

2026 KENTUCKY PROUD SERIES CONDITIONS

To be eligible for the Kentucky Proud Series, the horse must be a two (2) year old or a three (3) year old that is a Kentucky-bred as defined in 810 KAR 7:040 and has met all requirements of 810 KAR 5:080.

Race Dates:

- Ballard County Fair (LaCenter)
Saturday, May 23
(optional days May 22 & May 24)
- Purchase District Fair (Mayfield)
Saturday, May 30
(optional days May 29 & May 31)
- McCracken County Fair (LaCenter)
Saturday, June 6
(optional days June 5 & June 7)
- Washington County Fair (Lebanon)
Saturday, June 20
(optional days June 19 & June 21)
- Marion County Fair (Lebanon)
Saturday, June 27
(optional June 26 & June 28)
- Woodford County Fair (Highbramble)
Saturday, July 4
(optional days July 3 & July 5)
- Mercer County Fair (The Red Mile)
Saturday, July 18
(optional days July 17 & July 19)
- Sunday, July 26: KY Proud Finals
(The Red Mile)

Purses: Each race will have a purse of \$1,500 per entry per division with a minimum purse of \$6,000, per race and a Finals purse of \$50,000.

Fees to participate in 2026: Paid to the Kentucky Horse Racing and Gaming except when noted.

1. A nomination fee of fifty (\$50) dollars per horse due on or before **March 1, 2026;**
2. A sustaining fee of two hundred (\$200) per horse due on or before **May 1, 2026;**
3. An entry fee of one hundred (\$100) dollars per horse, per race, due to the fair prior to post time; and
4. A two hundred (\$200) entry fee shall be due prior to post time for a horse eligible for the finals.

Number of Starters and Purse Distributions: There shall be no more than two (2) trailers in any race.

- On a one (1) mile track, there shall be ten (10) horses on the gate and the race shall split on eleven (11) horses.
- On a half mile track, there shall be five (5) horses on the gate with two (2) trailers, and the race shall split on eight (8) horses.
- On a five-eighths mile track, there shall be eight (8) horses on the gate and the race shall split at nine (9) horses.

The purse for each race shall be divided as follows:

- (a) Five (5) starters - fifty (50) percent, twenty-five (25) percent, twelve (12) percent, eight (8) percent, and five (5) percent;
- (b) Four (4) starters - fifty (50) percent, twenty-five (25) percent, twelve (12) percent, eight (8) percent, and the remaining five (5) percent reverts back to the fund;
- (c) Three (3) starters - fifty (50) percent, twenty-five (25) percent, twelve (12) percent, and the remaining thirteen (13) percent reverts back to the fund;
- (d) Two (2) starters - fifty (50) percent, twenty-five (25) percent, and the remaining twenty-five (25) percent reverts back to the fund; and

(e) One (1) starter - fifty (50) percent, and the remaining fifty (50) percent reverts back to the fund.

Minimum Number of Starts: In addition to the points set forth below, a horse must have started in at least one-half (50%) of the Kentucky Proud Series to be eligible to race in the Kentucky Proud Series Final.

Points Distribution:

- (1) Points shall be awarded in an early closing race, and any division of an early closing race, as follows:
 - (a) First place finisher - fifty (50) points;
 - (b) Second place finisher - twenty-five (25) points;
 - (c) Third place finisher - twelve (12) points;
 - (d) Fourth place finisher - eight (8) points;
 - (e) Fifth place finisher - five (5) points; and
 - (f) Each starter that finishes out of the money - one (1) point.
- (2) If two (2) horses dead-heat for any position, they shall each receive one-half (1/2) of the points awarded for that position and one-half (1/2) of the points awarded for the next lower position. The same procedure shall be used for the allocation of points if there is a dead-heat of three (3) or more horses.
- (3) A horse that is declared in and then is the subject of a judge's scratch shall be awarded one (1) point based upon the decision of the presiding judge. This decision shall be final.
- (4) If there is a tie among two (2) or more horses with the same number of points, the tie shall be resolved in favor of the horse with the higher earnings in the early fair events in which the horses have competed.
- (5) If any races are canceled due to weather conditions and are not rescheduled for a later date, the points for distribution set forth in this section shall not apply, and instead one (1) point shall be awarded to each horse entered for that race date.

The KHRG has the final decision on any disputes that might arise.

Horses eligible for the Kentucky Proud Series may be eligible for early closing events approved by the Kentucky Sire Stakes Advisory panel from time to time.