

2026-2027 Kentucky fishing and hunting licenses available

**HAZARD HERALD
STAFF REPORT**

FRANKFORT — The 2026-2027 Kentucky license year for fishing, hunting, boating and more started on Sunday, March 1. Outdoor enthusiasts are able to purchase all the licenses, tags and permits they need to enjoy Kentucky's outdoors through the end of February 2027.

Licenses and permits are sold online through the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resource's License Sales portal and the My Profile app, both searchable on the department's website at fw.ky.gov. Licenses and permits also are sold at agent locations across the state. A list of license agent locations by county is available on the department's website.

The 2026-2027 license and permit fees will remain the same as the current license year ending Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026. License and permit fees for the 2025-2026 license year were increased slightly across the board in January 2026 following a new, inflation-based pricing system measured on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the national measure of inflation calculated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Federal Duck Stamp and application fees were exempt from CPI adjustments.

In Kentucky, a license covers basic hunting or fishing for many species, whereas additional state permits are required when pursuing specific species, such as fishing for trout or hunting for migratory birds, deer, wild turkey or black bear. Sportsmen's-type licenses include multiple species permits as well as basic hunting and fishing privileges.

For newcomers to all the great outdoor opportunities that Kentucky has to offer, a reduced-cost sportsman's license is now available for resident first-time

buyers. Only individuals who have not purchased an annual Kentucky hunting or fishing license - or a combination license that includes an annual license - since 1996 are eligible. The \$37 license includes a resident hunting and fishing license, spring turkey permit, fall turkey permit, trout permit, state migratory bird and waterfowl permit and statewide deer permit.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife provides a number of resources to assist avid outdoor enthusiasts and newcomers alike with information on waterbodies, public lands, fishing and hunting education and all the regulations to help anglers and hunters make the most of their time outdoors via its website and the hunting and fishing guides it produces annually. This includes the new Fishing and Boating Guide available online and in print.

Another great resource is the Fish Boat KY app. Available free from the Apple App Store and Google Play, the app helps anglers find waterbodies, boat ramps and other water access from the palm of their hand. Users can also search by species of fish, store copies of their licenses, and much more using the smartphone app.

The department receives its primary funding through revenue raised by the sale of hunting and fishing licenses and permits, as well as federal excise taxes generated by the sale of recreational firearms and ammunition, archery gear and fishing equipment.

For questions, the public may refer to the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Licenses webpage or type "Licenses" into the search bar on the agency website (fw.ky.gov) or contact the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Information Center at 800-858-1549 or at info.center@ky.gov, weekdays 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (Eastern), except holidays.

Bulldogs pick up win over Buckhorn in opening round

**By RANDY WHITE
REGIONAL SPORTS
EDITOR**

Hazard cruised by Buckhorn in the opening round of the 54th District Tournament last Tuesday night.

The Bulldogs rolled to an 86-55 win.

The win helped Hazard advance to the 54th District championship against Perry Central.

Seth Caudill led the way for Hazard with a team-high 23 points and six rebounds. Talan Osborne followed with 19 points and six rebounds as

well. Luke Combs reached the double figure scoring with 13 points. Trace Kincaid scored nine. Kolton Maggard added eight. Tucker Napier scored six. Darnell Sharpely followed with five. Noah Carter added two points and Tucker Johnson chipped in with one.

Hazard finished the game 32 of 57 from the field (56.1 percent). The Bulldogs were 15 of 31 from three-point range (48.4 percent). Hazard was seven of 14 from the free-throw line (50 percent).

The Bulldogs out rebounded the Wildcats 33-20.

Jacob Neace led the way for Buckhorn with a team-high 19 points and six rebounds. Dillon East-erling added 12 points. Brayden Rice added eight. Trenton Riley scored six. Peyton Collins and Cameron Miller scored four points apiece. Daniel Morris chipped in with two.

The Wildcats were 19 of 44 from the field (43.2 percent). Buckhorn was three of 15 from the three-point line (20 percent). The Wildcats were 14 of 20 from the free-throw line (70 percent).

With the loss, Buckhorn finished the season with an 11-20 record.

Lady Bulldogs open with win over Buckhorn

**By RANDY WHITE
REGIONAL SPORTS EDITOR**

Hazard opened the 54th District Tournament with a huge 67-36 home win over Buckhorn last Monday night.

The Lady Bulldogs advanced to the district title game with the win.

In the 54th District championship, Hazard rolled to a 52-29 win over Perry Central.

Maddi Frohnapfel led the Lady Bulldogs with 15 points and seven rebounds against Buckhorn. Braylynn Eddington followed with 14 points and seven rebounds. Emily Higgins also reached double figure scoring with 10. Laura Everidge just missed double digit scoring with nine. Maggie Combs and Hannah Caudill scored six points apiece. Ava Sparkman scored four points. Kailey

Pennington finished with three points.

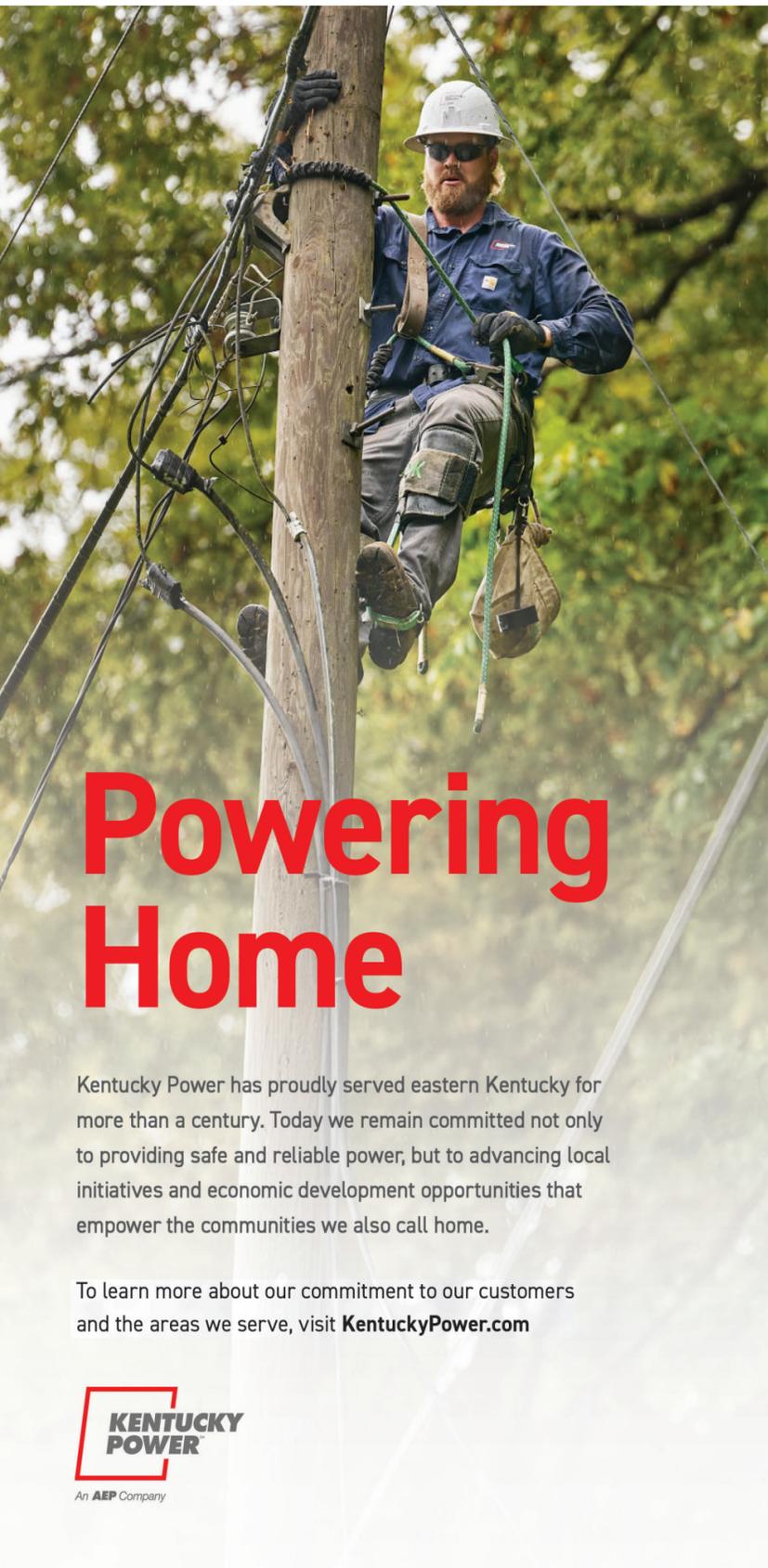
The Lady Bulldogs finished the game 26 of 58 from the field (44.8 percent). Hazard was eight of 22 from the three-point line (36.4 percent). The Lady Bulldogs were seven of 12 from the three-point line (58.3 percent).

Hazard out rebounded Buckhorn 31-25.

Haylee Drew Blank led the way for the Lady Wildcats with a team-high 17 points. Greenlee Blank followed with 15 points. Lyla Wooten scored four points.

Buckhorn finished the game 13 of 42 from the field (31 percent). The Lady Wildcats were two of eight from the three-point line (25 percent). Buckhorn finished eight of 12 from the free-throw line (66.7 percent).

Buckhorn finished the season with a 14-15 record.



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13th Region
10 - North Laurel
5 - South Laurel (Claywell, A. White, Connelly, Dennison, Dixon)

14th Region
13 - Hazard
1 - Knott County Central (Dixon)
1 - Letcher Central (Weber)

15th Region
14 - Johnson Central
1 - Pikeville (Marsee)

16th Region
15 - Ashland Blazer

Boys Sweet 16 picks
First Region
15 - McCracken County

Second Region
8 - Henderson County
7 - Lyon County (Marlowe, Claywell, Weber, Connelly, Dennison, Dixon, Collier)

Third Region
11 - Daviess County
4 - Grayson County (Claywell, Weber, Marsee, Dixon)

Fourth Region
15 - Warren Central

Fifth Region
8 - North Hardin
7 - Caverna (Springer, Marlowe, Mathis, Weber, Connelly, Dennison, Peck)

Sixth Region
12 - Jeffersontown
3 - Butler (Compton, Weber, Marsee)

Seventh Region
8 - St. Xavier
6 - Ballard (Claywell, Frakes, Weber, Peck, Marsee, Dixon)
1 - Male (R. White)

Eighth Region
14 - North Oldham
1 - Woodford County (Peck)

Ninth Region
15 - Covington Catholic

10th Region
15 - George Rogers Clark
11th Region
13 - Madison Central
1 - Frederick Douglass (Dennison)
1 - Bryan Station (R.

White)
12th Region
8 - Wayne County
7 - Danville Christian (Mathis, Claywell, Stanton, Marsee, Dixon, R. White, Collier)

13th Region
8 - North Laurel
7 - Bell County (Springer, Marlowe, Claywell, Stanton, Dennison, Marsee, Dixon)

14th Region
8 - Knott County Central
4 - Hazard (Compton, Frakes, Dixon, R. White)
3 - Powell County (Weber, Peck, Marsee)

15th Region
7 - Pikeville
6 - Johnson Central (Compton, Stanton, Connelly, Dennison, Marsee, Collier)
2 - Martin County (Frakes, Weber)

16th Region
7 - Ashland Blazer
6 - Boyd County (Marlowe, Stanton, Weber, Marsee, Dixon, R. White)
2 - Russell (Claywell, Connelly)