

## **AXANA CHANNELS TECHNICIAN WITH DUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN GERMANY NAMED CHAMPION AT 3 OVER MALES, CO-CHAMPION REGARDLESS OF AGE TEAM VALOR/LARRY YOUNG FILLY RUNS THE TABLE TWIXT 8-9.5 FURLONGS**



Axana raced only 3 times and did not run after July 1, yet she showed enough in her 3 outings to land atop the German ratings of the Official Handicapper in two categories. The Soldier Hollow filly was rated at 110, making her the Champion 3-year-old regardless of sex and the Co-Champion regardless of age or sex in the Middle Distance category between 8 and 9.5 furlongs.

Interestingly, when it comes to naming its Champions, the Official Handicapper differentiates between gender among juvenile and older horses, but not in the 3-year-old lists. Fillies and colts/geldings are lumped together.

Axana raced 3 times, winning her first start by 2½ lengths in the Group 3 Karin Baronin von Ullmann-Schwarzgold-Rennen and her last start by 1½ lengths in the Group 3 Walther J. Jacobs-Stuten-Meille, beaten her own age group in the first and beating her elders in her last. She totally dominated both.



Between those Group 3 events she finished second to the British invader Main Edition in the Classic, Group 2 German 1000 Guineas when beaten a neck. Axana after the Guineas was rated a pound inferior to her British nemesis, but post-Guineas her rival slipped backwards in form and Axana improved when she won her last start.

Among all-aged Milers in The Rhineland, the lone animal to be rated on a par with Axana wound up being the 4-year-old colt Kron Prinz (Crown Prince), a horse with occasional form that inexplicably popped up in the fall to win a Group 3 on soft turf by 4 lengths.

There was one 3-year-old filly rated higher than Axana in the form of Diamanta, which was given 1 pound more than the TVI/Young miss. She earned her rating by winning the Group 1 German Oaks, but because that was run over a distance farther than the Middle Distance category she did not interfere with either of Axana Championships.

Axana chipped a pastern bone when preparing to invade Goodwood for a Group 2 in England, had to undergo arthroscopic surgery to remove the small fragment and was rested for several months. She has been back in full training and her trainer Andreas Woehler figures to have her ready when the seasons commences in a couple of months. Look for her to travel to France for a race or 2 in 2020.