



# ROY HOBBS WORLD SERIES INSIDE PITCH

WEEK 1 | VETERANS | OCT. 24

## Cobra Kai father, son are baseball pals



photo by Greg Wagner

*Philip and son Marty Ham's baseball connections started at an early age and continue today at the RHWS*

### BY GLENN MILLER Roy Hobbs Baseball

The father-son duo of Philip and Marty Ham of Cobra Kai have been Roy Hobbs World Series fixtures for nearly a decade.

But their participation for this year's RHWS began with a promise which has not been kept.

"They promised us mermaids," Philip, 72, said before his team's 13-8 loss to the Tampa Mets Tuesday afternoon at Hammond Stadium.

There wasn't a mermaid in sight in

the first base dugout or on the field or in the stands.

But Philip and 47-year-old son Marty continue making the roughly 600-mile, 8-and-a-half-hour drive from Pensacola in the Florida Panhandle nearly every year. This is their eighth year at the World Series and fourth as Cobra Kai. They were previously known as the Sharks.

Their baseball and Pensacola connections run deep. Philip coached Marty in Little League. The family's ties to Pensacola go back to 1959, when Philip's dad, Eugene, a World War II Army Air Corps

vet, moved the family there. Philip was 6 at the time.

Although Philip no longer plays, he's still a part of Cobra Kai as a coach, scorekeeper, and statistician.

The family ties extend well beyond dugouts and ballfields.

Philip and Marty run Ham's Pest Control, which is a family business that has been around since 1979. That was the year after Marty was born. Extended members of the Ham family operate the business.

see COBRA KAI on page 2



## COBRA KAI

continued from page 1

From the company website: "A business that values family also values customers."

The family theme extends to baseball.

The years, though, take their relentless toll. Philip said it's about 10 years since he played.

Their connection to adult baseball goes back perhaps 27 years when Marty told his dad something.

"I found this men's league," Marty told his dad. "I'll get back in shape and play."

Philip didn't know how to take that.

"I said, 'What do you mean?'" Philip asked his son.

Now, they are still involved. They play in the Pensacola Men's Baseball League as well as in the World Series.

The World Series is a special time, even if they haven't encountered any mermaids. The Hams usually stay in a Cape Coral house and say the homes they rent are always "immaculate."

They enjoy playing teams from around the country and before war broke out, they played teams from Russia and Ukraine.

As Cobra Kai plays this week, they still have not seen a mermaid.

"But we keep thinking about it," Philip said. He has also come to a conclusion about the folks who told him about mermaids.

"It might be they lied to me," Philip said.



Baltimore Chop baserunner Jeff Thrappas in a cloud of dust vs. the Tennessee White Lightning'

photo by  
Greg Wagner



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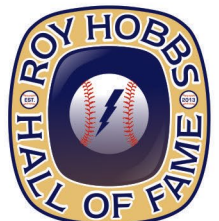
Head to *Sidelines* to replay the game and tell lies  
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## VETERANS AAAA BRACKET

### 2025 RHWS Veterans AAAA Playoff



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# VETERANS AAA and AA BRACKETS

## Veterans AAA Playoffs

Quarterfinals / Friday      Semifinals      Championship

Higher seeded team is home throughout playoffs

#1 Glass City Black Sox

Saturday

PDC2 / 10 am

#7 Vukgripz Akron A's

JB3 / 10 am

#4 Tampa Mets

PDC3 / 10 am

#6 Baltimore Chop

 JB-S / 1:45 pm  
Championship

#3 Austin Saltdogs

PDC4 / 10 am

#5 Philadelphia Dirt Dawgs

JB6 / 10 am

#2 South Florida Eagles

PDC5 / 10 am

#8 Chicago Giants

## Veterans AA Playoffs

Quarterfinals / Friday      Semifinals      Championship

Flip a Coin for home throughout playoffs

Ttown Jackos

Saturday

PDC2 / 1:45 pm

Cincinnati Colt .45s

TP2 / 10 am

Chicago Knights

PDC3 / 1:45 pm

Cobra Kai

 TP-S / 1:30 pm  
Championship

JR Bats

PDC4 / 1:45 pm

Tennessee White Lighnin'

TP4 / 10 am

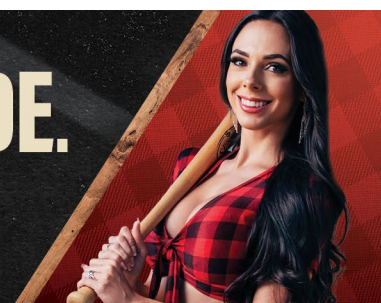
Akron Cardinals

PDC5 / 1:45 pm

Lakeville Lobos



# EVERY SWING. EVERY SLIDE. ALL SEASON LONG.



## VETERANS STANDINGS

### Roy Hobbs World Series

#### Veterans Division

##### Playoff Standings

S	AAAA Division	W	L	Pct.	RA
1	The Oilers	6	0	1.000	14
2	Stars of Herrera	4	2	.667	24
6	Tidewater Drillers	4	2	.667	26
4	Minnesota Web Gems	4	2	.667	39
5	South Bend Cardinals	4	2	.667	60
3	Venice Gaze	3	3	.500	42
8	New Jersey Mets	2	4	.333	54
7	Minnesota Blenders	1	5	.167	56
R	AAA Division	W	L	Pct.	RA4
1	Glass City Black Sox	5	0	1.000	10
2	South Florida Eagles	4	1	.800	15
3	ATX Saltdogs	3	2	.600	22

4	Tampa Mets	3	2	.600	34
5	Philadelphia Dirt Dawgs	3	2	.600	39
6	Baltimore Chop	2	3	.400	22
7	Vukgripz Akron A's	1	4	.200	25
8	Chicago Giants	1	4	.200	46

Notes: Matchups adjusted to avoid Phil-Tampa & Sox-Giants rematches from Wednesday.

	AA Division	W	L	Pct.	RA4
F	TTown Jackos	3	2	.600	29
L	JR Bats	2	3	.400	29
I	Lakeville Lobos	2	3	.400	33
P	Cobra Kai	2	3	.400	35
C	Tennessee White Lightnin'	2	3	.400	43
O	Chicago Knights	1	4	.200	34
I	Akron Cardinals	1	4	.200	42
N	Cincinnati Colt .45's	1	4	.200	45

Notes: Matchups adjusted to avoid rematches from earlier in the week. FLIP a COIN for home team thru playoffs.



## VISIT THE ROY HOBBS GEAR STAND AT THE PLAYER DEVELOPMENT COMPLEX





## NOTEBOOK

### 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 in Houston, 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.



### No alcohol at sites

Roy Hobbs Baseball prohibits alcohol at all playing sites ... dugouts, inside fences and in the parking lots. Violators are subject to dismissal from the World Series, period.



### Parking

Please abide by parking guidelines, avoid no parking signs, fire lanes and curbs, and handicap spaces without a permit. Lee County Rangers are patrolling sites and will issue tickets to violators. They are not cheap.



### Water, Water Water

The heat in SW Florida can be debilitating, and overheating issues will sneak up on players. Get water every inning in the dugout!



### 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.



*photo by Greg Wagner*  
Baltimore Chop bearded wonder Steve Klein celebrates his RBI double vs. Vukgripz Akron A's

### 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.



*see NOTEBOOK on page 7*



## NOTEBOOK

continued from page 6

### 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.



### 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.



### 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

see NOTEBOOK on page 8



photo by Greg Wagner  
Tennessee White Lightning' shortstop Randy Roers puts the tag on Baltimore Chop baserunner Adam Frank

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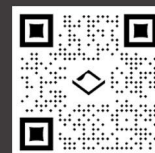


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## NOTEBOOK

Justin Erby of the Tidewater Drillers hit a 2-run homer vs. the Stars of Herrera in the top of the 1st inning of their AAAA winners bracket game



photo by  
Greg Wagner

continued from page 7

return before the quarterfinals of the playoffs, regardless of division.

❖ ❖ ❖

### 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.

❖ ❖ ❖

## Players of the Game

### Wednesday's games

ATX Saltdogs 12, Cobra Kai 2: **Saltdogs** - Kevin Wolfe 4x5, 2 HR, 5 RBI, 1 SB  
 Baltimore Chop 14, Tennessee White Lightnin' 5: **Chop** - Paul Layne 3x4, 2 1B, 3B, 2 RBI; **Tennessee** - Randy Roers 3x4, 2B, R, RBI, 2 SB  
 Chicago Knights 22, Akron Cardinals 9: **Cardinals** - Jaime Ramirez Lugo 3x3, BB, 2 R  
 Estrellas de Herrera 7, Vukgripz Akron A's 3: **Estrellas** - Franco 3x4, 2 2B, 3 RBI  
 Glass City Black Sox 9, Chicago Giants 35 5: **Black Sox** - Alex Quijano 3x4, HR, 3 RBI  
 Philadelphia Dirt Dawgs 20, Tampa Mets 12: **Dirt Dawgs** - Dave Lemley 4x5, 2B, 4 RBI, 3 R

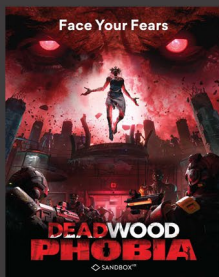
### Thursday's games

Estrellas de Herrera 9, NJ Mets 1: **Estrellas** - Sandy Nin 9 IP, 6 K, 1 ER, 1 BB  
 Minnesota Web Gems 17, MN Blenders 2: **Web Gems** - Craig Meyer 4 IP, 0 R, 2 K; **Blenders** - Brian Beuning 2 H  
 South Bend Cardinals 3, Minnesota Web Gems 1: **Cardinals** - Gartley drove in Spring with the lone RBI to beat the Gems; Gartley 1-3, RBI; Spring 1-4, R  
 The Oilers 2, MN Blenders 1: **Oilers** - Mike Aiello 2x4, 3B, 1 RBI (game-tying, two-out triple in bottom of 8th); Kris Franzen 2x3, 2 R, SB; **Blenders** - Aaron Johnson 7.2 IP, 15 K.

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

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