

2026 POST TIMES & TIMELINE OF EVENTS

KENTUCKY DERBY DAY (Saturday, May 2, 2026)

Race	Time	Race	Field	Live TV	Notes
	24 hours				Employee/Media Parking Shuttles (KEC Lot E)
	4:00 a.m.				Stable Shuttles Begin until 10 a.m.
	4:00 a.m.				Stable Shuttles to 7:30 a.m.
	5:15 a.m.				Training Begins
	7:30 a.m.				Stable Shuttles Conclude
	7:45 a.m.				Derby Training
	8:00 a.m.				Derby Training Concludes
	8:00 a.m.				All Box Offices Open
	8:30 a.m.				National Anthem Soundcheck
	9:00 a.m.				Admission Gates Open
	9:00 a.m.				Premier League Live on USA (Paddock Platform)
	10:00 a.m.				Garland Arrival (Paddock Plaza Gate)
	10:00 a.m.				Garland Display (Paddock Plaza to 12 pm)
	10:30 a.m.				National Anthem (Steve Buttleman)
1	11:00 a.m.	Mdn 120k, 3&up, 1 1/16 M	11	WAVE/FanDuel	
	11:30 a.m.				Kentucky Derby Trophy (Red Carpet)
2	11:32 a.m.	OC 125000n1x, 3yo, 1 1/16 M	12	WAVE/FanDuel	
	12:00 p.m.				NBCSN, Peacock 12-2:30 p.m. ET
	12:00 p.m.				Red Carpet Arrivals (VIP Gate)
3	12:05 p.m.	OC 80000n2x, 3&up, 1 M	14	NBCSN/Pea	
4	12:38 p.m.	\$1 million Derby City Distaff (GI), f&m, 7 F	6	NBCSN/Pea	
	1:00 p.m.				Media Lunch (Parlay)
5	1:12 p.m.	\$600,000 Twin Spires Turf Sprint (GII), 3&up, 5 1/2 F (T)	10	NBCSN/Pea	
	1:30 p.m.				Fashion Contest (Paddock Plaza)
6	1:53 p.m.	\$200,000 Knicks Go (R), 4&up, 1 M	11	NBCSN/Pea	
	2:06 p.m.				U of L Marching Band
	2:30 p.m.				NBC, Peacock 2:30-7:30 p.m. ET
	2:30 p.m.				Garland and Trophy for NBC (Paddock)
7	2:38 p.m.	\$1 million CD Distaff Turf Mile (GII), f&m, 1 M (T)	9	NBC	
	2:51 p.m.				Military Enlistment Cerermony (Winner's Circle)

8	3:24 p.m.	\$750,000 Pat Day Mile (GI), 3yo, 1 M	12	NBC	
9	4:06 p.m.	\$1 million American Turf (GI), 3yo, 1 1/16 M (T)	14	NBC	
	4:19 p.m.				U of L Marching Band
	4:25 p.m.				Fashion Contest Winner (Red Carpet)
10	4:52 p.m.	\$1 million Churchill Downs (GI), 4&up, 7 F	11	NBC	
	5:00 p.m.				Presentation of Colors
	5:03 p.m.				U.S. Army Golden Knights jump (turf)
	5:10 p.m.				National Anthem (Susan Tedeschi & Derek Trucks)
11	5:40 p.m.	\$1 million Old Forester Bourbon Turf Classic (GI), 4&up, 1 1/8 M (T)	10	NBC	
	5:54 p.m.				Garland & Trophy Procession
	5:57 p.m.				Horses at Gap
	6:00 p.m.				Stewards Meeting with Jockeys
	6:10 p.m.				Jockeys Portrait
	6:14 p.m.				Walkover Begins
	6:28 p.m.				Horses in Saddling Paddock
	6:30 p.m.				Attendance Announced
	6:36 p.m.				Jockey Walk (in post position order)
	6:44 p.m.				Riders Up! (Pat Day)
	6:45 p.m.				Call to the Post
	6:46 p.m.				"My Old Kentucky Home" with UofL Choir
	6:48 p.m.				Post Parade
	7:00 p.m.				Media Dinner (Parlay)
	7:01 p.m.				Gate Load
12	7:02 p.m.	\$5 million Kentucky Derby (GI), 3yo, 1 1/4 M	20	NBC	
	7:14 p.m.				Rose Garland Draped on Winning Horse
	7:23 p.m.				Winner's Circle Presentation
	7:30 p.m.				NBC Off Air
	7:30 p.m.				Winner's Party (KDM)
	7:40 p.m.				Two-Question Sound Byte with Winners (Paddock)
	7:45 p.m.				News Conference
13	8:00 p.m.	OC 125000n1x, 3yo, 6 1/2 F	11	WAVE/FanDuel	
	8:30 p.m.				Winner's Party Ceremony (KDM)
14	8:33 p.m.	Mdn 120k, 3&up, 7 F	14	WAVE/FanDuel	
	10:00 p.m.				Stable Shuttles Begin until 12 a.m.