Since 1971, Eclipse Awards are bestowed upon the Thoroughbred horses and individuals whose outstanding achievements in North America have earned them the title of Champion in their respective divisions.

Those annual awards are voted by National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA), *Daily Racing Form* and the National Turf Writers and Broadcasters (NTWAB).

The Eclipse Awards are named after the great 18th-Century racehorse and foundation sire Eclipse, who began racing at age five and was undefeated in 18 starts, including eight walkovers. Eclipse sired the winners of 344 races, including three Epsom Derbies.

For more than a century, annual Champions have been chosen by various bodies and these have been compiled and condensed with Eclipse Award winners by the widely respected *The Blood-Horse* magazine.

Most awards originated in 1936. A Horse of the Year award was created by a poll of the staff of *The New York Morning Telegraph* and its sister newspaper, *Daily Racing Form*. At the same time a rival poll was organized by the Baltimore-based *Turf and Sport Digest* magazine. Starting in 1950, the Thoroughbred Racing Associations (TRA) began naming its own champion, selecting its winners from votes by racing secretaries from member tracks across the United States. In 1971, *Daily Racing Form* and TRA made an agreement with the National Turf Writers Association to merge into one set of awards, called the Eclipse Awards.

Champions prior to 1936 were selected retrospectively by a panel of experts as published by *The Blood-Horse* magazine.

KENTUCKY DERBY WINNERS
CROWNED CHAMPIONS (66)

Vagrant (1876)
　　Co-3-year-old colt – 1876 (Vigil)
Baden-Baden (1877)
　　3-year-old colt – 1877
Hindoo (1881)
　　3-year-old colt – 1881
Leonatus (1883)
　　3-year-old colt – 1883
Joe Cotton (1885)
　　Co-3-year-old colt – 1885 (Bersan)
Ben Brush (1896)
　　Co-2-year-old colt – 1895 (Requital)
Meridian (1911)
　　3-year-old colt – 1911
　　Horse of the Year – 1911
Worth (1912)
　　Co-2-year-old colt – 1911 (Helios)
Old Rosebud (1914)
　　2-year-old colt – 1913
　　Horse of the Year – 1917
Regret (1915)
　　2-year-old filly – 1914
　　3-year-old filly – 1915
　　Horse of the Year – 1915
Omar Khayyam-GB (1917)
　　Co-3-year-old colt – 1917 (Hourless)
Exterminator – 1918
　　Horse of the Year – 1922
Sir Barton (1919)
　　3-year-old colt – 1919
　　Horse of the Year – 1919
Morvich (1922)
　　2-year-old colt – 1921
Zev (1923)
　　2-year-old colt – 1922
　　Co-3-year-old colt – 1923 (In Memoriam)
　　Horse of the Year – 1923
Whiskery (1927)
　　3-year-old colt – 1927

Reigh Count (1928)
　　Co-2-year-old colt – 1927 (Dice)
　　3-year-old colt – 1928
　　Horse of the Year – 1928
Gallant Fox (1930)
　　3-year-old colt – 1930
　　Horse of the Year – 1930
Twenty Grand (1931)
　　3-year-old colt – 1931
　　Horse of the Year – 1931
Burgoo King (1932)
　　Co-3-year-old colt – 1932 (Faireno)
Cavalcade (1934)
　　2-year-old colt – 1933
　　3-year-old colt – 1934
　　Horse of the Year – 1934
Omaha (1935)
　　3-year-old colt – 1935
War Admiral (1937)
　　3-year-old colt – 1937
　　Best 3-year-old – 1937
　　Horse of the Year – 1937
Whirlaway (1941)
　　Co-2-year-old colt – 1940 (Our Boots)
　　3-year-old colt – 1941
　　Best 3-year-old – 1941
　　Handicap Horse – 1942
　　Horse of the Year – 1941 & 1942
Count Fleet (1943)
　　2-year-old colt – 1942
　　Best 2-year-old – 1942
　　3-year-old colt – 1943
　　Best 3-year-old – 1943
　　Horse of the Year – 1943
Assault (1946)
　　3-year-old colt – 1946
　　Best 3-year-old – 1946
　　Horse of the Year – 1946
Citation (1948)
　　2-year-old colt – 1947
　　Best 2-year-old – 1947
　　3-year-old colt – 1948
　　Best 3-year-old – 1948
　　Handicap Horse – 1948
　　Horse of the Year – 1948
Swaps (1955)
　　Handicap Horse – 1956
　　Horse of the Year – 1956
Needles (1956)
　　2-year-old colt – 1955
　　Best 2-year-old – 1955
　　3-year-old colt – 1956
　　Best 3-year-old – 1956
Tim Tam (1958)
　　3-year-old colt – 1958
　　Best 3-year-old – 1958
Carry Back (1961)
　　3-year-old colt – 1961
　　Best 3-year-old – 1961
Chateaugay (1963)
　　3-year old colt – 1963
　　Best 3-year-old – 1963
Northern Dancer (1964)
　　3-year-old colt – 1964
　　Best 3-year-old – 1964
Canonero II (1971)
　　3-year-old colt – 1971
Riva Ridge (1972)
　　2-year-old colt – 1971
　　Older Horse – 1973
Secretariat (1973)
　　2-year-old colt – 1972
　　3-year-old colt – 1973
　　Grass Horse – 1973
　　Horse of the Year – 1972 & 1973
Foolish Pleasure (1975)
　　2-year-old colt – 1974
Bold Forbes (1976)
　　3-year-old colt – 1976

Seattle Slew (1977)
　　2-year-old colt – 1976
　　3-year-old colt – 1977
　　Older Horse – 1978
　　Horse of the Year – 1977
Affirmed (1978)
　　2-year-old colt – 1977
　　3-year-old colt – 1978
　　Older Horse – 1979
　　Horse of the Year – 1978 & 1979
Spectacular Bid (1979)
　　2-year-old colt – 1978
　　3-year-old colt – 1979
　　Older Horse – 1980
　　Horse of the Year – 1980
Genuine Risk (1980)
　　3-year-old filly – 1980
Pleasant Colony (1981)
　　3-year-old colt – 1981
Swale (1984)
　　3-year-old colt – 1984
Spend a Buck (1985)
　　3-year-old colt – 1985
　　Horse of the Year – 1985
Ferdinand (1986)
　　Older Horse – 1987
　　Horse of the Year – 1987
Alysheba (1987)
　　3-year-old colt – 1987
　　Older Horse – 1988
　　Horse of the Year – 1988
Winning Colors (1988)
　　3-year-old filly – 1988
Sunday Silence (1989)
　　3-year-old colt – 1989
　　Horse of the Year – 1989
Unbridled (1990)
　　3-year-old colt – 1990
Thunder Gulch (1995)
　　3-year-old colt – 1995
Silver Charm (1997)
　　3-year-old colt – 1997
Real Quiet (1998)
　　3-year-old colt – 1998
Charismatic (1999)
　　3-year-old colt – 1999
　　Horse of the Year – 1999
War Emblem (2002)
　　3-year-old colt – 2002
Funny Cide (2003)
　　3-year-old colt/gelding – 2003
Smarty Jones (2004)
　　3-year-old colt – 2004
Street Sense (2007)
　　2-year-old colt – 2007
Big Brown (2008)
　　3-year-old colt – 2008
Animal Kingdom (2011)
　　3-year-old colt – 2011
I'll Have Another (2012)
　　3-year-old colt – 2012
California Chrome (2014)
　　3-year-old colt – 2014
　　Horse of the Year – 2014
American Pharoah (2015)
　　2-year-old colt – 2014
　　3-year-old colt – 2015
　　Horse of the Year – 2015
Nyquist (2016)
　　2-year-old colt – 2015
Justify (2018)
　　3-year-old colt – 2018
　　Horse of the Year – 2018
Authentic (2020)
　　3-year-old colt – 2020
　　Horse of the Year – 2020

2-YEAR-OLD CHAMPIONS IN THE KENTUCKY DERBY (79)

Kentucky Derby Record: 82-21-15-6

Horse	Finish	Year
Proctor Knott	2nd	1889
Ben Brush	**1st**	**1896**
Worth	**1st**	**1912**
Gowell (f)	3rd	1913
Old Rosebud (g)	**1st**	**1914**
Regret (f)	**1st**	**1915**
Pebbles	2nd	1915
Dominant	7th	1916
Billy Kelly (g)	2nd	1919
Eternal	10th	1919
Prudery (f)	3rd	1921
Tryster	4th	1921
Careful (f)	5th	1921
Morvich	**1st**	**1922**
Startle (f)	8th	1922
Zev	**1st**	**1923**
Pompey	5th	1926
Scapa Flow	9th	1927
Reigh Count	**1st**	**1928**
Alcibiades (f)	10th	1930
Ladysman	4th	1933
Cavalcade	**1st**	**1934**
Mata Hari (f)	4th	1934
Bazaar (f)	9th	1934
Nellie Flag (f)	4th	1935
Pompoon	2nd	1937
Menow	4th	1938
El Chico	6th	1939
Bimelech	2nd	1940
Whirlaway	**1st**	**1941**
Our Boots	8th	1941
Alsab	2nd	1942
Count Fleet	**1st**	**1943**
Double Jay	12th	1947
Citation	**1st**	**1948**
Hill Prince	2nd	1950
Oil Capitol	DH-5th	1950
Native Dancer	2nd	1953
Hasty Road	2nd	1954
Nashua	2nd	1955
Needles	**1st**	**1956**
Jewel's Reward	4th	1958
First Landing	3rd	1959
Crimson Satan	6th	1962
Never Bend	2nd	1963
Bold Lad	10th	1965
Successor	6th	1967
Top Knight	5th	1969
Silent Screen	5th	1970
Riva Ridge	**1st**	**1972**
Secretariat	**1st**	**1973**
Foolish Pleasure	**1st**	**1975**
Honest Pleasure	2nd	1976
Seattle Slew	**1st**	**1977**
Affirmed	**1st**	**1978**
Spectacular Bid	**1st**	**1979**
Rockhill Native (g)	5th	1980
Althea (f)	19th	1984
Chief's Crown	3rd	1985
Capote	DNF	1987
Forty Niner	2nd	1988
Easy Goer	2nd	1989
Fly So Free	5th	1991
Arazi	8th	1992
Timber Country	3rd	1995
Favorite Trick	8th	1998
Answer Lively	10th	1999
Anees	13th	2000
Johannesburg	8th	2002
Action This Day	6th	2004
Street Sense	**1st**	**2007**
Lookin At Lucky	6th	2010
Hansen	9th	2012
American Pharoah	**1st**	**2015**
Nyquist*	**1st**	**2016**
Classic Empire	4th	2017
Good Magic	2nd	2018
Game Winner	5th	2019
Storm the Court	6th	2020
Essential Quality	3rd	2021
Fierceness	15th	2024
Citizen Bull	15th	2025

HORSE OF THE YEAR WINNERS IN THE KENTUCKY DERBY (52)

Note: 28 Kentucky Derby Winners were named Horse of the Year at some point in their career.

Horse	Finish	Year
Ornament	2nd	1897
Meridian	**1st**	**1911**
Old Rosebud (g)	**1st**	**1914**
Regret (f)	**1st**	**1915**
Exterminator (g)	**1st**	**1918**
Sir Barton	**1st**	**1919**
Zev	**1st**	**1923**
Reigh Count	**1st**	**1928**
Blue Larkspur	4th	1929
Gallant Fox	**1st**	**1930**
Twenty Grand	**1st**	**1931**
Cavalcade	**1st**	**1934**
Discovery	2nd	1934
Granville	DNF	1936
War Admiral	**1st**	**1937**
Challedon	2nd	1939
Whirlaway	**1st**	**1941**
Count Fleet	**1st**	**1943**
Assault	**1st**	**1946**
Citation	**1st**	**1948**
Coaltown	2nd	1948
Capot	2nd	1949
Hill Prince	2nd	1950
Counterpoint	11th	1951
Native Dancer	2nd	1953
Swaps	**1st**	**1955**
Nashua	2nd	1955
Round Table	3rd	1957
Bold Ruler	4th	1957
Sword Dancer	2nd	1959
Roman Brother (g)	4th	1964
Damascus	3rd	1967
Arts and Letters	2nd	1969
Personality	8th	1970
Secretariat	**1st**	**1973**
Forego (g)	4th	1973
Seattle Slew	**1st**	**1977**
Affirmed	**1st**	**1978**
Spend a Buck	**1st**	**1985**
Ferdinand	**1st**	**1986**
Alysheba	**1st**	**1987**
Sunday Silence	**1st**	**1989**
Holy Bull	12th	1994
Skip Away	12th	1996
Favorite Trick	8th	1998
Charismatic	**1st**	**1999**
Point Given	5th	2001
Curlin	3rd	2007
California Chrome	**1st**	**2014**
American Pharoah	**1st**	**2015**
Justify	**1st**	**2018**
Authentic	**1st**	**2020**

Did you know?

The only horse not crowned Horse of the Year the year he swept the Triple Crown was Omaha in 1935. Discovery, a 4-year-old, won 11 of 19 starts that year, and beat Omaha (third) by 12 lengths in that year's Brooklyn Handicap on June 22 – the first of eight straight stakes triumphs.

Four Kentucky Derby winners are two-time Horse of the Year winners: Whirlaway (1941-42), Secretariat (1972-73), Affirmed (1978-79) and California Chrome (2014, '16).

A Kentucky Derby winner has been crowned Horse of the Year after its 3-year-old season on nine occasions: Old Rosebud (1917), Exterminator (1922), Whirlaway (1942), Swaps (1956), Affirmed (1979), Spectacular Bid (1980), Ferdinand (1987), Alysheba (1988) and California Chrome (2016).

**HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES
IN THE KENTUCKY DERBY (74)**

Note: 41 Kentucky Derby winners have been enshrined in the Racing and Hall of Fame.

Horse	Finish	Year
Aristides	**1st**	**1875**
Ten Broeck	5th	1875
Parole	4th	1876
Hindoo	**1st**	**1881**
Ben Brush	**1st**	**1896**
Old Rosebud (g)	**1st**	**1914**
Regret (f)	**1st**	**1915**
Exterminator (g)	**1st**	**1918**
Sir Barton	**1st**	**1919**
Billy Kelly (g)	2nd	1919
Zev	**1st**	**1923**
Black Gold	**1st**	**1924**
Reigh Count	**1st**	**1928**
Sun Beau	11th	1928
Blue Larkspur	4th	1929
Gallant Fox	**1st**	**1930**
Twenty Grand	**1st**	**1931**
Cavalcade	**1st**	**1934**
Discovery	2nd	1934
Omaha	**1st**	**1935**
Granville	DNF	1936
War Admiral	**1st**	**1937**
Johnstown	**1st**	**1939**
Challedon	2nd	1939
Bimelech	2nd	1940
Whirlaway	**1st**	**1941**
Alsab	2nd	1942
Devil Diver	6th	1942
Count Fleet	**1st**	**1943**
Assault	**1st**	**1946**
Citation	**1st**	**1948**
Coaltown	2nd	1948
Hill Prince	2nd	1950
Native Dancer	2nd	1953
Swaps	**1st**	**1955**
Nashua	2nd	1955
Needles	**1st**	**1956**
Gallant Man-GB	2nd	1957
Round Table	3rd	1957
Bold Ruler	4th	1957
Tim Tam	**1st**	**1958**
Sword Dancer	2nd	1959
Silver Spoon (f)	5th	1959
Carry Back	**1st**	**1961**
Northern Dancer	**1st**	**1964**
Damascus	3rd	1967
Majestic Prince	**1st**	**1969**
Arts and Letters	2nd	1969
Riva Ridge	**1st**	**1972**
Secretariat	**1st**	**1973**
Forego (g)	4th	1973
Foolish Pleasure	**1st**	**1975**
Seattle Slew	**1st**	**1977**
Affirmed	**1st**	**1978**
Alydar	2nd	1978
Spectacular Bid	**1st**	**1979**
Genuine Risk (f)	**1st**	**1980**
Slew O' Gold	4th	1983
Alysheba	**1st**	**1987**
Winning Colors (f)	**1st**	**1988**
Sunday Silence	**1st**	**1989**
Easy Goer	2nd	1989
Best Pal (g)	2nd	1991
Holy Bull	12th	1994
Serena's Song (f)	16th	1995
Skip Away	12th	1996
Silver Charm	**1st**	**1997**
Point Given	5th	2001
Smarty Jones	**1st**	**2004**
Curlin	3rd	2007
California Chrome	**1st**	**2014**
American Pharoah	**1st**	**2015**
Gun Runner	3rd	2016
Justify	**1st**	**2018**