

Soumillon, Christophe: Born: June 4, 1981. From: Belgium.

Moved to France at age 14 and lived the rest of his childhood there. Mother is Belgium, father is French. Began riding in 1999 and since 2000 dreamed of coming to the U.S. to ride in the Kentucky Derby. Didn't imagine that it would ever really materialize though because he rides primarily in Europe and few European based horses make it to the KY Derby. Finally made it—first Derby 2015 on Mubtaahij for Michael DeKock. Has won Grade 1 or Group 1 races in: France, England, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, USA, Canada, Dubai, Italy and Germany. In preparation for his first KY Derby he watched replays of the previous 30 Derbies and concluded: "...easier to lose the race than it is to win it."