



## THE INSIDE PITCH

WEEK 1

MASTERS  
DIVISION

OCT. 26<sup>th</sup>

# Baseball royalty: Roy Hobbs rookie a proud son

BY GLENN MILLER

*Roy Hobbs Baseball*

Purvis Cowens grew up in a baseball family like few Roy Hobbs players ever experienced.

His late father, Al, played 13 years in the majors, the first 6 years with the Kansas City Royals, when they held spring training at Terry Park in Fort Myers.

On Sunday, in his first Roy Hobbs World Series game ever, Purvis Cowens of CWC Kreuger's Krew played at Terry Park on what would have been Al Cowens' 69th birthday. He died of a heart attack in 2002 at the age of 50.

"It's an awesome feeling," Cowens said of being at Terry Park. "It just brings back a lot of memories because of him playing and knowing that he played here and this is his birthday. It's really kind of emotional."

Not many kids grow up with a big-league father but when he was very young his father, the Royals right-fielder, wasn't the Royals right fielder.

"He was just dad," Cowens said. "I never realized how good a ballplayer he was until later on in life when I would hear people talking about him. He was just a really quiet dad."

Cowens was very young when his father played with the Royals from 1974 to 1979. He thinks he visited Terry Park once back then but has no vivid memories of the trip.

But he knows about his father's career. Al Cowens best year was 1977, when he hit .312 with 23 homers and 112 RBI and finished runner-up to Hall of Famer Rod Carew in the A.L. MVP voting.

He believes his father would approve of him playing baseball at the age of 49.

"I think he would be proud to see me able to do something that I love and that he was a major part of," Cowens said.

see **BASEBALL ROYALTY** on page 2



*photo by Meg Giffen*  
Gerald Davis and Purvis Cowens of CWC Kreuger's Krew ... Purvis returned Sunday to play at Terry Park where his late father Al Cowens played for the KC Royals.



# BASEBALL ROYALTY

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Purvis had a shot in pro ball, playing on independent teams such as Brandon Grey Owls, Antelope Valley Ravens and Massachusetts Mad Dogs in the 1990s. He loved the experience. "Just being around the guys and doing it every day," Cowens said. "Doing something you love every day."

He's getting to do that again this week in his first Roy Hobbs World Series and taking a break from duties as a special education teacher and junior varsity baseball coach in Los Angeles. "And then," he said, "back to the real world."

Now, though, he is playing baseball and playing it where his dad once played. On Sunday, he played right field, the position his dad played.

"That means everything to me," Cowens said. "You'll probably notice I'll be smiling the whole game."



Memorabilia photos of Al Cowens, courtesy of Gerald David



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### Sunday

#### 10:00

Tennessee Dirtbags 6, Cincinnati Colt .45s 3  
 Chicago North Redhawks 10, Tidewater Drillers 1  
 Victoria HarbourCats 11, Lake Erie Blue Jays 1  
 HPK Oilers 8, Jet Box 4  
 Maine Black Bears 9, New Jersey Thunder Twins 6  
 Chicago Cardinals 9, Lansing Blue Jays 1  
 Dundalk Nationals 11, PSOF Rangers 8  
 Chicago Knights 11, Crystal Clinic Indians 8  
 Dayton Ducks 6, Minnesota Bandits 5  
 DuPage Indians 11, Doc Ford's Sea Dogs 8  
 Orlando Braves 15, Minneapolis Millers 5  
 Pittsburgh 45s 7, Winnepesaukee Muskrats 1  
 Orlando Brewers 5, Minnesota Diamonds 3  
 South Atlanta Twins 10, Chicago Colts 8

#### 2:00

Tidewater Drillers 14, Kenmore Orioles 4  
 Huntsville Havoc 7, Tennessee Dirtbags 2  
 Chicago North Redhawks 7, Jet Box 4  
 Jersey Short Baseball 8, St. Louis Pirates 3  
 Windy City Warriors 22, Doc Ford's Sea Dog's 17  
 Cleveland Cobras 7, Chicago Cardinals 5  
 Swamp Donkeys 12, Dundalk Nationals 2  
 Baltimore Astros 20, Crystal Clinic Indians 7  
 Dayton Ducks 14, Fort Myers Breeze 7  
 New Jersey Thunder Twins 7, Carolina Thunder 3  
 Dayton Wolves 6, South Atlanta Twins 5  
 Lehigh Valley Railriders 11, Minneapolis Millers 5  
 Baltimore Thunder 19, Kent Mudhens 18  
 CWC-Krueger's Krew 12, NW Indiana Dogs 0

#### 5:30 p.m.

Lehigh Valley Raiders 12, NW Indiana Dogs 10  
 New Jersey Railriders 18, Kent Mudhens 1



photo by Meg Giffen

Kent MudHens Rick Jenkins connects on Sunday afternoon vs. the Baltimore Thunder, a 19-18 Thunder victory interrupted by lightning!



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## MASTERS STANDINGS

### Masters Division Standings

#### Group 1

Teams	Win	Loss	PCT	RA
CWC Kruger's Krew	1	0	1.000	0
Pittsburgh 45s	1	0	1.000	1
New Jersey Railriders	1	0	1.000	1
Orlando Brewers	1	0	1.000	3
HPK Oilers	1	0	1.000	4
Chicago North Redhawks	2	0	1.000	5
Dayton Wolves	1	0	1.000	5
Orlando Braves	1	0	1.000	5
Lehigh Valley Railriders	2	0	1.000	15
Baltimore Thunder	1	0	1.000	18
South Atlanta Twins	1	1	.500	14
Tidewater Drillers	1	1	.500	14
Minnesota Diamonds	0	1	.000	5
Winnepesaukee Muskrats	0	1	.000	7
Chicago Colts	0	1	.000	10
Kenmore Orioles	0	1	.000	14
Jet Box	0	2	.000	15
NW Indiana Dogs	0	2	.000	24
Minneapolis Millers	0	2	.000	26
Kent Mudhens	0	2	.000	37

### Masters Division Standings

#### Group 2

Teams	Win	Loss	PCT	RA
Dayton Ducks	2	0	1.000	12
Swamp Donkeys	1	0	1.000	2
Huntsville Havoc	1	0	1.000	2
Jersey Shore Baseball	1	0	1.000	3
Cleveland Cobras	1	0	1.000	5
Maine Black Bears	1	0	1.000	6
Baltimore Astros	1	0	1.000	7
Chicago Knights	1	0	1.000	8



photo by Greg Wagner

*Crystal Clinic Indians 3rd baseman Mike Hoffman hung in there to catch a  
Baltimore Astros pop fly.*

DuPage Indians	1	0	1.000	8
Windy City Warriors	1	0	1.000	17
Chicago Cardinals	1	1	.500	8
New Jersey Thunder Twins	1	1	.500	12
Tennessee Dirtbags	1	1	.500	10
Dundalk Nationals	1	1	.500	20
Minnesota Bandits	0	1	.000	6
Cincinnati Colt .45s	0	1	.000	6
Carolina Thunder	0	1	.000	7
St. Louis Pirates	0	1	.000	8
Lansing Blue Jays	0	1	.000	9
Lake Erie Blue Jays	0	1	.000	11
PSOF Rangers	0	1	.000	11
Fort Myers Breeze	0	1	.000	14
Crystal Clinic Indians	0	2	.000	31
Doc Ford's Sea Dogs	0	2	.000	33



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## MASTERS SCHEDULE



photo by Greg Wagner

Minnesota Bandits center fielder Jerad Heintz makes a great tumbling catch of a Dayton Ducks fly ball, as Mike Ihrke (9) and Jeff Fahey (29) came to check him out.

**10:00 AM**

Maine Black Bears @ Chicago Cardinals, JB3  
Lake Erie Blue Jays @ Fort Myers Breeze, JB4  
Minnesota Bandits @ PSOF Rangers, JB5  
Victoria HarbourCats at Swamp Donkeys, JB6  
Huntsville Havoc at Jersey Shore Baseball, CP-S  
HPK Oilers at Chicago North Redhawks, PDC1  
Orlando Brewers at Dayton Wolves, PDC2  
Orlando Braves at CWC-Krueger's Krew, PDC3  
Baltimore Thunder at Pittsburgh 45s, PDC4  
DuPage Indians at Lansing Blue Jays, PDC5  
St. Louis Pirates at Crystal Clinic Indians, TP-S  
Jet Box at Tidewater Drillers, TP2

Carolina Thunder at Doc Ford's Sea Dog's, TP3  
Chicago Knights at Tennessee Dirtbags, TP4

**2:00 PM**

Fort Myers Breeze at Minnesota Bandits, JB3

Winnepesaukee Muskrats at New Jersey Railriders, JB4

Swamp Donkeys at Lake Erie Blue Jays, JB5

NW Indiana Dogs at Minneapolis Millers, JB6

Minnesota Diamonds at Chicago Colts, CP-S

Kenmore Orioles at HPK Oilers, PDC1

South Atlanta Twins at Orlando Brewers, PDC2

CWC-Krueger's Krew at Lehigh Valley Railriders, PDC3

Pittsburgh 45s at Kent Mudhens, PDC4

Cleveland Cobras at DuPage Indians, PDC5

Chicago Knights at Baltimore Astros, TP-S

Cincinnati Colt .45s at St. Louis Pirates, TP2

Windy City Warriors at Carolina Thunders, TP4

**5:30 PM**

New Jersey Thunder Twins at Windy City Warriors, TP-S

Baltimore Astros at Cincinnati Colt .45s, TP3

Dayton Ducks at Dundalk Nationals, TP4



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## NOTEBOOK

# Welcome to RHWS 2020, COVID-19 19 Style

Welcome to 2020 Roy Hobbs World Series. We are glad you are here, but as you can see, this is a new day, a different day.

Our goal here at Roy Hobbs is for you to have a great time and to be safe here at this tournament.

With that in mind, here are some things we expect and are doing:

1. All participants and patrons must show proof of a mask in their possession and get their temperature taken before entering any of the complexes we are using.
2. Players must have their blue player ID card in order to enter.
3. Wearing masks is not mandated inside the complexes; however, it is required if social distancing – 3-4 feet outside – is not possible. Specific sites for **REQUIRED** masks will be stands, outside batting cages, the Pro Shop and offices.
4. We are providing game participants bottled water in the dugouts; please recycle.
5. Headquarters offices are outside the clubhouse on the lanai area; all are welcome. All meetings will be held outside.
6. Our CV19 protocols are on pages 9-15 of your event program and available at royhobbs.com.

End of the day, we want everyone to be safe, to be able to return home safely and whole.

Please remember, know the risks, avoid risks and practice **individual social responsibility**.



## Playoff pitching guidelines

Roy Hobbs requirement is that all pitchers who will be starters or closers in save situations (3-run or less difference in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> innings) qualify for the playoffs by pitching at least 2 innings – 6 outs or 10 hitters – during first 4 games.

AAAA qualifier teams may not add pitchers to their line-up after Pool Play concludes; however, Open Division teams may have pitchers arrive Wednesday – those pitchers must throw 5 innings or 25 hitters to qualify for the playoffs.

Finally, in the playoffs, those “non-qualified” middle-inning pitchers will come to the mound from their normal defensive positions where they started the game. That is as important as the “spirit of the rule” that these *non-qualified*

see NOTEBOOK on page 7



*photo by Greg Wagner*  
Baltimore Astros catcher Steve Klein rips a double to left field against the Crystal Clinic Indians.

To view your Roy Hobbs photos go to:  
[www.wagnerphotography.com](http://www.wagnerphotography.com)

Tennessee Dirtbags  
2nd baseman breaks  
to cover the base vs.  
the Cincinnati Colt .45's.



Get your team signed up  
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# NOTEBOOK

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pitchers who are used as "inning-eaters" are players who ordinarily are playing other positions.

And, please remember that any players leaving the RHWS Monday/Tuesday to return on Thursday/Friday MUST turn in their player ID Card and re-check-in upon their return. They must return before the quarterfinals of the playoffs, regardless of division.

Managers should email a list of their qualified pitchers to Rob Giffen [rg@royhobbs.com](mailto:rg@royhobbs.com) the night before their playoffs begin.



## 50/50 raffle

50/50 raffle tickets, to benefit the Roy Hobbs Foundation, are available each day at the Player Development Complex. Tickets are \$1 apiece or 6 for \$5. The drawing will be held in the patio area at the Player Development Complex at 5 PM Friday.

The Roy Hobbs Foundation was established to raise monies for research on finding a cure for Leukemia and to assist our Challenged Athlete friends.

Revenues from the 2019 RHWS led to some \$15,000 in contributions to MD Anderson Cancer Center, St. Jude Hospital in Memphis and to Southern Florida Challenger Athletes.



## Results corrections

Please check the posted results and standings EVERY DAY.

Managers should contact Rob at the Tournament Headquarters ([rg@royhobbs.com](mailto:rg@royhobbs.com) or text 330.352.2175) with corrections to scores.

That's the best way to make sure that playoff seedings and pairings are as accurate as we can make them.



## Please help with dugouts

Roy Hobbs Baseball and the grounds crews need your help in the dugouts.

When your games are over and you are leaving the dug-out, please police it for trash and cups, etc. Your assistance in cleaning up the dugouts each day will be greatly appreciated.

see NOTEBOOK on page 8



photo by Greg Wagner  
Tennessee Dirtbags catcher John Cecil focuses on the pitch.

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## NOTEBOOK

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### First Aid

**Two key First Aid items:** Drink plenty of water before and during the games; don't just wait until the game is starting. Water will be available at the fields.

Second, be sure to stretch and loosen up before playing, or even re-entering a game.

In case of an emergency, contact the field manager at your site. He has the First Aid supplies and will contact 911 services as needed. If they are not readily available, the person in concessions can contact them.

**Ice is available for injuries:** Check with the field manager on duty or go to the nearest concession stand to have the appropriate personnel paged. While we are allowing personal coolers this year, pitchers need to plan for ice for their arms and supply it.



### Admission, \$1 a game

Admission continues at the Roy Hobbs World Series.

Admission is \$1 per game or \$5 for a tournament pass. Players will use their player ID card that guarantees them ac-

cess to all sites whether they are playing or not. Non-player spectators will pay \$1 for entrance into each complex and are good for all sites for one day.

The \$5 tournament pass is available at RH Headquarters (PDC). There is no family pass, everyone 12 and up needs to have a pass. The tournament pass is a plastic card that guarantees admission for that person for the duration of the RHWS. A loop comes with the tournament pass card for easy attachment to purses, belt loops, etc.



### Playing site security

The active steps taken several years ago to deal with parking lot security will continue as parking lot theft issues have – knock on wood – not been an issue the last 7 years.

Are we out of the woods? No, it is a daily procedure and effort to make sure parking lots are safe.

Once again, Roy Hobbs will have personnel posted at the player/spectators' entrances to Terry Park, PDC, JetBlue Complex.

These individuals will have a view of the parking lot, and they will be available in emergencies, be enforcing our pandemic protocols and handling admissions.



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