

Doyle, Sophie: Born: July 12, 1986. From: Cambridge, England.

Grew up in England in the small village of Eastbury about two miles from Lambourn which is known as the Valley of the Racehorse because about 1,500 Thoroughbreds are stabled in proximity to 50 different stables.

Before becoming a jockey, Doyle spent much of her time riding show jumpers. Younger brother James rides for Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum's Godolphin Racing in England and the United Arab Emirates.

Despite being a successful apprentice in England, Doyle had difficulty obtaining competitive mounts. Even winning became counterproductive as other jockeys replaced her in subsequent races. "I realized I had to be logical," she said in a Jan. 9, 2016 article in www.kyforward.com. "Do I want to keep pushing every year? Or should I go to America and start from scratch?" After spending two winters in the United States as an exercise rider, Doyle decided to reboot her jockey career in the United States.

In her first full year riding in North America (2015), Doyle won 72 races from 747 mounts. In 2016 she won 42 races. While her number dropped to just 27 wins in 2017, in 2018 she won 83 races. In 2019 she had 51 victories. Doyle routinely competes at tracks in Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Pennsylvania.