



# Quirky countdown shows love for RHWS

BY GLENN MILLER

*Roy Hobbs Baseball*

Sean Broom's Facebook friends know about his annual Roy Hobbs World Series countdown posts.

For weeks, heck, even months, the Canton Tigers second baseman posts something every day with the number of days remaining until he plays in Fort Myers.

75 days. ....

59 days. ....

58 days. ....

And so on. ...

Each post contains a photo. Broom uses images of ballparks, sunsets, beaches, restaurants and, as his friends know, many disturbing images of implausibly morbidly obese gentlemen, often wearing Speedos.

It's a diverting pastime that helps Broom get fired up for the World Series.

"So, why not have fun with it?" Broom said Sunday morning before a game at the Lee Health Sports Complex.

Broom estimated he's been posting the countdown for "probably" 10 years.

Does he have a favorite image?

"My favorite picture is the sunset with the pier on Estero Island considering that the pier is not there," Broom said.

That Fort Myers Beach pier was destroyed by Hurricane Ian in 2022. That storm also forced the cancellation of the 2022 Roy Hobbs World Series.

But the World Series, Broom and his countdown posts are back.

Even before the countdown begins, friends inquire about it "People ask me when the countdown is going to start," Broom said.

This is his 17th World Series.

Why does he keep returning?



photo by Greg Wagner

Max, Sean and Cameron. Max and Cameron are Sean's sons

"Just because it's so much fun," Broom said. "Can't wait to get down here."

Another Roy Hobbs World Series tradition for Broom is the presence of his autistic sons, Max, Cameron and Tristan, 24. Max, 32, and Cameron, 29, are in Fort Myers this week.

Although many may be disturbed or even offended by fat guys in Speedos, Broom said those posts are the most popular.

"Everybody likes the fat guy working out pictures," Broom said.

see COUNTDOWN on page 2

## AAA-AA-A Pairings Party Thursday night

Sidelines Sports Grill will host Roy Hobbs Legends 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 be 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 around 8:15 p.m.

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

Come and be prepared to enjoy yourself.





# COUNTDOWN

*continued from page 1*

What do other Tigers think of the countdown?

"I don't know if any of my teammates are on Facebook," Broom said.

If true, that would make the Tigers a statistical anomaly among American adults. A Pew Research Center study released earlier this year estimated 68 percent of American adults use Facebook.

That includes Canton Tiger Jerry Myers, who is familiar with the countdown.

"He's got funny pictures," Myers said. "I get a kick out of it."

Teammate Steve Nemecek heard about the posts Sunday.


"I'm going to look it up now," Nemecek said. "That's awesome. I'm on Facebook all the time."

Broom posts every day leading up to the World Series. Now?

"I post nothing during the World Series," Broom said. "I figure people have had enough of it."




*photo by Greg Wagner*  
*PSOF Rangers/Harry Young Builders batter Stan Shedlowsky lays down a bunt vs. the Twin Peaks Lumberjacks*



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## LEGENDS TUESDAY RESULTS

### Tuesday's Games

Baltimore Krushers 6, St Louis A's 5  
 Carolina Thunder 15, Minnesota Twins 0  
 Chicago Giants 4, South Dakota Rushmores 3  
 Chicago Knights 11, Crystal Clinic Indians 4  
 Chicago North Redhawks 7, Bergen Yankees 1  
 Chicago Woodpeckers 6, Minnesota Bandits 0  
 Cuyahoga Indians 12, New Jersey Twins 2  
 DC Pirates 21 A. Summa Ortho Brewers 2  
 DuPage Red Sox 14, Baltimore Thunder 7  
 DuPage Red Sox 19, Tennessee Dirtbags 2  
 Florida Sharks 10, Tidewater Drillers 9  
 Hellcats 16, USVI Hurricanes 4  
 HPK Oilers 5, Dayton Wolves 4  
 Huntsville Havoc 7, Nova Scotia Monarchs 2  
 Jersey Bananas 12, Canton Tigers 11  
 Kodak Reds 3, Long Island Patriots 2  
 Lansing Blue Jays 11, Albany Whiz 1  
 Michigan Dodgers 14, Tennessee Dirtbags 2  
 Minnesota Cardinals 17, Americans Baseball Club 12  
 Oakville Golden A's 9, RIMA Foxes 6  
 Orlando Brewers 10, Maine Black Bears 4  
 Pittsburgh 53s 6, Twin Peaks Lumberjacks 2  
 PSOF Rangers/HY Builders 15, Glory Days 2  
 Puerto Rico Caballeros 23, Okaloosa Slammers 8  
 SouthEast Cardinals 18, Philadelphia Generals 2  
 St Louis Patriot 17, Fort Myers Cubs 7  
 Westchester Fury 9, White Bear Lake Bears 1  
 White Bear Lake Bears 17, Bellicino's Red Sox 5



*Florida Sharks baserunner Dave Krock slides into 3rd safely ahead of the throw to Tidewater Drillers 3rd baseman Troy Clemens*

*photo by Greg Wagner*

### Suspended Games

#### Resume Thursday, Time/Site TBA

Florida Muskrats @ Banana Sharks  
 Bergen Yankees @ South Dakota Rushmores  
 Chicago Pilots @ Omaha Indians  
 Jersey Bananas @ Carolina Thunder  
 Minnesota Twins @ Chicago Giants  
 Chicago North Redhawks @ Canton Tigers  
 Chicago Jacks @ Dayton Angels  
 Albany Capitals @ Chesapeake Rays  
 Tampa Harbour Cats @ Orlando Blazers  
 Midwest Pirates @ Minneapolis Millers

### Rained out

#### To be played Thursday, Time/Site TBA

Florida Muskrats @ Banana Sharks  
 Michigan Dodgers @ Crystal Clinic Indians  
 Baltimore Thunder @ Kodak Reds  
 Chicago Knights @ Long Island Patriots



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## LEGENDS TUESDAY STANDINGS

### Legends 4A Playoffs

| S | Team                     | W | L | PCT   | RA |
|---|--------------------------|---|---|-------|----|
| 1 | Orlando Brewers          | 4 | 0 | 1.000 | 7  |
| 2 | Chicago Woodpeckers      | 3 | 1 | .750  | 22 |
| 3 | PSOF Rangers/HY Builders | 3 | 1 | .750  | 29 |
| 4 | HPK Oilers               | 3 | 1 | .750  | 32 |
| 5 | Lansing Blue Jays        | 4 | 0 | 1.000 | 10 |
| 6 | Puerto Rico Caballeros   | 4 | 0 | 1.000 | 14 |
| 7 | Pittsburgh 53s           | 4 | 0 | 1.000 | 15 |
| 8 | Florida Sharks 3A        | 2 | 2 | .500  | 43 |

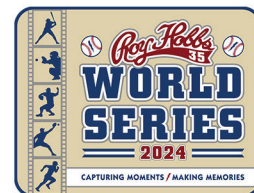
### Legends Pool Standings

| Team                   | W | L | PCT   | RA |
|------------------------|---|---|-------|----|
| SouthEast Cardinals    | 4 | 0 | 1.000 | 16 |
| Baltimore Krushers     | 4 | 0 | 1.000 | 28 |
| Banana Sharks          | 3 | 0 | 1.000 | 3  |
| Chicago North Redhawks | 3 | 0 | 1.000 | 7  |
| Florida Muskrats       | 3 | 0 | 1.000 | 9  |
| Chicago Knights        | 3 | 0 | 1.000 | 10 |
| Dayton Angels          | 3 | 0 | 1.000 | 19 |
| Omaha Indians          | 3 | 0 | 1.000 | 24 |
| Jersey Bananas         | 3 | 0 | 1.000 | 25 |
| Minneapolis Millers    | 3 | 0 | 1.000 | 36 |
| Oakville Golden A's    | 3 | 1 | .750  | 15 |
| Westchester Fury       | 3 | 1 | .750  | 26 |
| DuPage Red Sox 1A      | 3 | 1 | .750  | 26 |
| New Jersey Twins       | 3 | 1 | .750  | 28 |
| Cuyahoga Indians       | 3 | 1 | .750  | 34 |
| DC Pirates             | 3 | 1 | .750  | 38 |
| Michigan Dodgers       | 2 | 1 | .667  | 10 |
| Crystal Clinic Indians | 2 | 1 | .667  | 15 |
| Orlando Blazers        | 2 | 1 | .667  | 19 |
| Chicago Giants         | 2 | 1 | .667  | 23 |

|                            |   |   |      |    |
|----------------------------|---|---|------|----|
| White Bear Lake Bears      | 2 | 2 | .500 | 22 |
| Albany Whiz                | 2 | 2 | .500 | 28 |
| St Louis Patriots          | 2 | 2 | .500 | 28 |
| Nova Scotia Monarchs       | 2 | 2 | .500 | 40 |
| Fort Myers Cubs            | 2 | 2 | .500 | 40 |
| St Louis A's               | 2 | 2 | .500 | 51 |
| Hellcats                   | 2 | 2 | .500 | 52 |
| Long Island Patriots       | 1 | 2 | .333 | 22 |
| South Dakota Rushmores. 2A | 1 | 2 | .333 | 25 |
| Tampa Harbour Cats         | 1 | 2 | .333 | 32 |
| Canton Tigers              | 1 | 2 | .333 | 34 |
| Carolina Thunder           | 1 | 2 | .333 | 36 |
| Kodak Reds                 | 1 | 2 | .333 | 37 |
| Bergen Yankees             | 1 | 2 | .333 | 39 |
| Chicago Pilots             | 1 | 2 | .333 | 39 |
| Minnesota Twins            | 1 | 2 | .333 | 45 |
| USVI Hurricanes            | 1 | 3 | .333 | 37 |
| Dayton Wolves              | 1 | 3 | .250 | 25 |
| Twin Peaks Lumberjacks     | 1 | 3 | .250 | 34 |
| Ak Summa Ortho Brewers. B  | 1 | 3 | .250 | 48 |
| Glory Days                 | 1 | 3 | .250 | 49 |
| RIMA Foxes                 | 1 | 3 | .250 | 49 |
| Huntsville Havoc           | 1 | 3 | .250 | 49 |
| Tennessee Dirtbags         | 1 | 3 | .250 | 57 |
| Minnesota Cardinals        | 1 | 3 | .250 | 58 |
| Americans Baseball Club    | 1 | 3 | .250 | 65 |
| Midwest Pirates            | 0 | 3 | .000 | 33 |
| Baltimore Thunder          | 0 | 3 | .000 | 42 |
| Chicago Jacks              | 0 | 3 | .000 | 43 |
| Chesapeake Rays            | 0 | 3 | .000 | 47 |
| Albany Capitals            | 0 | 3 | .000 | 48 |
| Maine Black Bears          | 0 | 4 | .000 | 46 |
| Tidewater Drillers         | 0 | 4 | .000 | 54 |
| Minnesota Bandits          | 0 | 4 | .000 | 55 |
| Okaloosa Slammers          | 0 | 4 | .000 | 60 |
| Philadelphia Generals      | 0 | 4 | .000 | 63 |
| Bellacino's Red Sox        | 0 | 4 | .000 | 78 |



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## LEGENDS WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY SCHEDULE

### Wednesday's Schedule

**Flip a coin for home team in all games**

**10AM**

- LC-S - Minnesota Cardinals vs. Twin Peaks Lumberjacks
  - LC3 - Carolina Thunder vs. South Dakota Rushmores
  - LC4 - Canton Tigers vs. Chicago Pilots
  - LC6 - Akron Summa Ortho Brewers vs. Glory Days
  - PDC1 - Crystal Clinic Indians vs. Oakville Golden A's
  - PDC2 - Huntsville Havoc vs. Midwest Pirates
  - PDC3 - Chicago North Redhawks vs. Omaha Indians
  - PDC4 - Chicago Jacks vs. Minnesota Bandits
  - PDC5 - Cuyahoga Indians vs. Westchester Fury
  - JB-S - Bellacino's Red Sox vs. Maine Black Bears
  - JB2 - DC Pirates vs. New Jersey Twins
  - JB3 - Michigan Dodgers vs. Orlando Blazers
  - JB4 - Nova Scotia Monarchs vs. White Bear Lake Bears
  - JB5 - Florida Muskrats vs. Jersey Bananas
  - JB6 - RIMA Foxes vs. USVO Hurricanes
  - TP-S - DuPage Red Sox vs. Albany Whiz
  - TP2 - Banana Sharks vs. Dayton Angels
  - TP4 - Bergen Yankees vs. Long Island Patriots
- 1:45 PM**
- LC-S - Kodak Reds vs. Minnesota Twins
  - LC2 - Baltimore Thunder vs. Okaloosa

- LC3 - Baltimore Krushers vs. Chicago Knights
  - LC4 - Albany Capitals vs. Tidewater Drillers
  - LC6 - Fort Myers Cubs vs. St. Louis A's
  - PDC1 - Chesapeake Rays vs. Philadelphia Generals
  - PDC2 - Albany Whiz vs. DuPage Red Sox
  - PDC3 - Minneapolis Millers vs. Southeast Cardinals
  - PDC4 - Dayton Wolves vs. Hellcats
  - PDC5 - Tampa Harbour Cats vs. Tennessee Dirtbags
  - TP-S - Chicago Giants vs. St. Louis Patriots
- Note: Tuesday's rainouts and suspended games will be played Thursday; Schedule to be posted late Wednesday afternoon.**

### Thursday's 4A Games

#### AAAA Playoffs

#### Round 1 / 10 AM

- #8 Florida Sharks @ #1 Orlando Brewers, LC6
- #5 Lansing Blue Jays @ #4 HPK Oilers, LC4
- #6 Puerto Rico Caballeros @ #3 PSOF Rangers/HBY, LC3
- #7 Pittsburgh @ #2 Chicago Woodpeckers, LC1

#### Second Round winners Bracket 1:45 PM

- #8-#1 winner vs. #5-#4 winner LC3
- #7-#2 winner vs. #6-#3 winner LC6

#### Second Round Losers Bracket 1:45 PM

- #8-#1 loser vs. #5-#4 loser LC2
- #7-#2 loser vs. #6-#3 loser LC4

**AAAA Bracket to be posted Wednesday night**



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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 put 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

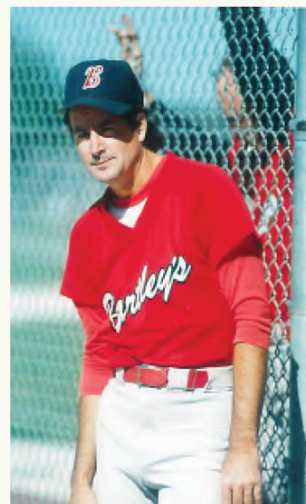
St. Louis A's starting pitcher Ray Roskos fighting the element to deliver a pitch vs. the Baltimore Krushers

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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.



*photo by Greg Wagner  
Tidewater Drillers 1st baseman Jack Myers grabs an infield popup off the bat of a Florida Sharks batter*







*A pair of Tidewater Drillers scored nearly exactly the same time vs. the Florida Sharks. Jeff Sevier scored first, just a split second before German Rosario.*

*photo by Greg Wagner*



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