlete automatically qualifies to apply to Green & Gold Athletes for financial support. Applications will be considered by a Green & Gold Athletes assessment panel.

Once selected by Green & Gold Athletes, athletes will also have access to welfare and mentoring support that includes a focus on good mental health. The funding and mentoring model developed for each athlete will be bespoke, because every sport and each athlete has vastly different needs and qualification criteria.

The project will initially be a Queensland and NSW-based pilot (scalable nationally) for a new, direct-engagement support program for young athletes selected to represent Australia.

Green & Gold Athletes has some big goals and is targeting to support up to 100 athletes each year in the initial couple of years, growing to 1000 athletes per year by 2032.



Green & Gold Athletes Australia Directors: Nicole Davis, Barton Green and Nat Cook OAM OLY

There are three primary channels for fundraising:

1. Partnerships (traditional corporate partnerships/sponsorships)
2. Direct athlete support – an individual or organisation can elect to directly fund a Green & Gold Athletes member
3. Legacy Foundation – to be grown over several years, with an initial target of \$1 million and a 10-year target of \$50 million (to enable the program to continue, self-funded).

Green & Gold Athletes is a partner of the Australian Sports Foundation which enables tax deductible contributions to be received and the funds directed to individual Green & Gold Athletes.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



## Winners in Early Thoughts last week

### Tipped by

Think About It  
Antino  
Selino (\$9)  
Ozzmosis  
Iowna Merc

The GM, Punters Pal, Super Man, 2-Bet Strategy  
The Magician, Super Man, Single Bet, Best Around Australia  
The Striker  
Single Bet, Best Around Australia  
2-Bet Strategy



## NRL

Roosters +4.5

Eels

Storm

## ARL

GWS v Freo Tri Bet 1-39

Richmond v St Kilda Tri Bet 1-39

# THE EARLY THOUGHTS STRATEGY

Single Selections  
10 units per selection

Belmont  
R2 Princess Lacillia

2-Bet Strategy

Ipswich  
R1 Defiant Spirit, Upstart Legend

Belmont  
R1 Blackwater Bay, The Dominican



**\*\*no bets on heavy tracks**

**Check the updated selections posted on the Early Thoughts website on Saturday morning**

Project Kai



## Super Man's and The GM's Best Around Australia

Belmont R2 Princess Lacillia; R5 Crescent City  
Flemington R2 Steparty; R5 Party For One; R7 Brayden Star  
Ipswich R5 Deepour  
Murray Bridge R3 Pudding; R4 Bristler  
Rosehill R1 Tutta La Vita; R5 Fawkner Park

## Super Man's Place All Up

Flemington R6 King Magnus  
Belmont R4 Berbere  
Ipswich R8 Blaze A Trail



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# Early Thoughts Crew Selections

	<u>Feature Race</u> Ipswich Cup	<u>Best Bet</u>	<u>Beat Value</u>
The Magician @earlythoughts	Desert Icon	Ipswich R1 Defiant Spirit Belmont R2 Princess Lacillia	Belmont R8 Exceltrain Murray Bridge R2 The Magistrate
Gerard Daffy <i>The Patron Saint</i>	Desert Icon	AFL St Kilda to beat Richmond	
Winnos Winners	Desert Icon	Ipswich R2 Sailor's Secret R5 Deepour	Ipswich R3 Kinetic R6 Fashion Legend
The GM <i>Loves the Punt</i>	Berdibek	Rosehill R1 Tutta La Vita R5 Fawkner Park	Flemington R7 Jimmy The Bear Ipswich R8 Irish Songs
Punters Pal	Berdibek	Belmont R1 Blackwater Bay Flemington R4 Sigh	Rosehill R3 Goomeri R10 Plundering
Super Man <i>Beating the market</i>	Numerian	Murray Bridge R4 Bristler Flemington R2 Steparty	Flemington R6 King Magnus Ipswich R8 Blaze A Trail
The Striker <i>Always kicking goals</i>	Desert Icon	Rosehill R6 Plundering	Flemington R2 Unowho
The Shadow <i>Keeping it in the family</i>	Dark Destroyer	Ipswich R9 Snapped	Ipswich R8 Hard Landing (Duff Owned Duff Trained)
2023 Tipping Leaders	<u>Feature Race</u> 10 Winners Winnos 9 Winners Gerard Daffy Punters Pal The GM Super Man 8 Winners The Magician	<u>Best Bet</u> 16 Winners The Magician Super Man 15 Winners Winnos 12 Winners The GM 10 Winners Punters Pal	<u>Value</u> 5 Winners The Magician Winnos The GM Super Man

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