

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE - 2009

Clay Hopper

Manager



Full Name Robert Clay Hopper
Born October 3, 1902 in Portersville, MS
Died April 17, 1976 in Greenwood, MS
Bats/Throws Right/Right
Height 5'11"
Weight 178

NOTES: Managed 1946, 1948, and 1949 Governors' Cup Champions
 Managed 1946 and 1948 IL Pennant Winners

IL PLAYING CAREER	
	<u>G</u>
1928 Rochester	9
TOTALS	9

IL MANAGERIAL CAREER				
	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>POS</u>
1946 Montreal	100	54	.649	1st <i>Governors' Cup Champions</i>
1947 Montreal	93	60	.608	2nd <i>Playoff Participant</i>
1948 Montreal	94	59	.614	1st <i>Governors' Cup Champions</i>
1949 Montreal	84	70	.545	3rd <i>Governors' Cup Champions</i>
TOTALS	371	243	.604	

In four seasons as manager of the Royals, Clay Hopper compiled a 371-243 record. He won two pennants, three Governors' Cups, and two Junior World Series.

Branch Rickey had Hopper replaced with Walter Alston before the 1950 season. Hopper, a southerner, was a polarizing figure in Montreal. He was unpopular with the French-speaking players and reporters, and had been opposed to Jackie Robinson's addition to the team in 1946. His managing style, however, worked well with the team the Dodgers had put in place. Coaching third, Hopper turned his players loose on the basepaths. His 1946 squad won 100 games and is ranked among the top 100 teams in Minor League history by MILB.com.