



ROY HOBBS WORLD SERIES INSIDE PITCH



WEEK 2 | MASTERS | OCT. 28

Cages are symphony of sweet sounds

BY GLENN MILLER

Roy Hobbs Baseball

The batting cages are often the first destination of ballplayers at Roy Hobbs World Series venues.

Even on rare rainy days, the cages are open and available. They provide cover and shade and a chance to get loose and work on timing and have fun.

What could be more fun than hitting a baseball?

"Hitting is better than sex," Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson once said.

The cages are also where bonds of baseball camaraderie are forged along with the dugouts, fields and post-game meals.

The cages have a special sound.

"No better sound than a ball hitting a bat," Chris Olesko of the Lake Erie Jays said Sunday at the PDC cages.

He was among the first arrivals at the PDC Sunday. He knows baseball sounds. Olesko knows a wood bat hitting a baseball is infinitely sweeter sound than that of an aluminum bat.

"Exactly," Olesko said.

Most teams when they go home don't have access to on-site cages such as those at Roy Hobbs World Series venues.

In "Casablanca," everybody goes to Rick's Cafe.

At the Roy Hobbs World Series, everybody goes to the cages. Olesko was in contact with a teammate who was on his way.



photo courtesy of Strachan Family

VukGripz Blue Jays player Chris Olesko

"I texted him," Olesko said. "I'm already here. I got a cage ready."

Rick Acker of the Lansing A's knows the value of the cages.

"You get to shake the rust off," Acker said.

Time in the cage is vital preparation for competition.

"It's just great to get in here and see balls out of the hand," Acker said. "You work on finding barrels."

The PDC batting cages were used by the Boston Red Sox from 1993 to 2011. That means David Ortiz, Manny Ramirez and Nomar Garciaparra among others hit in these cages.

"You think of all the guys who have been through these cages," Acker said. "It's pretty cool."

Down the row at the PDC, the brothers Paul and Nick Saidoo of the Flint Tigers were watching and waiting.

Paul knows the cages offer a chance for more practice swings than most rec facilities offer. Back home, he said "you're lucky to get eight swings a week."

Here, the cages provide chances for more than that before each game.

Paul had already taken 20 swings.

"I'm gojng back in for an-

other 20," Paul said.

He also said he threw 180-to-200 pitches to teammates for batting practice.

"At my age your arm doesn't get sore," Paul, 67, said.

Meanwhile, the sweet sound of baseball being hit by wood bats echoed out of the batting cages.



Though you can't see his face, that's Washington All-Stars manager Tom Vartanian ducking out of the way of a high, INSIDE PITCH vs. the Chicago Woodpeckers

*photo by
Greg Wagner*

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Tidewater Drillers 2nd baseman Greg McEachern.

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MASTERS SUNDAY RESULTS

Sunday's Results

Cangrejeros RD 23, NW Indiana Dogs 5
 Chhicago Knights 3, Flint Tigers 1
 Chicago Colts 16, South Bend Cardinals 4
 Chicago Knights 13, Baltimore Thunder 2
 Chicago North Redhawks 5, Kent Mudhens 2
 Chicago Woodpeckers 24, Washington All-Stars 2
 Cincinnati Colt .45s 14, Florida Lumberjacks 3
 Cincinnati Colt .45s 27, Minnesota Catfish 13
 Clearwater Rays 8, Atlanta Baseball 7
 Cleveland Cobras 18, Huntsville Havoc 15
 DuPage Indians 7, Sewanhaka Dragons 5
 Huntsville Havoc 15, Flint Tigers 14
 Kent Mudhens 15, Dundalk Nationals 5
 Lansing A's 14, VukGripz Blue Jays 3
 Lehigh Valley Railriders 28, Minnesota Catfish 0
 Limeport Milkmen 10, Dundalk Nationals 2
 Limeport Milkmen 16, Bellacino's Red Sox 0
 Mid Penn Phillies 10, Chicago Colts 3
 Minnesota Bandits 24, Baltimore Thunder 5
 Minnesota Bandits 4, Cleveland Cobras 1
 Minnesota Diamonds 12, Orlando Braves 2
 Minnesota Web Gems 19 0 PSOF Rangers
 New York Astros 20, Twin Peaks Lumberjacks 2
 New York Astros 8, Tidewater Drillers 1
 Orlando Brewers 5, Pittsburgh Hitmen 3
 South Shore Giants 13, Nova Scotia Privateers 3
 Staten Island Bombers 8, Baltimore Krushers 3
 Swamp Donkeys 14, Bellacino's Red Sox 1
 T-Town Jack Os 4, Nova Scotia Privateers 3
 Team Michigan 4, Dallas Redbirds 2
 Tidewater Drillers 6, Mid Penn Phillies 1
 Twin Peaks Lumberjacks 11, South Bend Cardinals 10



photo by Greg Wagner

Tidewater Drillers bat flip



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MASTERS SUNDAY STANDINGS

| Team | W | L | PCT | RA |
|--------------------------|---|---|-------|----|
| Limeport Milkmen | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 2 |
| Chicago Knights | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 3 |
| NY Astros | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 3 |
| Minnesota Bandits | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 6 |
| Cincinnati Colt .45s | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 16 |
| Minnesota Web Gems | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 0 |
| Lehigh Valley Railriders | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 0 |
| Swamp Donkeys | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 1 |
| Chicago North Redhawks | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 2 |
| Chicago Woodpeckers | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 2 |
| Minnesota Diamonds | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 2 |
| Team Michigan | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 2 |
| Lansing A's | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 3 |
| Orlando Brewers | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 3 |
| South Shore Giants | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 3 |
| Staten Island Bombers | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 3 |
| T-Town Jack-Os | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 3 |
| Cangrejeros RD | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 5 |
| Dundalk Nationals | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 5 |
| DuPage Indians | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 5 |
| Clearwater Rays | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 7 |
| Mid Penn Phillies | 1 | 1 | .500 | 9 |

| | | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|-------|----|
| Tidewater Drillers | 1 | 1 | .500 | 9 |
| Kent Mudhens | 1 | 1 | .500 | 10 |
| Orlando Braves | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 12 |
| Chicago Colts | 1 | 1 | .500 | 14 |
| Cleveland Cobras | 1 | 1 | .500 | 19 |
| Twin Peaks Lumberjacks | 1 | 1 | .500 | 30 |
| Huntsville Havoc | 1 | 1 | .500 | 32 |
| Dallas Redbirds | 0 | 1 | .000 | 4 |
| Pittsburgh Hitmen | 0 | 1 | .000 | 5 |
| Sewanhaka Dragons | 0 | 1 | .000 | 7 |
| Atlanta Baseball | 0 | 1 | .000 | 8 |
| Baltimore Krushers | 0 | 1 | .000 | 8 |
| Florida Lumberjacks | 0 | 1 | .000 | 14 |
| VukGripz Blue Jays | 0 | 1 | .000 | 14 |
| PSOF Rangers | 0 | 1 | .000 | 19 |
| NW Indiana Dogs | 0 | 1 | .000 | 23 |
| Washington All-Stars | 0 | 1 | .000 | 24 |
| Nova Scotia Privateers | 0 | 2 | .000 | 17 |
| Flint Tigers | 0 | 2 | .000 | 18 |
| South Bend Cardinals | 0 | 2 | .000 | 27 |
| Bellacino's Red Sox | 0 | 2 | .000 | 30 |
| Baltimore Thunder | 0 | 2 | .000 | 37 |
| Minnesota Catfish | 0 | 2 | .000 | 55 |

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MASTERS MONDAY SCHEDULE

Monday's Games

10 AM

- Kent Mudhens @ Bellacino's Red Sox, JB-S
- Sewanhaka Dragons @ Chicago North Redhawks, JB3
- Huntsville Havoc @ Minnesota Bandits, JB4
- DuPage Indians @ Swamp Donkeys, JB6
- Staten Island Bombers @ Atlanta Baseball, LC-S
- Baltimore Krushers @ Pittsburgh Hitmen, LC3
- Clearwater Rays @ Orlando Brewers, LC6
- Washington All-Stars @ VukGripz Blue Jays, PDC2
- Mid Penn Phillies @ NY Astros, PDC3
- Minnesota Diamonds @ Lansing A's, PDC4
- Chicago Woodpeckers @ Orlando Braves, PDC5
- Dallas Redbirds @ Minnesota Web Gems, TP-S
- PSOF Rangers @ Cangrejeros RD, TP2
- Nova Scotia Privateers @ Lehigh Valley Railriders, TP3
- Team Michigan @ NW Indiana Dogs, TP4

1:45 PM

- Chicago Knights @ Cleveland Cobras, JB-S
- Swamp Donkeys @ Limeport Milkmen, JB3
- Baltimore Thunder @ Flint Tigers, JB4
- Chicago North Redhawks @ Dundalk Nationals, JB5
- Pittsburgh Hitmen @ Clearwater Rays, LC-S
- Florida Lumberjacks @ T-Town Jack-Os, LC2
- Orlando Brewers @ Staten Island Bombers, LC3



photo by Greg Wagner
Drillers manager and Roy Hobbs Hall-of-Famer Gary Wright, Mid Penn Phillies manager Chet Haisley at home plate meeting prior to their game

- Atlanta Baseball @ Baltimore Krushers, LC6
- Lansing A's @ Chicago Woodpeckers, PDC1
- South Bend Cardinals @ Tidewater Drillers, PDC2
- Orlando Braves @ Washington All-Stars, PDC3
- Twin Peaks Lumberjacks @ Chicago Colts, PDC4
- VukGripz Blue Jays @ Minnesota Diamonds, PDC5
- NW Indiana Dogs @ PSOF Rangers, TP-S
- Minnesota Web Gems @ Team Michigan, TP2
- Cincinnati Colt .45s @ South Shore Giants, TP3
- Cangrejeros RD @ Dallas Redbirds, TP4

5:30 PM

- T-Town Jack-Os @ Minnesota Catfish, LC-S



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NOTEBOOK

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.



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, which includes places for your Player of the Game and your umpire evaluations.



Results corrections

Please check the posted results and standings each day. Managers should contact Rob at the Tournament Headquarters (234.200.8449) 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.



Run-rule games

Run rule is 10 runs at 7 complete innings or if home team is ahead in a scheduled 9-inning game. Scheduled 7-inning games are 15 at 5 innings.

Now, in a 9-inning game, if the score difference is 15 at 5 innings, umpires have been instructed to call both managers together and to offer the team on the short end of the score if they want 6 outs to bat.

As far as RH is concerned the team ahead has won, but any runs scored will count in RA, so that is an incentive to not just pitch anyone out there to pitch.

Both teams must agree.

If you believe a game has been ended prematurely, don't leave and ask for a field manager; he will get in touch with headquarters for adjudication.

see NOTEBOOK on page 7



photo by Greg Wagner

Chicago Woodpeckers pitcher Kevin Bay-Anderson fielding his position to get the out at first vs. the Washington All-Stars

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NOTEBOOK

continued from page 6

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.



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.



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.



Admission, \$2 a game

Admission continues at the Roy Hobbs World Series.

Admission is \$2 per game or \$8 for a tournament pass. The player ID card grants players access to all games in which they are not playing. Spectators will pay \$2 for entrance into each complex and are good for one day at all complexes.

The \$8 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.



see NOTEBOOK on page 8



*photo by Greg Wagner
Washington All-Stars center fielder Tim Debany camps under a Chicago Woodpeckers fly ball*





Sunday Players of the Game

Cangrejeros RD 23, NW Indiana Dogs 5: **Cangrejeros** - Cesar Curiel 4x5, 3 HR, 8 RBI
 Chicago Colts 16, South Bend Cardinals 4: **Colts** - Eric Wolcott 5 IP, Win, 3 H, 7 K
 Chicago Knights 13, Baltimore Thunder 2: **Knights** - Erik Reese 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 R
 Chicago North Redhawks 5, Kent Mudhens 2: **Mudhens** - Jorge Lozada 7 IP, 5 H, 3 ER, 4 K
 Chicago Woodpeckers 24, Washington All Stars 2: **Woodpeckers** - Jeff Massaro 5x5, 2 HR, 8 RBI, 4 R
 Cincinnati Colt .45s 14, Florida Lumberjacks 3: **Colt .45s** - Rick Anderson 2x3, 1 R, 4 RBI
 Cincinnati Colt .45s 27, Minnesota Catfish 13: **Colt .45s** - Paul LaFayette 2x3, 2 R, 4 RBI; Zach Wells 3 hits, reached base 5 times
 Clearwater Rays 8, Atlanta Baseball 7: **Rays** - Andrew Rothenberg 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 R, 1 SB
 Cleveland Cobras 18, Huntsville Havoc 15: **Havoc** - Orville 1x4, 3B, 3 RBI
 DuPage Indians 7, Sewanhaka Dragons 5: **Dragons** - Mike Meehan 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 R
 Chicago Knights 3, Flint Tigers 1: **Knights** - Rick Kimble 8 IP, 8 H, 3 R, 86 P.
 Huntsville Havoc 16, Flint Tigers 15: **Tigers** - Pat Majestic 4x4, 2 BB, 7 RBI
 Kent Mudhens 15, Dundalk Nationals 5: **Mudhens** - Randy Miller key sac bunt ignites 7-run inning
 Lansing A's 14, VukGripz Blue Jays 3: **A's** - Troy Loomis 4x5, 2 HR, 5 RBI; **Blue Jays** - Brian Vazquez 2x2, 2B, 2.2 IP, 1 R, 3 Ks
 Limeport Milkmen 10, Dundalk Nationals 2: **Milkmen** - Chad Arnold complete game victory, 8 Ks, 2 BB
 Limeport Milkmen 16, Bellacino's Red Sox 0: **Milkmen** - Eric Pieczynski

4 shutout innings, 4 Ks
 Mid Penn Phillies 10, Chicago Colts 3: **Phillies** - Miles Miller 4x5, 3 RBI, 2 R; Tommy Healy 2 RBI, several good defensive plays at 3B
 Minnesota Bandits 24, Baltimore Thunder 5: **Bandits** - Cliff Soukup 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 R
 Minnesota Bandits 4, Cleveland Cobras 1: **Cobras** - George Kenhan 3 IP, 0 ER, 3 K
 Minnesota Web Gems 19, PSOF Rangers 0: **Web Gems** - Collin King 0x3, 2 Ks, solid defense in a dominant win; Herman Solomon 4x4, 3 HR, 8 RBI, 2 BB
 NY Astros 20, Twin Peaks Lumberjacks 2: **Astros** - Mark Flatten 3x3, 2 RBI, 3 RS; Keith Ciupak W, 5 IP, 0 R
 NY Astros 8, Tidewater Drillers 1: **Astros** - Mark Flatten 2x3, 3 RBI 3B, 10 assists; Dave Brohman 7 IP, 2 H, 1 BB, 0 R
 Orlando Brewers 5, Pittsburgh Hitmen 3: **Brewers** - EJ McVetty 2-run HR, 2 hits, 3 RBI
 South Shore Giants 13, Nova Scotia Privateers 3: **Giants** - Alex Sabean 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 R; JP Songin 4x5, HR, 5 RBI, 2 R
 Staten Island Bombers 8, Baltimore Krushers 4: **Bombers** - Michael Platero 3x3, 7 putouts
 Swamp Donkeys 14, Bellacino's Red Sox 1: **Swamp Donkeys** - Pat Judge 4x5, 3 RBI, 2 R, 1 2B; **Red Sox** - George Lesko 2 hits
 T-Town Jackos 4, Nova Scotia Privateers 3: **Jackos** - Dan Beaty 2x3, RBI, walk-off single in the 10th; **Privateers** - Juan Ortiz 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 R
 Team Michigan 4, Dallas Redbirds 2: **Michigan** - Fred Schwarze 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 R
 Tidewater Drillers 6, Mid Penn Phillies 1: **Phillies** - Steve Russell 3 hits, 1 RBI
 Twin Peaks Lumberjacks 11, South Bend Cardinals 10: **Lumberjacks** - Bob Henault 6IP, 3ER, 2K, 6H; Ron Obermeier 3 BB, 3 R, 1 RBI (Saturday's 35AA Championship game) Akron Cardinals 7, Austin Saltdogs 3: **Cardinals** - Charles Miller CG, 9 IP, 7 H, 3 ER, 2 K, 0 BB
Note: Managers submit Player of the Game on the score App after each game.


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