

Gary Wright's 5 Week Roy Hobbs Marathon



photos by Greg Wagner

Gary Wright spends 5 weeks coaching and playing in the Roy Hobbs World Series

BY GLENN MILLER Roy Hobbs Baseball

Gary Wright is spending enough time in Fort Myers, it seems, he could run for mayor.

If his players had votes, he'd probably win.

The long-time player, coach and manager with the Tidewater Drillers is spending five weeks this year at the Roy Hobbs World Series. He did the same thing in 2021.

At 68, he's a bit old to play in younger divisions the first three weeks but the Roy Hobbs Hall of Famer (2013), still leads the Drillers.

He was a centerfielder at Old Dominion University who lettered in 1977 and 1978 so he has the baseball pedigree to compete at a high level. But not against men 20 or 30 years younger.

What does he do in the early weeks?

"Just coaching," Wright said Sunday afternoon at JetBlue 4 before a game. "Somebody's got to run it, right?"

Running things is a strong suit for Wright. Over the course

of five weeks he estimates 110 different players will suit up for the Drillers in various age divisions.

He will be joined this week by his 31-year-old autistic son Aaron, who was scheduled to fly into Fort Myers Sunday afternoon along with shortstop Tim Paschal. Aaron has been a fixture at the World Series since he was about 7 or 8.

"He doesn't have a lot of friends at home," Wright said. "So these are his friends. He's known them for 20, 25 years."

Wright has been a fixture at the World Series since 1991, when the event was still in central Florida.

Back then he was still in his 30s. Now, he's pushing 70. Even though he doesn't play the first three weeks the organizing and coaching still takes a toll. What will he be like at the end of the fifth week?

"Completely wiped out," Wright said.

Every Saturday perhaps 20 players leave and they are replaced by another 20 with perhaps two or three holding over from one week to the next.

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One of his players this week is 66-year-old catcher Bob Mc-Clary.

"I wouldn't play for anybody else," McClary said.

Teammate Don Garlow, whose nickname is Big Daddy, played with Wright at Old Dominion in the 1970s. Garlow said he's been a teammate and friend of Wright for 46 years.

But in the dugout, he knows who is in charge.

"He is the manager," Garlow said.

Garlow appreciates all Wright has done and is doing to keep the Drillers functioning.

Week after week after week after week after week.



Nate and Gary watching the Drillers in action on Sunday, October 29

photo by Greg Wagner



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Gary's son Aaron

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CLASSICS and TIMELESS MONDAY RESULTS

Classics 60+

Akron Brewers 22, JD's Jaguars 14 Albany Cubs 11, Atlanta Baseball 7 Albany Cubs 19, Nova Scotia Giants 3 Americans Baseball 27, Cleveland Spiders 3 Aurora Islanders 13, St. Louis Dodgers 3 Baltimore Orioles 18. Atlanta Heat 0 Banana Sharks 17, Tidewater Drillers 7 Banana Sharks 19, Fort Myers Cubs 8 Bergen Yankees 15, Atlanta Heat 3 Border City Brewers 12, Dallas Rangers 10 Border City Brewers 13, Chicago Giants 5 Carolina Rockies 14, Livingston Dodgers 12 Carolina Thunder 9, ChicagoBay Warriors 8 Chicago Blues 6, Blue Ridge Rangers 3 Chicago Giants 11, Toledo McGuire 4 Dallas Rangers 34. Tuscaloosa Tornados 7 Huntsville Trash Pandas 17, Wright Field Reds 7 Lansing Blue Jays 10, Keystone Hawks 6 Maine Black Bears 16, Minnesota Goats 6 Midwest Nine 15, Windy City White Sox 3 Midwest Tigers 11, Boston Goodfellas 10 Minnesota Bandits 18, Pittsburgh South Hills 9 Minnesota Bees 12, Fort Myers Cubs 9 Minnesota Bees 14, Washington Titans 4 Oakville Golden A's 10, Washington Titans 2 Oakville Golden A's 13, Tidewater Drillers 7 Orlando Royals 29, Wright Field Reds 7 Orlando Royals 9, Minnesota Bandits 6 Philadelphia Cutters 14, Long Island Express 4 Puerto Rico Orioles 10, Pittsburgh South Hills 5 Puerto Rico Orioles 21, Huntsville Trash Pandas 5 Richmond Riverdogs 13, Pensacola Salt Bandits 11 San Antonio Texans 25, Kent MudHens 1 St. Louis Grays 13, Tuscaloosa Tornados 3 Sunshine Cardinals 13, Nova Scotia Monarchs 3 Toledo McGuire 9, St. Louis Grays 3

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An Aurora Islanders baserunner gets back to first in time vs. the Livingston Dodgers

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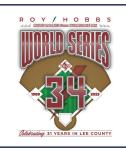
photo by Greg Wagner

Timeless 70+

Baltimore Baseball 17, Wilmington Thunder 15 Chicago Fire 8, Long Island Express 2 DuPage Indians 11, New Jersey Wonderboys 10 Florida Storm 9, Asheville Sox 1 Lake Erie Pirates 10, National Spirit 7 Lehigh Baseball 10, Team America 1 Maine Woods Baseball 17, Philadelphia Mustangs 2 Midwest Nine 11, Cincinnati Colts 9 Minnesota Bees 24. Kenmore Eastern Brewers 0 Potomac Senators 6, Youngstown Astros 4 Sacramento Buzzards 19, Philadelphia GraySox 2 San Antonio Texans 7, Kent MudHens 4 South Jersey Spikes 6, Florida Yankees 2 St. Louis 17, New Jersey Dodgers 17 (TIE) Tallahassee Classics 16, Gray Foxes 10 Vintages 7, Hamilton Cardinals 6 Washington Titans 17, Nova Scotia Monarchs 2



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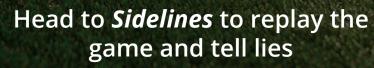


CLASSICS and TIMELESS MONDAY STANDINGS

Classics Team	w	L	РСТ	RA
Aurora Islanders	3	0	1.000	5
Baltimore Orioles	3	0	1.000	12
Philadelphia Cutters	3	0	1.000	13
Albany Cubs	3	0	1.000	16
Minnesota Bees	3	0	1.000	18
Border City Brewers	3	0	1.000	19
Orlando Royals	3	0	1.000	22
Banana Sharks	3	0	1.000	27
Americans Baseball Club	2	0	1.000	4
Maine Black Bears	2	0	1.000	6
Carolina Thunder	2	0	1.000	9
San Antonio Texans	2	0	1.000	11
Puerto Rico Orioles	2	1	0.667	21
Dallas Rangers	2	1	0.667	22
Oakville Golden A's	2	1	0.667	22
Carolina Rockies	2	1	0.667	23
Lansing Blue Jays	2	1	0.667	26
Keystone Hawks	2	1	0.667	28
Nova Scotia Giants	2	1	0.667	35
ChicagoBay Warriors	1	1	0.500	10
Bergen Yankees	1	1	0.500	13
Sunshine Cardinals	1	1	0.500	14
Pensacola Salt Bandits	1	1	0.500	16
Midwest Nine	1	1	0.500	18
Midwest Tigers	1	1	0.500	23
Richmond Riverdogs	1	1	0.500	26
St. Louis Grays	1	2	0.333	22
Atlanta Baseball	1	2	0.333	28
Toledo McGuire	1	2	0.333	28
Washington Titans	1	2	0.333	28
Chicago Giants	1	2	0.333	30
Nova Scotia Monarchs	1	2	0.333	30
Livingston Dodgers	1	2	0.333	32
Pittsburgh South Hills	1	2	0.333	34
St. Louis Dodgers	1	2	0.333	35
Chicago Blues	1	2	0.333	37
Minnesota Bandits	1	2	0.333	38
JD's Jaguars	1	2	0.333	39
Huntsville Trash Pandas	1	2	0.333	45
Long Island Express	1	2	0.333	48
Akron Brewers	1	2	0.333	50
Tuscaloosa Tornados	1	2	0.333	57
Wright Field Reds	1	2	0.333	63

Windy City White Sox 0 2 0.000 21 Boston GoodFellas 0 2 0.000 26 Minnesota Goats 0 3 0.000 36 Fort Myers Cubs 0 3 0.000 37 Tidewater Drillers 0 3 0.000 42 Atlanta Heat 0 3 0.000 42 Kent Mudhens 0 3 0.000 81 Timeless Team W L PCT RA Minnesota Bees 2 0 1.000 0 Chicago Fire 2 0 1.000 3 Sacramento Buzzards 2 0 1.000 8 Florida Storm 2 0 1.000 10 Midwest nine 2 0 1.000 12 Dupage Indians 2 0 1.000 13 Tallassee Classics 1.5 0.5 0.750 16 Florida Yankees <					
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(239) 939-3003 4451 Veronica S Shoemaker Blvd

CLASSICS and TIMELESS TUESDAY SCHEDULE

Classics 60+ 10 AM

Washington Titans @ Banana Sharks, JB2 Long Island Express @ Baltimore Orioles, JB3 Maine Black Bears @ Carolina Thunder, JB4 JD's Jaguars @ Bergen Yankees, JB5 Sunshine Cardinals @ Boston Goodfellas, JB6 St. Louis Grays @ Chicago Giants, JBSt Livingston Dodgers @ St. Louis Dodgers, LC1 Richmond Riverdogs @ San Antonio Texans, LC2 Pensacola Salt Bandits @ Windy City White Sox, LC3 Nova Scotia Monarchs @ Midwest Tigers, LC4 Minnesota Goats @ ChicagoBay Warriors, LC6 Orlando Royals @ Huntsville Trash Pandas, LCSt Tuscaloosa Tornados @ Border City Brewers, TP2 Dallas Rangers @ Toledo McGuire, TP3 Minnesota Bandits @ Puerto Rico Orioles, TP4 1:45 PM

Atlanta Heat @ Akron Brewers, JB1 Keystone Hawks @ Carolina Rockies, JB2 Bergen Yankees @ Americans Baseball, JB3 Tidewater Drillers @ Fort Myers Cubs, JB4 Boston Goodfellas @ Maine Black Bears, JB5 Carolina Thunder @ Sunshine Cardinals, JB6 Cleveland Spiders @ Long Island Express, JBSt Chicago Blues @ Lansing Blue Jays, LC1 Windy City White Sox @ Kent MudHens, LC2 ChicagoBay Warriors @ Nova Scotia Monarchs, LC3 San Antonio Texans @ Pensacola Salt Bandits, LC4 Albany Cubs @ Richmond Riverdogs, LC6 Midwest Tigers @ Minnesota Goats, LCSt Midwest Nine @ Nova Scotia Giants, TP2 Pittsburgh South Hills @ Wright Field Reds, TP3 Oakville Golden A's @ Minnesota Bees, TP4 **5:30 PM**

Philadelphia Cutters @ Americans Baseball, JBSt Aurora Islanders @ Blue Ridge Rangers, LCSt Atlanta Baseball @ Midwest Nine, TPSt

Timeless 70+

9 AM

Minnesota Bees, @ Florida Storm, PDC1 Maine Woods Baseball @ Kenmore Eastern Brewers, PDC2

National Spirit @ Philadelphia Mustangs, PDC3 Washington Titans @ Chicago Fire, PDC4 Wilmington Thunder @ Nova Scotia Monarchs, PDC5

10 AM

Sacramento Buzzards @ Kent MudHens, TPSt **11 AM**

Lake Erie Pirates @ Asheville Sox, JB1 **11:45 AM**

DuPage Indians @ Long Island Express, PDC1 New Jersey Wonderboys @ Baltimore Baseball, PDC2 Midwest Nine @ South Jersey Spikes, PDC3 New Jersey Dodgers @ Florida Yankees, PDC4 St. Louis @ Tallahassee Classics, PDC5

1:30 PM

Team America @ Potomac Senators, TPSt 2:45 PM

Lehigh Basebal @ Cincinnati Colt 45s, PDC2 Philadelphia GraySox @ Hamilton Cardinals, PDC3 Gray Foxes @ Vintages, PDC4 San Antonio Texans @ Youngstown Astros, PDC5





SUPPORT THE ROY HOBBS FOUNDATION, RAISING FUNDS FOR LEUKEMIA RESEARCH AND HELPING CHALLENGED ATHLETES PLAY BASEBALL.



NOTEBOOK

ROY HOBBS WORLD SERIES



The St. Louis Grays were unable to keep the Border City Brewers leadoff man from stealing 2nd

photo by Greg Wagner

Score Reporting

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.

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.

× •

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 see NOTEBOOK on page 7



Come visit Fort Myers Beach! Show your Player ID Card to get 1/2 order of Cheesy Bay Bread with Entree Purchase.

Freshest seafood on the beach Delicious frozen drinks.

645 Old San Carlos Blvd. Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931 239-463-4343



WAHOO WILLIES TIKI BAR & GRILL NOW OPEN NEXT TO SNUG

NOTEBOOK

continued from page 6

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.

Playing Site Security

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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.

*

Admission, SI A Day

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.

First Aid

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.

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.

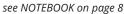




photo by Greg Wagner Team America's Dean Leffler is caught in a pickle and was eventually tagged out by the Lehigh shortstop



photo by Greg Wagner

Lehigh Legends shortstop battled the sun and won, catching a Team America infield pop fly

NOTEBOOK

BOY HOBBS WORLD SERIES



Kent Mudhens 60's honoring America prior to their game against the San Antonio Texans

photo by Greg Wagner

continued from page 7

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 8th and 9th innings) qualify for the playoffs by pitching at least 2 innings – 6 outs or 10 hitters – during pool play, if they are in the dugout starting Sunday. If they check-in after Monday's games, they must pitch 5 innings (15 outs or 25 hitters).

AAAA qualifier teams may not add pitchers to their lineup after Pool Play concludes; however, AAAA teams may bring in 2 position players after Tuesday's games, but they 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 quarterfinals of the playoffs, regardless of division.

Hobbs family to honor Veterans Saturday & Sunday

Veterans Day is Saturday, November 11, a date Roy Hobbs reveres annually.

Roy Hobbs is honoring Veterans at its games on Saturday at 60s/70s playoff games and then again on Sunday, the first day of 65s and 75s play.

At each game, we ask the players on both teams to line up on the baselines for a moment of silence to honor veterans. Umpires usually act as "masters" of the ceremonies, and each handles it differently. If someone wants to speak, please speak up. This is an important remembrance and many veterans are playing this week.

At PDC, Jim Doepke, who has played taps at Arlington National Cemetery, will play taps on his trumpet in honor of Veterans Day at 9:45 a.m. Players will be lined up on the baselines and Jim will be stationed in the Tower at the center of the Quad to play.

Doepke, a retired high school band director from Wisconsin, who has played his trumpet at all MLB parks and numerous colleges, is in his fifth year playing at one Saturday championship game a week at the Roy Hobbs World Series as well as honoring Veterans Day.

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