

January 28, 2010

TEAM VALOR INTERNATIONAL REMAINS TOP DOG AMONG PARTNERSHIPS, B. IRWIN REVEALS RELEVANT STATISTICS TO BACK UP STABLE'S CLAIMS, WEST POINT STABLE TRIES TO PROMOTE ITSELF INTO THE TOP POSITION

Team Valor International racing stable topped all North American partnership stables during 2009 in all statistical categories relating to winning of stakes races.



In a rare barrage of industry advertising during the past couple of weeks, Team Valor presented a grid that showed TVI on top by nearly 100 percent more than West Point.

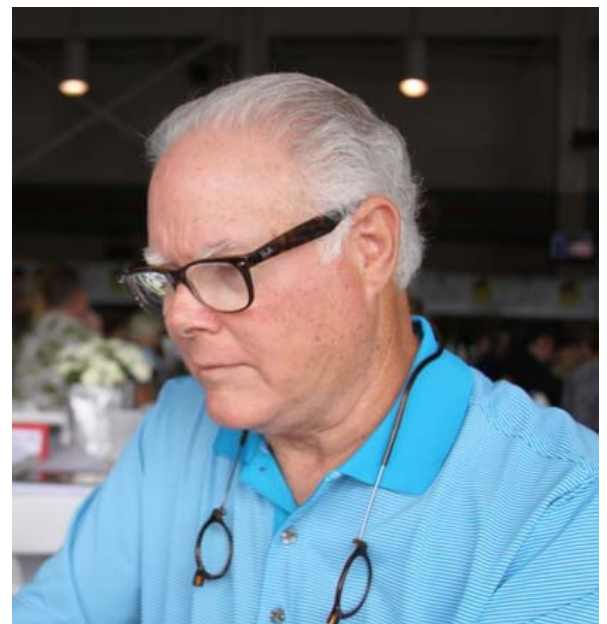
To combat the stats, West Point on its website this week announced to one and all that they, in fact, have reached the "pinnacle" as the top stable in the land that forms partnerships. To strengthen their case, they used an average over the last 3 racing seasons.

"Big mistake," said Barry Irwin, CEO of the Kentucky-based Team Valor. "What we did in comparison to them last year was not a fluke. Over a 3-year period the differences are just as stark.

"In the last 3 years, West Point won 29 stakes races. Team Valor won 53. In fact, during this period, Team Valor won stakes with 40 individual horses...more than West Point has had in its entire history as a racing stable. We also won 36 Graded stakes during this same period. They have not won 36 in their existence.

"As successful as we were last year in winning 19 stakes races, we did even better 2 years earlier, when we won 20 stakes. Neither West Point nor any other partnership stable has come close to this figure, one that we topped with 21 stakes winners as far back as 1993.

"See, this is the difference between West Point and Team Valor. We have been doing it year after year for many years. West Point has only become a viable enterprise in the last 3 seasons. They used to brag about how many stakes races they *ran* in, as though this was an achievement. Now maybe they can knock off that silliness!



Barry Irwin picks his own racing stock and does not have to rely on agents as does West Point.



"West Point has earned a lot of money the last few years, which is significant, but the measure most horse people focus on is stakes races.

"Thirty percent of all of our wins have come in stakes races for decades. Nobody does that among the ranks of partnership stables."

To review facts about stakes wins for partnerships formed by Barry Irwin since 1987, go to ["Statistics"](#) on the website.