



photo by Greg Wagner

Tom Jasper, of the Clearwater Rays has followed a baseball and figure skating sports journey.

# Former figure skater now hitting fastballs

BY GLENN MILLER  
Roy Hobbs Baseball

Tom Jasper's baseball and figure skating journey may be unique in Roy Hobbs World Series history.

As a boy growing up in the Chicago suburbs his father imagined him someday playing second base for the Cubs, just like young Tommy's favorite player, Ryne Sandberg.

But the boy quit baseball at the age of 12 to focus on figure skating. He returned to baseball seven years ago.

"I was hooked immediately," Jasper said Sunday, sitting at a picnic table at Terry Park.

This is his second World Series. He plays for the Clearwater Rays and revels in being part of a team after competing in singles figure skating.

"I just love team sports," Jasper said. "There's nothing like it. I enjoy success with my team more than I did on my own."

see SKATER on page 2

## AAA-AA-A Pairing Party Thursday night at Sidelines

Sidelines Sports Grill will host Roy Hobbs Veterans Division AAA-AA-A Pairings Party Thursday night. It is open to all RHWS participants

Doors open at Sidelines - at the corner of Colonial Blvd. and Veronica Shoemaker Blvd - at 6:30 p.m., and snacks will be provided starting at 7 p.m. This is not a dinner, but rather finger foods to go with a cash bar for alcohol and soft drinks.

Roy Hobbs personnel will present the pairings at 7:30 p.m. Tom Giffen will be available to explain how pairings were set up. **Please note that if you have issues with the brackets, seeing Tom Thursday night is the ONLY way to handle that.** He will not be available after he leaves the party.

Once the pairings are presented, they will be posted on [royhobbs.com/world-series](http://royhobbs.com/world-series) around 8 p.m.

Roy Hobbs will be presenting a raffle along with a Thursday night 50/50 raffle.

Come and be prepared to enjoy yourself.

## 4A pairings meeting & Wednesday games

Managers of potential 4A teams should plan to attend the AAAA pairings meeting Tuesday (today) at 5 p.m. at PDC.

We will review records, runs-allowed, competition and W-L record for the week. It is possible for 2-2 teams to advance to the AAAA playoffs.

4A playoffs will begin Thursday at JetBlue Park.

Non 4AAAA games will be played Wednesday; teams will flip a coin for home team.

Teams will be matched by record and there are no rematches; however, 4 teams are getting a stadium game Wednesday and that will drive some of the pairings.

Thursday's 8-team 4A bracket seedings and schedule will be found on the schedule page of Wednesday's Inside Pitch and at [royhobbs.com](http://royhobbs.com).



# SKATER

continued from page 1

The Marine Corps lieutenant colonel, 54, plays centerfield and bats leadoff. Many Roy Hobbs players have athletic background in sports such as football, basketball, track and wrestling.

But not figure skating.

Young Tom Jasper devoted himself to the sport, practicing six hours and competed on a national level. A Google search shows he finished seventh in the novice division at the 1986 nationals and 12th in the junior men's division in 1987.

Jasper competed in the 1988 U.S. Olympic Trials in juniors and placed 13th. Brian Boitano was first in the men's division and went on to win Gold at 1988 Olympics in Calgary.

Jasper quit skating at the age of 20 after injuries and focused on education and his military career. But he was always an athlete, playing racquetball among other sports.

Jasper doesn't know of any other figure skaters who play baseball or became Marine Corps officers.

"Truthfully, I think figure skating training is harder than Marine Corps training to be honest with you," Jasper said. "Six hours a day of jumping, skating, falling, getting back up."

Routines are four-minutes long.

"So, the Marine Corps training was kind of easy," said Jasper, a Tampa resident.

At 5-feet-5, Jasper is an inch shorter than Houston Astros second baseman Jose Altuve and an inch taller than Hall of Famer Wee Willie Keeler.

But Jasper stands tall in the Roy Hobbs World Series as likely the only former figure skater.



photo by Greg Wagner  
Tom Jasper at 2nd base for the Clearwater Rays

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Chicago Knights 2nd baseman Igor Negrón turning a double play vs. the Cleveland Cobras.

Today is the last day to get your team signed up for the photo plan this week.  
Call Greg at 239-898-8677 asap.



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## MASTERS MONDAY RESULTS

Baltimore Krushers 20, Atlanta Baseball 10  
 Baltimore Thunder 22, Flint Tigers 5  
 Cangrejeros RD 15, Dallas Redbirds 2  
 Cangrejeros RD 23, PSOF Rangers 0  
 Chicago Knights 16, Cleveland Cobras 5  
 Chicago North Redhawks 9, Sewanhaka Dragons 1  
 Chicago Woodpeckers 10, Orlando Braves 3  
 Dallas Redbirds 22, Minnesota Web Gems 8  
 Dundalk Nationals 5, Chicago North Redhawks 1  
 Florida Lumberjacks 28, T-Town Jack-Os 17  
 Kent Mudhens 24, Bellacino's Red Sox 0  
 Lansing A's 13, Chicago Woodpeckers 6  
 Lansing A's 4, Minnesota Diamonds 3 (14)  
 Lehigh Valley Railriders 6, Nova Scotia Privateers 5  
 Minnesota Bandits 8, Huntsville Havoc 7  
 Minnesota Diamonds 3, VukGripz Blue Jays 2  
 Minnesota Web Gems 14, Team Michigan 2  
 NW Indiana Dogs 9, PSOF Rangers 5  
 NY Astros 13, Mid Penn Phillies 3  
 Orlando Braves 17, Washington All-Stars 9  
 Orlando Brewers 10, Clearwater Rays 1  
 Orlando Brewers 15, Staten Island Bombers 5  
 Pittsburgh Hitmen 12, Clearwater Rays 3  
 Pittsburgh Hitmen 17, Baltimore Krushers 1  
 South Shore Giants 20, Cincinnati Colt .45s 0  
 Staten Island Bombers 8, Atlanta Baseball 2  
 Swamp Donkeys 11, DuPage Indians 1  
 Swamp Donkeys 17, Limeport Milkmen 2



*Staten Island Bombers manager Dan Anerella and his bubble gum*

*photo by Greg Wagner*

T-Town Jack-Os 11, Minnesota Catfish 1  
 Team Michigan 11, NW Indiana Dogs 1  
 Tidewater Drillers 21, South Bend Cardinals 13  
 Twin Peaks Lumberjacks 16, Chicago Colts 5  
 VukGripz Blue Jays 13, Washington All-Stars 9



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## MASTERS MONDAY STANDINGS

Team	W	L	PCT	RA
Swamp Donkeys	3	0	1.000	4
New York Astros	3	0	1.000	5
Cangrejeros RD	3	0	1.000	7
Chicago Knights	3	0	1.000	8
Orlando Brewers	3	0	1.000	8
Lansing A's	3	0	1.000	12
Minnesota Bandits	3	0	1.000	13
South Shore Giants	2	0	1.000	3
Lehigh Valley Railriders	2	0	1.000	5
Dundalk Nationals	2	0	1.000	6
Chicago North Redhawks	2	1	.667	8
Minnesota Diamonds	2	1	.667	8
Pittsburgh Hitmen	2	1	.667	9
Kent Mudhens	2	1	.667	10
Team Michigan	2	1	.667	17
Chicago Woodpeckers	2	1	.667	18
Limeport Milkmen	2	1	.667	19
Staten Island Bombers	2	1	.667	20
Tidewater Drillers	2	1	.667	22
Minnesota Web Gems	2	1	.667	24
T-Town Jack-Os	2	1	.667	32
Twin Peaks Lumberjacks	2	1	.667	35

Cincinnati Colt .45s	2	1	.667	36
DuPage Indians	1	1	.500	16
Florida Lumberjacks	1	1	.500	31
Mid Penn Phillies	1	2	.333	22
VukGripz Blue Jays	1	2	.333	26
Dallas Redbirds	1	2	.333	27
Clearwater Rays	1	2	.333	29
Chicago Colts	1	2	.333	30
Orlando Braves	1	2	.333	31
Cleveland Cobras	1	2	.333	35
Baltimore Krushers	1	2	.333	35
NW Indiana Dogs	1	2	.333	39
Huntsville Havoc	1	2	.333	40
Baltimore Thunder	1	2	.333	42
Sewanhaka Dragons	0	2	.000	16
Nova Scotia Privateers	0	3	.000	23
Atlanta Baseball	0	3	.000	36
Flint Tigers	0	3	.000	40
South Bend Cardinals	0	3	.000	48
PSOF Rangers	0	3	.000	51
Washington All-Stars	0	3	.000	54
Bellacino's Red Sox	0	3	.000	54
Minnesota Catfish	0	3	.000	66



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## MASTERS TUESDAY SCHEDULE

### 10AM

Baltimore Krushers @ Orlando Brewers, JB-S  
 Minnesota Catfish @ Nova Scotia Privateers, JB2  
 Clearwater Rays @ Staten Island Bombers, JB3  
 Lehigh Valley Railriders @ Cincinnati Colt .45s, JB4  
 South Shore Giants @ Florida Lumberjacks, JB5  
 Washington All-Stars @ Lansing A's, LC-S  
 Flint Tigers @ Cleveland Cobras, LC3  
 NY Astros @ South Bend Cardinals, LC4  
 NW Indiana Dogs @ Minnesota Web Gems, LC6  
 PSOF Rangers @ Dallas Redbirds, PDC2  
 Sewanhaka Dragons @ Kent Mudhens, PDC4  
 Pittsburgh Hitmen @ Atlanta Baseball, PDC5  
 Team Michigan @ Cangrejeros RD, TP-S  
 Limeport Milkmen @ DuPage Indians, TP2  
 Twin Peaks Lumberjacks @ Mid Penn Phillies, TP3  
 Minnesota Bandits @ Chicago Knights, TP4

### 1:45 PM

VukGripz Blue Jays @ Orlando Braves, LC-S  
 Minnesota Diamonds @ Chicago Woodpeckers, JB-S  
 T-Town Jack-Os @ South Shore Giants, JB3  
 Lehigh Valley Railriders @ Florida Lumberjacks, JB4  
 Swamp Donkeys @ Dundalk Nationals, PDC2  
 Chicago Colts @ Tidewater Drillers, PDC3  
 Bellacino's Red Sox @ Sewanhaka Dragons, PDC5  
 Chicago North Redhawks @ DuPage Indians, TP-S

### 5:30 PM

Baltimore Thunder @ Huntsville Havoc, LC-S



*photo by Greg Wagner*  
Cleveland Cobras baserunner George Kenhan chilling out during a Chicago Knights pitching change



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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 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 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.



Strike three! Home plate umpire John Johnson in the Baltimore Krushers/Atlanta Baseball game

photo by Greg Wagner



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## No roof issues for these RHWS Rays

The Clearwater Rays, unlike the Tampa Bay Rays, did not lose the roof off their home field.

Of course, as an amateur team, the Clearwater Rays do not play in Tropicana Field, the St. Petersburg home of the big-league Rays.

The Clearwater Rays play their home games at recreational facilities about 20 miles north of Tropicana Field, which was decimated by Hurricane Milton. The stadium's roof was torn off and the Tampa Bay Rays don't know where they will play home games in 2025.

The Clearwater Rays don't have that worry.

"No, we didn't have to worry about losing a roof," Clearwater co-manager Sean Newborn said.

While their big-league counterparts worry about where to play next year, the Clearwater Rays know where they are playing this week. They have access to big-league quality fields in Fort Myers.

Although the Clearwater Rays sport the name of an MLB team, Newborn said not every member of the team is fan of the big-league Rays.

"A lot of transplants," Newborn said of his roster. "A lot of Yankee fans. Chicago. Boston."

Newborn is a Nationals' fan. But the players on his team who have moved to Florida from north of the Mason-Dixon Line have sort of adopted the Rays.

"It's like the Rays are their second-best team," said Newborn, a high school English teacher and golf coach in Tampa.

It's the first choice, though, of the team's Damian Kondrotas, a Tampa Bay Rays season-ticket holder since 2005. He made sure back then that the seats were located behind a particularly loud heckler.

"I didn't want to be in front of him with him yelling in my ear," Kondrotas said.

Although the Tampa Bay Rays lost their roof, Kondrotas did not lose the roof off his home in Oldsmar, which is basically next to Clearwater.

And the team did not have to worry about losing a roof off their home fields.

- GLENN MILLER



*photo by Greg Wagner*  
Florida Lumberjacks right fielder Don Wilde makes a nice catch vs. the Cincinnati Colt 45's



# Monday Players of the Game

Baltimore Krushers 20, Atlanta Baseball 10: **Krushers** - Reyemar Gonzalez 5.1 IP, 2 DPs on line-outs at 2B; Tom Raymond 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 SB

Baltimore Thunder 22, Flint Tigers 5: **Thunder** - Tommy Wedlock 5 IP, 4 H, 2 ER

Cangrejeros RD 15, Dallas Redbirds 2: **Cangrejeros** - Julián Brito 4x5, 2 HR, 5 RBI

Cangrejeros RD 23, PSOF Rangers 0: **Cangrejeros** - Ricky Simmons 0x3, 1 K

Chicago North Redhawks 9, Sewanhaka Dragons 1: **Redhawks** - Chuck Voorhees 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 K

Chicago Woodpeckers 10, Orlando Braves 3: **Woodpeckers** - Ozzie Munoz 4x4, 2 HR, 5 RBI, 2 R

Dallas Redbirds 21, Minnesota Web Gems 8: **Redbirds** - Travis Hitzman 4x4, 2 2B, 2 RBI, 4 R

Dundalk Nationals 5, Chicago North Redhawks 1: **Nationals** - Hector Martinez 9 IP, 1 ER, 6 K

Lehigh Valley Railriders 6, Nova Scotia Privateers 5: **Privateers** - Jason Hanes 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 R

Minnesota Diamonds 3, VukGripz Blue Jays 2: **Blue Jays** - John Ramsey 5 IP, 3 R, 2 ER, 2 BB, 2 K, 1-1 hitting

Minnesota Web Gems 14, Team Michigan 2: **Web Gems** - Mike Adelman 4x5, 2 HR, 5 RBI, 1 SB; Eric Stanczak 2x3, 1 RBI, 1 R

NW Indiana Dogs 9, PSOF Rangers 5: **Dogs** - Steve Olszewski 4x4, 4 R, 4 SB, 1 RBI, 1 BB; **Rangers** - Brett Wagner 2x4,

1 HR, 2 RBI

NY Astros 13, Mid Penn Phillies 2: **Astros** - Ken Connor 5 IP, 7 H, 5 R, 3 K, 2 BB; Mark Flatten 3x3, 3 RBI, 3 RS; Vic Lara 6 IP, W, 0 ER

Orlando Brewers 10, Clearwater Rays 0: **Brewers** - David Agosto 4x4, 3 RBI, 2 SB

Orlando Brewers 15, Staten Island Bombers 5: **Brewers** - Craig Howell 4x5, 2 HR, 5 RBI

South Shore Giants 20, Cincinnati Colt .45s 0: **Giants** - Roman Colon 3x3, 2 RBI; **Colt .45s** - Jim Seiter 1x1, only hit for the Colt .45s

Staten Island Bombers 8, Atlanta Baseball 2: **Bombers** - Reggie Barrau 2x4, 1 RBI; Juan "CHIP" Reyes 6 IP, 3 hits, 0 earned runs, 1 BB

Swamp Donkeys 11, DuPage Indians 1: **Swamp Donkeys** - Mike Tallis 4x4, 2 RBI, 3 R

Swamp Donkeys 17, Limeport Milkmen 2: **Donkeys** - Adam Stuber 4x5, 3 HR, 6 RBI; **Milkmen** - Brian Stine outstanding catch in Right field.

Team Michigan 11, NW Indiana Dogs 1: **Michigan** - Kevin Warner 4x4, 3 RBI, 2 R, 1 HR

Tidewater Drillers 21, South Bend Cardinals 13: **Drillers** - Seth Brewer 4x5, 2 HR, 5 RBI, 3 R; **Cardinals** - Miguel Mendez 2x3, 4 RBI, 1 SB; Keven Renn 3x5, 3 RBI; Tad Dickerson 2x4, 3 RBI

VukGripz Blue Jays 13, Washington All Stars 9: **Blue Jays** - Dave Frak 3x4, 5 RBIs, 3 2Bs, 1 IP, 0 R, 2 Ks

**Note:** Managers submit Player of the Game on the score App after each game.



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