



2027 QUICK FACTS

University of Kentucky

Location: Lexington, Ky.
Founded: 1865
Nickname: Wildcats
Colors: Blue (PMS 286) and White
Conference: Southeastern (Eastern Division)
President: Dr. Eli Capilouto (Alabama, 1971)
Faculty Representative: Joseph L. Fink
(Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, 1970)

Coaching Staff

Head Coach: Nick Mingione (Embry-Riddle, 2000)
Career Record: 326-215 (.603); 11th season
Record at UK: Same
Best Time to Call: Contact SID
Assistant Coach: Dan Roszel, 8th season (North Florida, 2000)
Assistant Coach: Austin Cousino, 4th season (Kentucky, 2016)
Assistant Coach: Chase Slone, 3rd season (Wright State, 2019)
Chief of Staff: Brock Doud
Director of Player Development / Assistant Pitching Coach: Trevor Fitts
Director of Recruiting: Ryder Giles
Director of Offensive and Catching Development: Devin Burkes
Director of Communications/PR: Matt May
matt.may@uky.edu; (859) 806-7463 (cell); (859) 257-8504 (office)

2026 Review

Overall Record: 33-23
Home: 21-9
Away: 11-13
Neutral: 1-1
Conference Record: 13-17
Home: 8-7
Away: 5-10
Conference Finish: 13th

History

All-Time Record: 2,155-1,991-25 (.520)
All-Time Conference Record: 817-1,065-8 (.434)
All-Time Conference Tournament Record: 26-44 (.377)
Conference Tournament Titles: none
Conference Titles: two (2006, 2024)
NCAA Tournament Appearances: 13
NCAA Tournament Record: 31-27 (.534)
Super Regional Appearances: three (2017, 2023, 2024)
College World Series Appearances: one (2024)

Facility

Stadium: Kentucky Proud Park
First Year: 2019
Capacity: 5,000
Dimensions: 335-375-400-365-320
Record: 165-73 (.693)

2027 Outlook

Lettermen Returning/Lost: 15/19
Starters Returning/Lost: 7 (5 positional, 2 pitchers)
5 (4 positional, 1 pitcher)
Newcomers: 22 (10 freshmen, 12 transfers)

Top Returning Position Players (2026 stats)

IF Hudson Brown: .333, 36 R, 12 2B, 7 HR, 39 RBI, 28 BB, 1.028 OPS
IF Ethan Hindle: .303, 52 R, 19 2B, 12 HR, 53 RBI, 46 BB/HBP, 1.050 OPS
OF Jayce Tharnish: .351, 64 R, 13 2B, 6 HR, 38 RBI, 32 SB, .918 OPS
OF Braxton Van Cleave: .274, 14 R, 5 2B, 6 HR, 27 RBI, .853 OPS
IF Caeden Cloud: .208, 17 R, 8 2B, 4 HR, 17 RBI, .721 OPS

Top Returning Pitchers (2026 stats)

LHP Ben Cleaver: 14 GS, 4.40 ERA, 45.0 IP, 43 H, 44 K
RHP Nate Harris: 12 GS, 6.07 ERA, 46.0 IP, 42 H, 43 K
RHP Jack Sams: 10 APP, 2.16 ERA, 16.2 IP, 13 H, 20 K, .210 OAA

Key Players Lost (2026 stats)

IF Tyler Bell: .343/.448/.608, 49 R, 19 XBH, 29 RBI, 50 BB/HBP, 10 SB
IF Luke Lawrence: .344/.448/.451, 46 R, 17 XBH, 44 RBI, 42 BBB/HBP, 13 SB
RHP Jaxon Jelkin: 17 G/15 GS, 8-3, SV, 4.06 ERA, 97.0 IP, 90 H, 106 K
RHP Jack Bennett: .20 GM, 7 SV, 5.87 ERA, 38.1 IP, 39 K

Redshirts Eligible (2)

OF Ryan Foscolo
RHP Will Pryor (injury)

Transfers (12)

OF Brody Chrisman (Akron)
RHP PJ Craig (Rider)
IF Lee Ellis (Ohio State)
LHP Kale Hammer (Seattle)
RHP Logan Hastings (Maryland)
C Riley Jackson (Houston)
OF Alex Kelsey (St. Joseph's)
IF Owen Lee (Tennessee Tech)
RHP Dylan McIntyre (San Jacinto College)
IF/OF JP Peltier (Wright State)
C Brayden Ricketts (Indiana)
RHP Mason Snyder (Western Carolina)

Freshmen (10)

C - Carson May
OF - Rob Czarniecki, Kaden Powell
LHP - Joey Ansell, Cole McLean
RHP - Aiden Smith, Logan Sorrel, Sammy Swank
Two-Way - Matt Ponatoski, Grayson Willoughby