



For Immediate Release
October 14, 2010

ASPCA: Rebecca McNeill
646-291-4582
rebeccam@aspc.org
GREY2K USA: Christine A. Dorchak, Esq.
866-247-3925

More Than 500 Documented Greyhound Injuries at Iowa Racetracks

GREY2K USA, ASPCA Issue Report Detailing Cruelty to Iowa's Greyhounds

DES MOINES – [GREY2K USA](#), with funding from the [ASPCA](#)[®] (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals[®]), today released a report detailing the inhumane conditions and weak financial viability of greyhound racing in Iowa. The report is an up-to-date compilation of data from official sources, such as state records, news reports, and public statements made by members of the Iowa dog racing industry.

“Greyhounds at Iowa dog tracks endure lives of terrible confinement, and many suffer serious injuries,” said GREY2K USA President and General Counsel Christine A. Dorchak. “For the first time, the public will have detailed information on greyhound racing in the state.”

According to state records, 530 greyhound injuries have been reported at Iowa racetracks since 2006. Nearly 100 of these injuries were fatal or required euthanasia. Other serious injuries include broken legs, puncture wounds, fractured skulls and paralysis.

“Like all dogs, greyhounds deserve to be protected and not exploited for profit or amusement,” said Ann Church, Senior Director of ASPCA Government Relations. “This report clearly shows there is nothing entertaining about greyhound racing.”

The report further details inhumane conditions at Iowa's racetracks, including the following:

- Greyhounds are confined in rows of stacked cages, barely large enough for them to stand up in, for 19 to 21 hours per day;
- Greyhounds are fed meat from diseased animals to reduce costs;
- Greyhounds race year-round in extreme weather conditions, including the hottest days of summer and the coldest days of winter; and
- Several greyhounds have died while being hauled long distances between racetracks.

GREY2K USA also notes that gambling on dog racing has declined by more than 95 percent at Iowa racetracks, and track representatives have repeatedly acknowledged that dog racing is no longer viable. Greyhound racing is dependent upon heavy subsidies from other forms of gambling. This money could otherwise be used to fund local non-profits and state programs.

“Greyhound racing is a dying industry in Iowa,” added Church. “It’s cruel, it’s costly, and it’s time to stop.”

The report, “Greyhound Racing in Iowa,” will be presented by GREY2K USA and the ASPCA at the Iowans for Animal Welfare 2010 Conference on Saturday, October 16 at 10 a.m. at the Animal Rescue League, 5452 NE 22nd St, Des Moines, Iowa. Representatives from GREY2K USA and the ASPCA will be available for media interviews.

About GREY2K USA

GREY2K USA is a national, non-profit greyhound protection organization with more than 25,000 supporters in all fifty states. For more information, contact Christine A. Dorchak, Esq. at 866-247-3925 or go to [www.GREY2K USA.org](http://www.GREY2KUSA.org).

About the ASPCA®

Founded in 1866, the ASPCA® (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®) is the first humane organization established in the Americas and serves as the nation’s leading voice for animal welfare. One million supporters strong, the ASPCA’s mission is to provide effective means for the prevention of cruelty to animals throughout the United States. As a 501 [c] [3] not-for-profit corporation, the ASPCA is a national leader in the areas of anti-cruelty, community outreach and animal health services. The ASPCA, which is headquartered in New York City, offers a wide range of programs, including a mobile clinic outreach initiative, its own humane law enforcement team, and a groundbreaking veterinary forensics team and mobile animal CSI unit. For more information, please visit www.aspca.org.

To become a fan of the ASPCA on Facebook, go to <http://www.facebook.com/aspca>. To follow the ASPCA on Twitter, go to <http://www.twitter.com/aspca>.

###