

## **BARRY IRWIN'S PARTNERSHIPS REACH MILESTONE IN GRADED EARNERS NISREEN BECOMES GRADED BLACK-TYPE EARNER NUMBER 200 SINCE 1987 NEARLY 1 OF 3 B. EYE RUNNERS (31%) HAS WON / PLACED IN GRADED RACE**



Nisreen provided the racing partnerships formed by Barry Irwin over the last 33 racing seasons with its 200th black-type earner in a Graded stakes. The strike rate of 31% is one of the fractional-interest partnerships more impressive accomplishments.

She came within a whisker of becoming Graded stakes winner number 101 when she finished on the wrong bob yesterday in the \$250,000, Grade 2 Cape Verdi Stakes at Meydan in Dubai.

“We have been blessed with good luck from the very beginning,” Team Valor International CEO Irwin said. “It is nice to be knowledgeable and clever and have a good eye to spot and develop talent. But without luck, you cannot even get off the ground. I have been a lucky guy from the get-go.”

**Barry Irwin predicted a big 2020 and TVI is off to a rollicking start.**

The first two racehorses Irwin bought when he was still working as a syndicated columnist for Daily Racing Form in 1978—namely Sari’s Tobin and Sorcerer—both won races right off the bat. When he started syndicating horses a decade later, the first horse he bought, named Political Ambition, won the Grade 1 Hollywood Derby in his initial season of racing.

Nisreen was a 32,000 guineas (\$46,040) purchase for Barry Irwin, Ed Barker, Jonathan Hensley and Nick Ben-Meir when consigned as a cull by her breeder Sheikh Hamdam al Maktoum. She was an unraced 3-year-old filly with chronically sore shins that her trainer John Hammond had recommended because he thought she was talented.

At Irwin’s insistence, he went against European tradition by asking trainer Hammond to find a vet that would pin-fire both front shins. The filly has never looked back. In 11 career outings, she has 6 wins and 3 placings. She has earned only about \$160,000, but she is worth about 3 times that amount and will be worth even more if she can win a Group race.

Prospecting and developing raw talent from a nugget to a highly polished racing machine is what Barry Irwin’s racing partnerships are all about and after 33 years of forming racing partnerships the man has lost none of his zest for ringing the bell once again.