



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, 5,203 greyhound injuries were reported between January 2008 and December 2013.¹ During the same period, 302 dogs died or were euthanized.²
- At Southland Greyhound Park in Arkansas, 525 greyhound injuries were reported between January 2008 and December 2013, including at least 33 dogs that died or were euthanized.³
- At Gulf Greyhound Park in Texas, 2,080 greyhound injuries were reported between January 2008 and December 2013.⁴ During the same period, 86 greyhounds died or were euthanized.⁵
- At Tucson Greyhound Park in Arizona 56 greyhound injuries were reported in 2013, including 13 dogs who suffered broken legs.⁶
- At Bluffs Run Greyhound Park and Dubuque Greyhound Park in Iowa, there were 896 greyhound injuries reported between January 2006 through December 2013.⁷ During the same period, 143 dogs died or were euthanized.⁸



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

- 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, 2013.⁹
- 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 a race at Dubuque Greyhound Park. He had to be carried off of the track.¹⁰
- On February 24, 2011 a three-and-a-half-year-old black greyhound named Bow Rockabilly died after he fell into the rail during a race at Southland Park.¹¹

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1 Dr. Lori Bohenko, *Wheeling Island Racetrack Veterinary Report*, (Charleston WV: West Virginia Racing Commission, 2008-2013); 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, 2008-2013); 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 2011-2013* (West Memphis, AR: 2011-2013); analysis by GREY2K USA.

4 Texas Racing Commission, *Gulf Greyhound Park Injury Report Form* (Austin, TX: 2008-2013); analysis by GREY2K USA.

5 *Ibid.*

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

7 Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission, *Injury Report Form* (Des Moines, IA: 2006-2013); Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission, *Dubuque Greyhound Park Mishap Report* (Des Moines, IA: 2006-2013); analysis by GREY2K USA.

8 *Ibid.*

9 "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).

10 "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).

11 "Pedigree of Bow Rockabilly," *Greyhound-Data*, <http://www.greyhound-data.com/d?i=1530543> (accessed April 11, 2014); Arkansas State Racing Commission, *Injuries 2011* (West Memphis, AR: 2011).