

Animal advocates protest Tucson Greyhound Park

Posted: May 04, 2014 1:48 AM EDT

Updated: May 04, 2014 2:07 PM EDT

By Christine Pae - [email](#)

Local Greyhound advocates are not giving up on their stance against the Tucson Greyhound Park.

SPEAK, short for the non-profit group, Supporting and Promoting Ethics for the Animal Kingdom joined GREY2K USA for a demonstration outside the South Tucson race park Saturday afternoon.

Protesters stood at the park's entrance to relay their message as a steady stream of Kentucky Derby wagers drove in to watch the simulcast.

SPEAK member Gary Veller said he wants to see the park's closure or at least see requirements for the park to promptly report injuries and deaths to the Arizona Department of Racing. Veller also pointed out a greater impact than the welfare of the greyhounds.

"I wonder how many Arizona taxpayers know that they are subsidizing this track's existence. The state legislature gave them a hardship tax credit, basically a tax break that all of our taxpayers pay for. Had they not done that, this park would have closed up a long time ago," Veller said.

A 2013 report from the Department of Racing shows the state provided a roughly \$321,791 in tax credits to the park.

A call and request for comment about the protest from the park's general manager were not returned by this story's air time.

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