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NEWS: Greyhound at the Birmingham Race Course tested positive for cocaine - al.com (blog)

Admin #1



Greyhound Legend

Group: Administrator
Posts: 15,184
Joined: 12-November 00

Posted 20 May 2010 - 11:08 PM

[Greyhound at the Birmingham Race Course tested positive for cocaine al.com \(blog\)](#)

Efforts to reach representatives of the anti-gambling task force and the **dog track** were unsuccessful Thursday afternoon. It's not the first time that racing ...

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Wendy #2



Greyhound Legend

Group: Administrator
Posts: 16,504
Joined: 13-November 00
Gender: Female
Location: Memphis, TN
Interests: Gardening, homesteading, sustainable living, music, movies and my kids!

Posted 21 May 2010 - 02:33 AM

Quote

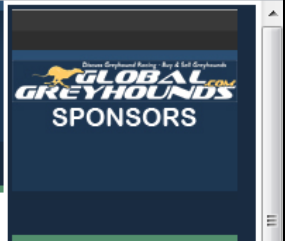
A greyhound at the Birmingham Race Course tested positive for cocaine last fall, and the dog's handler was fined and suspended for 60 days, [according to Birmingham Racing Commission documents and a greyhound advocacy group](#).

Cocaine has been administered to greyhounds in attempts to fix races in Florida, Massachusetts and overseas in recent years.

According to a ruling from the Racing Commission, which regulates racing in Birmingham, the dog Potrs Banshee won the 10th race on Oct. 20, 2009, and then tested positive for benzoylcegonine, a common marker for cocaine that can be detected in urine days after cocaine itself has left the body.

The commission ordered the purse from the race rescinded and fined the handler, Robert Edward Trow, \$750 because of the positive test. Trow, who has not been charged with a crime, was fined an additional \$50 because "indictable medication" and a syringe were found in the kennel, the ruling indicates. Efforts to reach Trow for comment were unsuccessful.

Grey2k USA, a Massachusetts-based organization opposed to dog racing, last week asked



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Quinella \$30.80
Superfecta \$1227.40
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Race12- 5/23/10: 4-7-2-1 Exacta \$117.00
Quinella \$34.00
Superfecta \$2041.40
2010-05-23

Race11- 5/23/10: 3-1-2-4 Exacta \$64.20
Quinella \$24.00
Trifecta \$260.80
Superfecta \$53.66
2010-05-23



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Grey2k USA, a Massachusetts-based organization opposed to dog racing, last week asked Gov. Bob Riley's Task Force on Illegal Gambling to investigate the incident, as well as a similar incident in Mobile the group says occurred in December.

"This calls into question the integrity of wages being placed at Alabama dog tracks," said Jennifer Krebs, vice president of the organization.

Efforts to reach representatives of the anti-gambling task force and the dog track were unsuccessful Thursday afternoon.

It's not the first time that racing greyhounds in Alabama have been associated with improper drug use. In 2007, 13 regular patrons at Mobile Greyhound Park were arrested for what authorities described as a scheme to fix races using so-called "male enhancement" products.

Prosecutors said at the time that a pill commonly available at health food stores -- and marketed as a sex aid -- was given to dogs that were favored to win. Those behind the plan hoped the drugs would raise the dogs' heart rate to the point that they became exhausted before the race and would lose, prosecutors said at the time. The conspirators bet on nondrugged dogs that offered longer odds and a better payout, authorities said.

Of the 13 men arrested, three were charged with tampering with racing. All of the tampering-with-racing charges eventually were dropped.

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- AHK Cannon Fire
- Velvet Commander
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- Alivefortomorrow

"Life is hard; it's harder if you're stupid." --John Wayne

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Wendy #3



Greyhound Legend

●●●●●●



Group: Administrator
 Posts: 16,504
 Joined: 13-November 00
 Gender: Female
 Location: Memphis, TN
 Interests: Gardening, homesteading, sustainable living, music, movies and my kids!

Posted 21 May 2010 - 02:34 AM

Quote

Documents related to Birmingham Race Course greyhound testing positive for cocaine

By [Stan Diel -- The Birmingham News](#)

May 20, 2010, 7:11PM

A greyhound at the Birmingham Race Course tested positive for cocaine after it won a race last winter.


Read the Birmingham Racing Commission [ruling](#) that suspended the dog's handler and a [letter](#) from greyhound advocacy group Grey2kusa demanding a state investigation here.

Attached File(s)

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"Life is hard; it's harder if you're stupid." --John Wayne

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 **Wendy**

#4


Posted 21 May 2010 - 02:34 AM

Grey2k at it again...

"Life is hard; it's harder if you're stupid." --John Wayne

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 **The Doctor**

#5

Posted 22 May 2010 - 05:59 AM

My response to this 8 month old pile of garbage. Footnote...2 licenses were revoked and the trainer suspended 60 days and fined \$750

Stan,

I wanted to respond to your article this morning in the News and urge you to write a follow up in the interest of accuracy and balance. I am disappointed that no effort to acquire a comment from the Racing Commission was made. Unfortunately you have been used by Grey 2-K as a vehicle to distribute their distorted, agenda driven propaganda. That organization's stated goal is the elimination of greyhound racing by any means necessary.

Greyhound Racing is the most regulated sport. The incident described in your article in Birmingham was brought to light through the thorough process of post race sample collection and laboratory testing. It needs to be pointed out that there are over 6,700 races at the Birmingham Race Course annually prompting over 12,000 tests. This result was clearly an aberration as it is the only positive test for this metabolite in the past five years. To suggest that the sport is compromised by the invasion of illicit drugs is blatantly untrue. Further, the amount detected was a minimal trace and clearly suggests it was transferred due to incidental contact with a human handler and not as a result of direct administration to the



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Just Whelped


Group: Premium Member
Posts: 13
Joined: 19-April 07

The Doctor #5

Just Whelped
GG premium

Group: Premium Member
Posts: 13
Joined: 19-April 07

Posted 22 May 2010 - 05:59 AM

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Your article incorrectly states that " Cocaine has been administered to greyhounds on attempts to fix races in Florida, Massachusetts and overseas in recent years." There have been positive tests in those cases but again the evidence suggests that a human handler who had contact with the substance transferred it to the greyhound. The use of cocaine is totally impractical as a "race fixing" compound. There is no evidence or common sense conclusion that this substance would make a greyhound run faster. In fact, it would seem that a well conditioned athlete would be less apt to perform well if impaired with a material that creates a "high". Furthermore, greyhounds are weighed in for races at least one hour prior to the start of each daily performance. This "lockout" period results in a greyhound's handlers not having access to the racer for an extended time prior to a race. In the case cited in your story, the evening's 9th Race would run around 10:00 pm meaning the dog had been locked out for nearly 4 hours. Obviously this time period would render a drug such as cocaine, even if it was regarded as a compound to enhance performance useless.

I would be delighted to answer any questions regarding the sport and its regulation by the Birmingham Racing Commission. You have spoken to me regarding other subjects and I am always available. I trust you will attempt to set the record straight with the introduction of these pertinent facts.

Thank You, W. Kip Keefer, Executive Director, Birmingham Racing Commission

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dick ciampa #6

Stakes Racer
●●●●

Group: Trial Member
Posts: 1,182
Joined: 22-November 05
Gender: Male
Location: Salem MA

Posted 22 May 2010 - 07:28 AM

I have just tried posting for the 4th time. Each time it tells me the post has been received and needs to be approved.

We'll see if they post it.

Censorship at its best.

Dick

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dick ciampa

#6

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Dick

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The Doctor

#7

Posted Yesterday, 04:29 PM

Just Whelped
GG premium
Group: Premium Member
Posts: 13
Joined: 19-April 07

Two stations in town called and once learning the circumstances dismissed this as a non-story. CBS 42 sent a reporter and her report is attached. Anytime this industry is attacked the response must be swift and non-defensive in nature. The truth is on our side. This sport is the most regulated entity there is. Obviously our oversight is vastly superior to oh I don't know....maybe the offshore oil industry.???? Click the link below to see the story.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4FvBKc0r00g>

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The Doctor

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Posted Yesterday, 04:29 PM

Just Whelped GG premium

Group: Premium Member Posts: 13 Joined: 19-April 07

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http://www.youtube.c...h?v=4FvBKc0r00g

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Wendy

#8

Posted Today, 01:41 AM



Greyhound Legend



Group: Administrator Posts: 16,509 Joined: 13-November 00 Gender: Female Location: Memphis, TN Interests: Gardening, homesteading, sustainable living, music, movies and my kids!

Good job, Kip. Thanks for sharing.

I think what you did is needed in most greyhound racing markets. We need to get real "cozy" with the media in areas in order for them to contact us FIRST before publishing anything detrimental to our businesses?

Seems that Grey2k have gotten good at contacting these people and having them publish the "expose" stories without the reporters educating them too much about the situation.

"Life is hard; it's harder if you're stupid." --John Wayne

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