



## GREYHOUNDS SUFFER SERIOUS INJURIES WHILE RACING

### Thousands of dogs are injured at racetracks each year

At dog tracks worldwide, greyhounds routinely suffer serious injuries. These include dogs that suffer broken legs, paralysis, head trauma, and death from cardiac arrest.

- At two West Virginia dog tracks, 5,485 greyhound injuries were reported between January 2008 and May 2014.<sup>1</sup> During the same period, 313 dogs died or were euthanized.<sup>2</sup>
- At Southland Greyhound Park in Arkansas, 669 greyhound injuries were reported between January 2008 and July 2014, including at least 35 dogs that died or were euthanized.<sup>3</sup>
- At Gulf Greyhound Park in Texas, 2,150 greyhound injuries were reported between January 2008 and March 2014.<sup>4</sup> During the same period, 86 greyhounds died or were euthanized.<sup>5</sup>
- At Tucson Greyhound Park in Arizona, 131 greyhound injuries were reported from June 2013 through June 2014, including 29 dogs who suffered broken legs.<sup>6</sup>
- At Bluffs Run Greyhound Park and Dubuque Greyhound Park in Iowa, there were 976 greyhound injuries reported between January 2006 through July 2014.<sup>7</sup> During the same period, 145 dogs died or were euthanized.<sup>8</sup>



*The final race of Crystal B. Disco, who died in 2011 after she struck the rail with her forehead. Still image from a video by Sanford Orlando Kennel Club*

### Injury reports document greyhounds who suffered and died

- On September 27, 2013 a one-year-old brindle greyhound named Kells Crossfire hit the rail, fractured her neck and was euthanized during a race at Gulf Greyhound Park in Texas.<sup>9</sup> It was only Kells Crossfire's third official race.<sup>10</sup>
- A two-year-old white and black greyhound named SE's Angel Fire was euthanized after breaking her back during a race at Mardi Gras Racetrack on March 21, 2013.<sup>11</sup>
- On June 9, 2012 a one-and-a-half-year-old red brindle greyhound named SH Transporter was euthanized after breaking his right front leg during at race at Dubuque Greyhound Park. He had to be carried off of the track.<sup>12</sup>

*Last Updated on August 14, 2014*

1 Dr. Lori Bohenko, *Wheeling Island Racetrack Veterinary Report*, (Charleston WV: West Virginia Racing Commission, 2008-2014); Dr. Mark D. Webster, *Veterinary emergencies, scratches, and racers inactivated due to track injuries at Mardi Gras Casino & Resort* (Charleston WV: West Virginia Racing Commission, 2008-2014); analysis by GREY2K USA (This analysis does not include eight months of injury data that GREY2K USA was unable to obtain from the West Virginia Racing Commission).

2 *Ibid.*

3 Arkansas State Racing Commission, *Southland Injury Report* (West Memphis, AR: 2008-2010); Arkansas State Racing Commission, *Injuries 2011-2014* (West Memphis, AR: 2011-2014); analysis by GREY2K USA.

4 Texas Racing Commission, *Gulf Greyhound Park Injury Report Form* (Austin, TX: 2008-2014); analysis by GREY2K USA.

5 *Ibid.*

6 Arizona Department of Racing, *Greyhound Injury Statistics* (Phoenix, AZ: 2013-2014); analysis by GREY2K USA.

7 Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission, *Injury Report Form* (Des Moines, IA: 2006-2014); Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission, *Dubuque Greyhound Park Mishap Report* (Des Moines, IA: 2006-2014); analysis by GREY2K USA.

8 *Ibid.*

9 Texas Racing Commission, *Gulf Greyhound Park Injury Report Form #8042* (Austin, TX: Texas Racing Commission, September 27, 2013); "Pedigree of Kells Crossfire," *Greyhound-Data* <http://www.greyhound-data.com/d?i=1980203> (accessed June 6, 2014).

10 "Race Results of Kells Crossfire," *Greyhound-Data* <http://www.greyhound-data.com/d?i=1980203> (accessed June 6, 2014).

11 "Pedigree of SE's Angel Fire," *Greyhound-Data* <http://greyhound-data.com/d?i=1811824> (accessed April 11, 2014); Dr. Mark D. Webster, *Veterinary emergencies, scratches, and racers inactivated due to track injuries at Mardi Gras Casino & Resort during March 2013*, West Virginia Racing Commission (Charleston WV: April 11, 2013).

12 "Pedigree of SH Transporter," *Greyhound-Data* <http://greyhound-data.com/d?i=1865127> (accessed April 11, 2014); Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission, *Dubuque Greyhound Park Mishap Report* (Des Moines, IA: 2012).