

CHAMPIONS, KENTUCKY DERBY WINNERS

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 (67)

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

Sovereignty (2025)
3-year-old colt – 2025
Horse of the Year – 2025

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

Kentucky Derby Record: 82-21-15-6

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

Classic Empire	4 th	2017
Good Magic	2 nd	2018
Game Winner	5 th	2019
Storm the Court	6 th	2020
Essential Quality	3 rd	2021
Fierceness	15 th	2024
Citizen Bull	15 th	2025

**HORSE OF THE YEAR WINNERS
IN THE KENTUCKY DERBY (53)**

Note: 29 Kentucky Derby Winners were named Horse of the Year at some point in their career.

Ornament	2 nd	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	4 th	1929
Gallant Fox	1st	1930
Twenty Grand	1st	1931
Cavalcade	1st	1934
Discovery	2 nd	1934
Granville	DNF	1936
War Admiral	1st	1937
Chalcedon	2 nd	1939
Whirlaway	1st	1941
Count Fleet	1st	1943
Assault	1st	1946
Citation	1st	1948
Coaltown	2 nd	1948
Capot	2 nd	1949
Hill Prince	2 nd	1950
Counterpoint	11 th	1951
Native Dancer	2 nd	1953
Swaps	1st	1955
Nashua	2 nd	1955
Round Table	3 rd	1957
Bold Ruler	4 th	1957
Sword Dancer	2 nd	1959
Roman Brother (g)	4 th	1964
Damascus	3 rd	1967
Arts and Letters	2 nd	1969
Personality	8 th	1970
Secretariat	1st	1973
Forego (g)	4 th	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	12 th	1994
Skip Away	12 th	1996
Favorite Trick	8 th	1998
Charismatic	1st	1999
Point Given	5 th	2001
Curlin	3 rd	2007
California Chrome	1st	2014
American Pharoah	1st	2015
Justify	1st	2018
Authentic	1st	2020
Sovereignty	1st	2025

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.

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

Curlin	3 rd	2007
California Chrome	1 st	2014
American Pharoah	1 st	2015
Gun Runner	3 rd	2016
Justify	1 st	2018