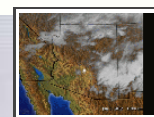




yellowbook360™ FREE ONLINE MARKETING SEMINAR

VIEW UPCOMING SEMINARS

Search



Tucson, AZ | Radars | Cameras | Alerts

64° Clear



- Home
 - News
 - Weather
 - Sports
 - Video
 - Entertainment
 - Travel
 - Community
 - Marketplace
 - About
 - YouNews
 - KTTU
 - Login
- Local
 - National
 - World
 - Politics
 - Business
 - Health
 - Gas Prices
 - Slideshows

Local News

Print Email Share



Protests against Skecher's ad shot at Tucson Greyhound Park

fox11az.com

Posted on January 30, 2012 at 2:42 PM

Updated yesterday at 2:43 PM

Recommend 8

TUCSON, Ariz. -- Animal lovers are taking aim at a Skechers Footwear commercial set to air during the Superbowl.

They're protesting the site where the TV ad was shot, Tucson Greyhound Park.

A 15 second clip was released on YouTube.

It's a story about an underdog wearing game-changing kicks.

Protesters could be heard voicing their disapproval, "Shut down the park."

Greyhound advocate group, GREY2K USA, doesn't find the Skechers Superbowl ad athletic or uplifting.

"The original goal would be to pull it because there's nothing funny about what happens to these dogs," said pet owner Lizzie Mead.

Protesters are having creative differences with the footwear retailer, which shot their game day spot at the Tucson Greyhound Park.

"Just promoting a sport where dogs are injured where dogs live in confinement is not, you wouldn't expect that from a company like Skechers," said Karyn Zoldan with GREY2K USA.

"You don't abuse the thing you're trying to win races with," said Tom Taylor.

CEO of Tucson Greyhound Park, Tom Taylor, says allegations of animal mistreatment are not true.

"We have three state employees on our track all the time they inspect the kennels they inspect the dogs," Taylor said.

According to the Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board, from 2009 to 2010 three vets working at the track faced disciplinary action for failing to keep proper records of medications and animal examinations.

- Mobile
- RSS Feeds
- Special Offers
- Newsletters
- Twitter
- Facebook
- TV Listings



Local News Video



Tucson gem show brings tourists and dollars

- TUSD punishing students who walkout in protest of ethnic studies ban
- Homicide investigation on Tucson's east side
- White House Hispanic Community Action Summit comes to Tucson
- Border agent fires at rock throwers at Nogales fence

MORE VIDEOS | MORE LOCAL NEWS VIDEOS

Most Viewed Most Emailed

- Protests against Skecher's ad shot at Tucson Greyhound Park
- Woman stabbed to death in northwest Tucson,



The People-Powered Business Directory

Business:

Location:



Auto Dealers
Auto Repair
Bar
Carpet Cleaning
Child Care
Chocolate
Coffee
Dentist
Doctor
Florists
Furniture
Golf Course
Gym
Hair Salon
Hotels
Insurance
Jewelry
Landscaping
Locksmith
Movers
Pizza
Plumbing
Realtor
Remodeling
Storage
Browse all »

by MojoPages

Taylor insists the dogs are in good care.

"Greyhounds don't have anybody on their back telling them what to do. These dogs run instinctively," Taylor said.

Skechers has apparently reached out to protesters, saying no dogs were harmed during production.

Calls to a Skechers spokesperson to ask whether the company has plans of pulling the ad were not returned.



Previous article

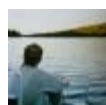
[Explosion destroys 2 homes in Chandler](#)

Next article

[Tucson police cruiser struck by suspected drunk driver](#)

6 comments ▼

[Add a comment](#)



Dave Stephenson · ★ Top Commenter

Ban all sales of Skechers. They know that they choose the worst track, did they consider what they were associating themselves with? They just do not care, so no more shoes from them ever. I torched my pair, and will never buy from them again.

[Reply](#) · [1](#) · 15 hours ago



Lisa Kast Moser · Rutgers University

Awesome sport of greyhound racing? More like horrific. Disgusting something like that still exists and people go watch. Shame on Skechers.

[Reply](#) · [1](#) · 15 hours ago



Valarie Wolf · ★ Top Commenter

It is unconscionable that Skechers would shoot an ad at this notorious dog track where hundreds of dogs live lives of confinement and suffer injuries on the track.

At Tucson Greyhound Park, greyhounds are kept confined in small cages which are barely large enough for them to stand up or turn around. They are fed raw 4-D meat, the meat of downed, diseased, disabled or dead livestock. This was documented in a recent video investigation.

While racing, greyhounds face the risk of serious injury. According to state records, between January 2007 and November 2009, nearly 1,000 greyhound injuries were reported at Arizona racetracks. The most common injury was a broken leg, and other reported injuries included fractures, sprains, dislocations, muscle tears and strains, lacerations, a cracked skull, broken backs, heat stroke, puncture wounds and paralysis. To learn more, please see our full report and video at www.grey2kusa.org.

Val Wolf, Board Member GREY2K USA.

[Reply](#) · 19 hours ago



Robert Gross

I applaud Skechers for glorifying the awesome sport of Greyhound Racing. Valerie Wolf has done a great job of cut and paste from the Grey2k (lies) web site. Based on injury statistics that Grey2k obtained from the Arizona

[daughter calls 911](#)

- [Secret Service investigates Peoria police sergeant](#)
- [Tucson food truck roundup downtown](#)
- [Retired Arizona Supreme Court justice dies](#)

[MORE>>](#)

Racing Commission, the injury rate at Tucson Greyhound Park is less than 0.03 - one-third of one percent. Sounds like a very safe sport. And only half of those are serious injuries. Thank you Grey2k for publishing that information. Valerie also mentions the use of 4D meat, which is perfectly fine for pet / animal use (according to the USDA). I've fed 4D meat to my dogs for more than 30 years, and have never had a problem. In fact, if you feed your dog canned food, you're feeding 4D meat.

[Reply](#) · · 16 hours ago



Eric Jackson · ★ Top Commenter · Board Member at GREY2K USA

But Robert Gross, haven't you realized that your metric of "starts" is incorrect? It assumes each start is an independent event, but that's not the case.

[Reply](#) · · 13 hours ago



Eric Jackson · ★ Top Commenter · Board Member at GREY2K USA

What are you going to say when one of the dogs in that commercial gets killed, or worse, gets put down because of a broken leg (a treatable injury that often turns fatal for racing greyhounds)? I wouldn't want to be Skechers when that happens.

[Reply](#) · · 13 hours ago



Robert Gross

Eric Jackson It most certainly is an independent event. The probability of injury does not increase with each race. An injury is not a statistical certainty.

[Reply](#) ·  1 · · 13 hours ago

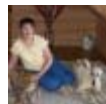
[View 2 more](#) ▾



Robert Gross

The Grey2k agenda is along the lines of PETA. In fact, there president (Christine Dorchak) has been photographed participating in PETA protests. Grey2k is recognized as a radical animal rights group. 30% of the money donated to their "charity" go to salaries and benefits for their president and executive director. They choose to ignore facts provided to them by the racing industry. Instead, they choose to create / invent their own.

[Reply](#) · · 5 hours ago



Christine Anderson · Works at Retired!. Former Medical Secretary/Transcriptionist

Show us those kennels!

[Reply](#) · · 17 hours ago



Robert Gross

Check out the Tucson Greyhound Park Facebook page. They have videos of the kennels posted there.

[Reply](#) · · 16 hours ago



Eric Jackson · ★ Top Commenter · Board Member at GREY2K USA

Robert Gross : And you can see what Tom Taylor, the CEO of Tucson Greyhound Park said about his own business here:
<http://www.grey2kusa.org/TomTaylor/index.php>

[Reply](#) · · 13 hours ago




Eric Jackson · ★ Top Commenter · Board Member at GREY2K USA

Here's another video that people like Robert Gross would prefer you not see: <http://www.grey2kusa.org/azVideo.html>

You can see what the kennels look like when they're not set up for a photo-op.

Reply ·  1 · 13 hours ago

 Facebook social plugin

Home

News

Weather

Sports

Video

Entertainment

Travel

Community

Marketplace

About

YouNews

KTTU

fox11az.com

Search

(520) 770-1123 (phone)

(520) 629-7185 (fax)

[Contact Us](#)
[Employment](#)
[Advertising](#)
[Terms Of Service](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)

© 2009-2012 KMSB-TV, Inc., a subsidiary of Belo Corp. All Rights Reserved.
Powered by [Broadcast Interactive Media](#).