

March 3, 2010

## TEAM VALOR INTERNATIONAL AND GARY BARBER PURCHASE MOTOVATO, FIVE-YEAR-OLD GRADED STAKES WINNER BOUGHT FROM ESTATE OF GANN, MARTY WOLFSON WILL POINT FOR \$300,000 GULFSTREAM PARK HANDICAP

Team Valor International and Gary Barber have purchased Graded stakes winner Motovato from the Estate of Edmund Gann. The 5-year-old son of Proud Citizen will remain in the care of trainer Marty Wolfson, who will point the accomplished Kentucky-bred for the March 13 Gulfstream Park Handicap.

“He should have won his last start,” said Wolfson. “He was mistakenly ‘tailed’ in the gate last time. When the gates opened, he was moving backward and went up in the air. He ran unbelievable to get up for third beaten a length behind Munnings. He was eating them alive in the final sixteenth.”



*Buyers Gary Barber and Barry Irwin.*

The Grade 2 Gulfstream Park Handicap, which offers \$300,000 in prize money, has been reduced from a 2-turn to a 1-turn event going a mile.



*Motovato has been acquired by Team Valor and Gary Barber.*

“He’s probably best over seven-eighths,” Wolfson surmised. “But he can act over a mile. He is doing very well at this moment.”

Motovato ran a 2 on the Ragozin Sheets, not far off his best, a 1, which he ran when running to a 111 Beyer figure as a younger horse.

Barry Irwin, CEO of Team Valor International, said “We were going to buy him at that time, but he injured a leg and the deal died. We have always liked him. Marty understands him and seems to be able to exact tremendous performances out of him. Marty trains other runners for Team Valor, so this became an inevitable acquisition once we learned that the Estate of Edmund Gann planned to sell the horses.”

Motovato is a triple stakes winner of the Grade 3 Kenny Noe Jr. Handicap and the Sumter and Primal Handicaps. First or second in half of his 14 starts, with 5 wins, the bay horse has earned \$234,179.

Barry Irwin and Gary Barber have raced several Grade 1 winners in partnership at home and abroad. The list of successful runners includes English Champion and French Group 1 heroine Sweet Stream, international Grade 1 winner and millionaire Becrux, Santa Anita Derby hero The Deputy, double Santa Anita Grade 1 winner Golden Ballet and its current stars, the Grade 1 Goodwood Stakes winner Gitano Hernando and the Grade 3 Derby Trial winner Hull. Motion picture producer Barber (“Seabiscuit” and “Invictus”) and Irwin have raced horses together since 2000.