



Joseph O'Brien

Birthdate: May 23, 1993

Family: Father, Aidan; Mother, Annemarie; Brother, Donnacha; Sisters, Sarah & Anastasia. Joseph is the oldest of the four O'Brien children.

Breeders' Cup Record (jockey): 5-1-0-2 | \$2,537,000

Breeders' Cup Record (trainer): 2-0-0-0 | \$10,345

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- Son of global powerhouse trainer Aidan O'Brien, who is ranked second in the history of the Breeders' Cup in both wins and earnings. He became an apprentice to his father, and moved up to become one of his most called-upon riders. The O'Briens became the first father-son/trainer-jockey combo to win the Epsom Derby when Camelot won the classic race in 2012. Brother Donnacha and sister Sarah have also ridden in races.
 - Rode his first winner less than a week after turning 16. The win came aboard Johann Zoffany, trained by his father at Leopardstown in Ireland on May 28, 2009. He essentially rode part-time while still attending school, and finished in a three-way tie for Ireland's champion apprentice title in 2010. He won the honor by a wide margin in 2011.
 - His first classic winner in the saddle also came in 2001, when he took the Irish 2,000 Guineas aboard Roderic O'Connor at age 17.
 - Later that year, O'Brien made his first Breeders' Cup mount a winning one, taking the Breeders' Cup Turf aboard St Nicholas Abbey. O'Brien became the youngest jockey to win a Breeders' Cup race at 18 years old.
 - St Nicholas Abbey, a son of Montjeu, was arguably O'Brien's most significant mount, also taking the Dubai Sheema Classic (G1) in the U.A.E. and the Coronation Cup (G2) in England in their races together. O'Brien rode St Nicholas Abbey to a third-place finish in the 2012 Breeders' Cup Turf.

- The 2011 Turf was O'Brien's lone Breeders' Cup win as a rider, but he only finished worse than fourth once in his five starts during the event. His other top mount was Declaration of War, who finished third in the 2013 Classic.
- Rode a combined 31 Grade/Group 1 winners in five countries.
- O'Brien was crowned champion Irish jockey in 2012 and 2013, with 87 and then a record 126 winners in those respective seasons.
- At nearly six feet tall, maintaining weight was always a struggle for O'Brien, and it became clear at the end of the 2015 racing season that his days riding professionally were numbered. He officially retired from race riding in the spring of 2016.
- O'Brien is seeking to become only the second person in Breeders' Cup history to win races as both a rider and trainer. Freddie Head became the first in 2008 when Goldikova won the Mile. Head had previously won the Mile in back-to-back years as the jockey of Miesque.
- Prior to retiring from riding, O'Brien had already begun training a string of jumps horses from Carriganog Racing. He handled the training on Ivanovich Gorbатов, who won the Triumph Hurdle during the Cheltenham meet under father Aidan's name in 2016.
- The younger O'Brien was granted his training license June 3, 2016 and he saddled four winners on his first day as the trainer of record June 7, including horses ridden by brother Donnacha and sister Sarah. Donnacha rode his brother's first winner as a trainer, Justice Frederick at Gowran Park.
- His first Group 1 winner as a trainer came just a few months after taking out his license, when Intricately won the Moyglare Stud Stakes (G1) in Ireland. His brother Donnacha was in the saddle. O'Brien later took Intricately to the 2016 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf in which she finished 11th.
- The following year saw O'Brien continue his international reach as a trainer, highlighted by Rekindling's win in the Melbourne Cup (G1) in Australia. Once again, he was the youngest trainer to accomplish the feat, at age 24.
- O'Brien picked up his first classic as a trainer in 2018 when Latrobe won the Irish Derby. He also picked up a trio of Irish Group 1 wins over the hurdles.
- O'Brien's stable in 2019 is led by Iridessa, a Ruler of the World filly who is being pointed toward the Maker's Mark Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf. She won the English Fillies Mile (G1) as a juvenile last year, then came back to win the Pretty Polly Stakes (G1) and Matron Stakes (G1) in Ireland this year.
- His training yard is located at Owing Hill, near Piltown in Co. Kilkenny, Ireland. O'Brien's grandfather, Joe Crowley, was the first to train from the yard and his parents also trained there before moving to Ballydoyle.
- Operates the Joseph O'Brien Racing Club with racing journalist Kevin Blake, granting members access to the trainer, his horses and the racetrack experience.

- His roster of owners includes his mother Annemarie and sisters Sarah and Anastasia. Outside of the family, his clients include Mrs. C.C. Regalado-Gonzalez, China Horse Club, Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners, Flaxman Stables, Newtown Anner Stud, Phoenix Thoroughbreds, Qatar Racing, Charles Fipke, John Oxley, John McManus and Scott Heider.