

July 30, 2016

TEAM VALOR FILLY LANDS 1,000TH WIN FOR A BARRY IRWIN PARTNERSHIP MILESTONE COMES IN 30TH SEASON, WITH BLOSSOM D'ORANGE ON JULY 30 NEARLY 30 PERCENT OF THE VICTORY TOTAL ACHIEVED IN STAKES RACES

Team Valor International reached a milestone over the weekend when Blossom d'Orange landed the 1,000th win for a partnership formed by Barry Irwin, scoring by 5 lengths in Saturday's Group 3 Produccion Nacional at Maronas in Uruguay.



Irwin and Jeff Siegel began putting together public syndicates in 1987 under the banner of Clover Racing Stables, which morphed into Team Valor in the early 1990s. When Irwin bought out Siegel in 2007, he added "International" to the moniker to reflect a broadened scope, which Blossom d'Orange exemplified over the weekend.

"I couldn't have accomplished this milestone without the support of my racing partners, to whom I owe a debt of gratitude," said Irwin. "Also, I am just as proud of being able to operate the same business for 30 consecutive years, which to me is as big a feat as winning 1,000

races."

In her third career start, Blossom d'Orange became the 145th stakes winner from 558 individual runners (24 percent) for an Irwin partnership, with a total haul of 289 stakes triumphs, or 29 percent of the 1,000 win total. She is his 88th Group or Graded stakes winner.

The most prolific horse for an Irwin stable was Star of Cozzene, who leads the ledger in career wins (13) and stakes wins (9), racked up between 1991 and '93, including back-to-back Grade 1 triumphs in the Arlington Million and Man o' War Stakes.

Irwin has syndicated 26 Grade 1 winners overall, conquering top races across the globe including Kentucky Derby, the Dubai World Cup, the Dubai Duty Free, the Breeders' Cup Turf, the Santa Anita Derby, the Santa Anita Handicap and Hong Kong's Queen Elizabeth II Cup.