



## MEDIA RELEASE

June 4, 2017

### **Rio Olympian claims Golden Gift on a golden day**

She finished seventh in the steeplechase at Rio, but today was all about gold for Madeline Hills.

Blitzing the strongest ever elite mile women's field, Hills clocked 4:41.22 to win \$6000 and a one ounce gold ingot ahead of Brittany McGowan and Abigail Regan.

"I first heard about Leonora about a decade ago and I came three years ago, it's great to get out here and the field is getting stronger," she said.

"I wasn't considering myself the favourite at all, I'd be very excited to come back again."

Hills said she would use her prize money to head to Europe to race.

"The money really helps make this possible," she said.

However, she will trade her gold ingot for a pet dog.

The men's race was just as exciting with young gun Jordan Gusman sprinting to victory in 4:03.21 ahead of Stewart McSweyn and Adam Pyke.

"The other track races don't have this kind of aspect to them, in terms of Australian events there is no other experience like this one," he said.

"I guess I'll give the nugget to my mum, I wouldn't know what else to do with it.

Gusman said racing in Leonora was a great experience for athletes young and old.

"It's a good learning experience for young athletes and old"

Full results are available at

<http://bluechipresults.com.au/Results.aspx?CId=11&RId=1019&EId=24>

For more information, go to [www.leonoragoldengift.com](http://www.leonoragoldengift.com).

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#### **Media Contact**

Frances Thornton

0405 135 304

[frances@francesthornton.com.au](mailto:frances@francesthornton.com.au)



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## About the Leonora Golden Gift

A small outback town, elite athletes, \$50,000 up for grabs, a bitumen street as the track. Combine this with dirt track horse racing, fireworks, market stalls, bands and street entertainment all weekend for the kids and you have yourself the outback experience that is Leonora's Golden Gift Carnival!

Leonora is part of the Goldfields-Esperance region of Western Australia and has a rich history of mining, exploration and a well-established pastoral industry. An outback town with a difference, you'll enjoy visiting Gwalia, an abandoned old mining village that has been restored to its original condition and boasts one of Australia's finest museums.

View the 2017 promo video here: <https://youtu.be/PuVji11O3f0>