

# Baseball Is the Game of Life...

#### BY GLENN MILLER Roy Hobbs Baseball

The Roy Hobbs World Series was first played in 1989 and it's unlikely any player any time or anywhere summed up the event better than Ron Guido of the Livingston (N.J.) Dodgers did the other day.

He was sitting at a picnic table under the Hammond Stadium stands as teammates took cuts in the batting cages before a game.

"The game of baseball is like the game of life," Guido said. "How to win gracefully; how to lose gracefully. The guys who play the game now respect the game. At our age they respect the game and respect the opponent. That's a beautiful thing.

"We're all brothers in baseball... I don't remember what the score was. I remember the camaraderie with teammates. The shaking of hands afterward. That's what Hobbs stands for. Be a gracious winner, a gracious loser. The camaraderie, the teamwork.

"Do what you can. Just like the game of life. There are errors in the game of life. We all make mistakes. Baseball, it's not about you. It's about the team."

Like many players, life and baseball took detours on the way to Hammond Stadium for Guido.

"Baseball's been my life," Guido said.

He played what he called "hardball" until he was 18 and then like many others detoured into softball for many years.

"Then I heard about these hardball leagues," Guido said.

So, at 46 he returned to the real game.

"Now I'm 73," Guido said. "This is my 14th year at Hobbs."

Fellow Dodgers are also hooked. John Fruehwirth, 68, has been with the team since about 2009 and recalls the magic of his first Roy Hobbs World Series.

"Once you play you get hooked," Fruehwirth said. "And that's it."

The appeal is easily explained.

"It's baseball and I'm a baseball fanatic as far as playing the game," Fruehwirth said. "I

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Bill Currie, manager of the Livingston Dodgers.

## **BOY HOBBS WORLD SERIES**



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couldn't tell you a lot of players in the major leagues but as far as playing the game, I just can't get enough of it."

Livingston manager Bill Currie credits Roy Hobbs Hall of Famer Doc Pollak with the team's longevity and character.

Pollak is a World Series fixture of apparently indeterminate age.

"It changes between 85 and 86," Currie, 76, said. "He won't tell us how old he is."

In 2013, when he was inducted with charter Hall of Fame class, Pollak's age was 78.

Pollak was scheduled to have a pacemaker installed on Tuesday in New Jersey and was not able to make the Florida trip

"He wanted to have it done sooner." Currie said.

But the medication Pollak was on recently forced a postponement. Currie said Tuesday afternoon the procedure went well and Pollak is fine.



photo by Greg Wagner

#### Bill Currie and umpire Steve Mast



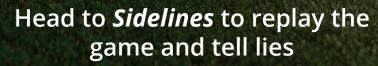


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### **VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG TUESDAY RESULTS**

#### Vintage

Baltimore Orioles 20, USA Volkers Group 2 Border City Brewers 10, Long Island Express 1 Bronx Cardinals 11, Maine Woods 7 DC Mets 6, Americans Baseball 2 Huntsville Havoc 19, Tampa Stars 7 Kent Mudhens 19, NJ Dodgers 9 Livingston Dodgers 18, Oakville Golden A's 8 Minnesota Goats 13, Long Island Yankees 4 Nova Scotia Giants 16, S Maryland Blue Crabs 15 Nova Scotia Monarchs 9, St. Louis Jets 3 Orlando Freedom 9, St. Louis Patriots 8 Ott's Tavern 17, Silver Foxes 12 Philadelphia Cutters 16, Bergen Yankees 15 Rhode Island Rockies 7, Kent MudHens 5 Sacramento Buzzards 21, Chi-Town Cardinals 7 San Antonio Texans 16, Carolina Rockies 4 South Jersey Spikes 26, Silver Foxes 1 Tidewater Drillers 17, Minnesota Bandits 14 Washington Titans 10, Bergen Yankees 4 Youngstown A2Z 15, Midwest Nine 4

#### **Forever Young**

Ironman Maidens 16, South Dakota Rushmores 11 Maine Woods 19, Toledo Tigers 0 New England Red Sox 6, White Foxes 5 Team America 12, New Jersey Wonderboys 5 Team Cambria 19, Avengers 1 Tri-Cities 15, Kent MudHens 6



Kent Mudhens center fielder makes a great running catch of a Rhode Island Rockies fly ball

photo by Greg Wagner





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## **VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG TUESDAY STANDINGS**

#### Vintage 65+

Team	w	L	РСТ	RA
Youngstown A2Z	4	0	1.000	8
Border City Brewers	3	0	1.000	1
Washington Titans	3	0	1.000	11
South Jersey Spikes	3	0	1.000	18
Orlando Freedom	3	0	1.000	22
Philadelphia Cutters	3	0	1.000	23
Baltimore Orioles	3	1	0.750	15
DC Mets	2	1	0.667	17
Long Island Express	2	1	0.667	17
San Antonio Texans	2	1	0.667	18
Huntsville Havoc	2	1	0.667	22
Sacramento Buzzards	2	1	0.667	22
Minnesota Goats	2	1	0.667	27
Ott's Tavern	2	1	0.667	32
Minnesota Bandits	2	1	0.667	33
Nova Scotia Giants	2	1	0.667	40
Bergen Yankees	2	2	0.500	35
USA Volkers Group	2	2	0.500	42
Nova Scotia Monarchs	1	2	0.333	23
St. Louis Patriots	1	2	0.333	27
S. Maryland Blue Crabs	1	2	0.333	29
Tidewater Drillers	1	2	0.333	29
Tampa Stars	1	2	0.333	30
Long Island Yankees	1	2	0.333	33
Oakville Golden A's	1	2	0.333	33

Midwest Nine	1	2	0.333	34
Livingston Dodgers	1	2	0.333	35
Bronx Cardinals	1	2	0.333	36
Carolina Rockies	1	2	0.333	37
Rhode Island Rockies	1	2	0.333	37
NJ Dodgers	1	2	0.333	39
St. Louis Jets	1	3	0.250	41
Kent Mudhens	1	3	0.250	53
Silver Foxes	1	3	0.250	72
Maine Woods	0	3	0.000	39
Americans Baseball Club	0	4	0.000	56
Chi-Town Cardinals	0	4	0.000	64

#### Forever Young 75+

Team	W	L	РСТ	RA
Team Cambria	3	0	1.000	7
Ironman Maidens	3	0	1.000	17
Tri-Cities	2.5	0.5	0.833	14
Maine Woods Baseball	2	1	0.667	13
Team America	2	1	0.667	14
New England Red Sox	2	1	0.667	25
Avengers	1	2	0.333	35
Kent Mudhens	1	2	0.333	45
Toledo Tigers	1	2	0.333	49
White Foxes	0.5	2.5	0.167	23
New Jersey Wonderboys	0	3	0.000	31
South Dakota Rushmores	0	3	0.000	52

## **BOY HOBBS WORLD SERIES**





## **VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE**

#### Vintage 10A

Midwest Nine @ Nova Scotia Monarchs @ JB4 San Antonio Texans @ Tidewater Drillers @ JB5 St. Louis Patriots @ Livingston Dodgers @ JB6 DC Mets @ Washington Titans @ JBSt Maine Woods @ South Jersey Spikes @ LCSt Carolina Rockies @ Minnesota Bandits @ PDC1 Border City Brewers @ Long Island Yankees @ PDC2 Nova Scotia Giants @ Sacramento Buzzards @ PDC3 Philadelphia Cutters @ S Maryland Blue Crabs @ PDC4 Tampa Stars @ Orlando Freedom @ PDC5 Rhode Island Rockies @ Minnesota Goats @ TPSt

#### 1:45P (PDC Flip for Home)

Youngstown A2Z VS Baltimore Orioles @ PDC2 USA Volkers Group VS Bergen Yankees @ PDC3 St Louis Jets VS Kent Mudhens @ PDC4 Americans Baseball VS Chi-Town Cardinals @ PDC5 Oakville Golden A's @ Huntsville Havoc @ IBSt Bronx Cardinals @ Ott's Tavern @ LCSt 5:30P

NJ Dodgers @ Long Island Express @ JBSt

#### **Forever Young** 1:45P

Maine Woods @ Team Cambria, JB6 Avengers @ New Jersey Wonderboys, JB3 Team America @ Toledo Tigers, JB2 Tri-Cities @ Ironman Maidens, JB4 South Dakota Rushmores @ White Foxes, JB5 New England Red Sox @ Kent MudHens, TPSt



Home plate umpire Tedd Schafer taking charge after calling a balk in the Kent Mudhens/Rhode Island Rockies oame.

photo by Greg Wagner



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## **BOY HOBBS WORLD SERIES**

### NOTEBOOK



New Jersey Wonderboys manager Tommy Faherty makes a pitching change vs. Team America

photo by Greg Wagner

#### 65s & 75s Pairings Party

Thursday, 6:30 PM, at Sidelines

The pairings party for all divisions will be held Thursday night at 6:30 PM at Sidelines Sports Grill.

Sidelines is located at the Northeast corner of Colonial Blvd. and Veronica Shoemaker Parkway.

Social time begins at 6:00 PM with a CASH BAR. A fingerfoods buffet will open at 6:45ish. Goal is to be able to announce pairings by 7:30. Pairings will be posted online around 8 PM. All managers and players are welcome.

There will be a door prize raffle of RH items AND a 50/50 raffle (winner drawn that night), with proceeds going to the Roy Hobbs Foundation.

No reservations required. Come and join us.

\*

#### Playoff Pitching and check-in 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 your first 4 games, if they are in the dugout starting Sunday. If they checkin after Monday's games, they must pitch 5 innings (15 outs or 25 hitters) on Tuesday or Wednesday.

AAAA qualifier teams may not add pitchers to their lineup after Pool Play concludes(first 4); however, AAAA teams may bring in 2 position players after Tuesday's games, but they

see NOTEBOOK on page 7

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### NOTEBOOK

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must play the entire first game of the playoffs with no shared lineup options.

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

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

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#### 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 dugout, please police it for trash and cups, etc. Your assistance in cleaning up the dugouts each day will be greatly appreciated.

\*

#### **Results corrections**

Please check the posted results and standings each day. Managers should contact Rob at the Tournament Headquarters (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.

\* \* \*

#### 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 past RHWS have led to greater than \$15,000 in contributions to MD Anderson Cancer Center, St. Jude Hospital in Memphis and to Southern Florida Challenger Athletes.

The ticket number will be posted on our website. You do not have to collect in person, just proof of the ticket.

#### **First Aid**

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**Two key First Aid items:** Drink plenty of fluids while playing; don't just wait until the game is over. 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.



photo by Greg Wagner Orlando Freedom 1st baseman takes the throw in the rain vs. the Tidewater Drillers

**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. Roy Hobbs requests that managers plan for pitchers needing ice for their arms and to supply it.

### Score Reporting

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There is a QR code posted in every dugout that we will be using. Scan the code with your phone after every game and complete the score submission form.

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### NOTEBOOK

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#### **Customer Service**

Roy Hobbs Baseball is proud of its record on customer service.

Staff members are required to wear identifying staff shirts during the working hours of the tournament and should be easily identifiable. At least two are assigned to each of the satellite complexes daily.

In the case of **emergency**, please go to the nearest concession stand at the satellite complexes, where someone will be available to summon help.

Roy Hobbs field managers and key personnel are Red Cross First Aid **certified**, and Roy Hobbs Baseball has guidelines in place on the handling of injuries. Additionally, **AED devices** are available at each of the facilities, and Roy Hobbs personnel have been trained on those devices.

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#### 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 and at the entrance to the Quad fields at Lee County.

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

\* \* \*

#### **RH Label Cigars**

RH Label cigars are available at PDC headquarters from the Roy Hobbs Geezer.

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Cost: \$6 each or 5 for \$25.

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#### Admission, \$1 a game

Admission continues at the Roy Hobbs World Series.

Admission is \$1 per game or \$6 for a tournament pass. The player ID card grants players access to all games in which they are not playing. Spectators will pay \$1 for entrance into each complex and are good for one day.

The \$6 tournament pass is available at RH Headquarters or from the Site Concierges at each security table; there is no family 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, beltloops, etc.

