

## Arlington Race Track

The unsurpassed beauty of the magnificent six-story grandstand is only a small part of the Arlington Experience. Since re-opening on June 28, 1989, Arlington Racetrack has been dedicated to the concept of family entertainment. Arlington has created a new generation of thoroughbred racing by providing a great show with good food in a distinctive setting. Arlington Park race track is a thoroughbred racing facility in Arlington Heights, Illinois featuring two tracks. Its racing season typically runs from May / June through September / October. As one of Illinois's top race tracks, Arlington Park race track regularly hosts high-profile stakes races, among them are the Arlington Million, the Beverly D. Stakes, the Secretariat Stakes, Stars & Stripes Breeders' Cup and the Washington Park Handicap. Over the last few years, Arlington Park race track took on an active international role by exchanging races with leading tracks in England and Japan, participating in global conferences on international racing, and taking on an advisory role in efforts to develop a worldwide thoroughbred racing series. In various capacities, it has participated in several international projects including the Emirates World Series Racing Championship, the Dubai World Cup and the Singapore International Cup.

**Horseracing**  
Horseracing is among the most widely attended U.S. spectator sports. It is also a major professional sport in Canada, Great Britain, Ireland, Western Europe, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and South America. Horseracing  
The most popular form of the sport is the racing of mounted thoroughbred horses over flat courses at distances from three-quarters of a mile to two miles.

Horseracing's beginnings can be traced back to the 12th century, when English knights returned home from the Crusades with Arab horses.

Over the next 400 years, breeding between imported Arab stallions and English mares produced horses that combined speed and endurance.

Horseracing became a professional sport as early as 1702 to 1714. Racecourses sprang up all over England and offered large purses to attract the best horses. The British settlers brought horses and horse racing to America, with the first American racetrack built in Long Island in 1665.

The development of organized racing did not arrive to America until after the Civil War. In 1894, the American Jockey Club was formed to govern the sport.

The introduction of pari-mutuel betting for the Kentucky Derby signaled a renaissance for the sport after stumbling badly in the early 1900s. At the end of World War I, prosperity brought spectators flocking to racetracks. For details information: Arlington Park