

# Grey2K USA a national advocacy voice for greyhounds

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<http://www.grey2kusa.org/>



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Chicago Animal Advocacy Examiner

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The November 29, 2011 Chicago Animal **Advocacy Examiner** article covered greyhound adoption and **REGAP of Illinois**, a greyhound rescue organization located in Monee, IL. This article examines **GREY2k USA** an advocacy group for Greyhounds, located in Somerville, Massachusetts that was founded in 2001.

According to Christine Dorchak Esq. president and cofounder of Grey2K USA “The Greyhound racing is a dying industry.”

As proof she points out to the decline in dog racing in the United States over the past decade or so.

According to the National Greyhound Association (NGA) statistics, the number of greyhound race tracks has declined from 50 tracks in 22 states in 2001, to just 22 tracks in 7 states in 2010.

The seven remaining states that allow dog racing are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Iowa, Florida, Texas and Virginia. Florida, has 13 of those remaining tracks.

Two of the primary reasons for the decline of the greyhound racing industry are competitive pressures and the fact that many perceive the sport as cruel.

As is true of horse racing, dog racing faces increasing competition from other forms of gambling. This has a downward impact on revenues. Through the activity of organizations such as Grey2K USA there is increased awareness of the cruelty of dog racing. The result is increased public pressure and outcry that has had a significant negative impact on dog racing.

The competition from other forms of gambling has caused the dog racing industry to attempt to put pressure on state legislators to allow slot machines at greyhound tracks. GREy2K USA fights against this pressure by dog racing industry lobbyists..

The organization has also helped lead successful initiatives such as the **banning of Greyhound racing in Massachusetts** in 2008, and in New Hampshire and Vermont in 2010, eliminating the sport throughout New England.

Grey2K USA also supports activities to educate the public about greyhound racing and advocates for laws protecting greyhounds from inhumane treatment. Dorchak and the supporters of her organization are so passionate in their fight because of their belief that Greyhound racing is a cruel sport.

They provide these and other reasons on their **website** explaining why they believe dog racing should be stopped.

- "Is cruel and inhumane
- The animals live a life of confinement
- Dogs suffer serious injuries
- Dogs are killed when they are no longer profitable
- Dogs are transported in a dangerous manner
- Economic pressures lead to animal neglect
- Dogs race in extreme weather conditions
- Dogs are trained with live animals such as rabbits
- Some trainers give dogs performance enhancing drugs"

In January of 2011 **AMERICAN DOG MAGAZINE** awarded Grey2k USA a humanitarian award for being "The Voice For Banning Greyhound Racing."

Dorchak urges anyone who loves dog and who is against inhumane or cruel treatment of dogs to take action and help her group continue to be the voice against greyhound racing.

Some of the things she suggests readers in Chicago can do to help are to receive **Grey2K USA action alerts, follow Grey2K on Twitter or Facebook, subscribe to their blog, donate**, adopt a greyhound and more.

*If you know of an animal advocacy group or an animal advocate who you believe will be interesting for readers to learn more about, email **keith@maxapooch.com** . Please put the words editorial idea in the subject box. Then provide why you believe the organization/individual will make a good subject for an article. Also include contact information.*

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