

# 2016 AL PLAYOFFS SERIES

## #1 Nashville Assassins vs #5 Hotlanta Possums

### Game 1

First game in Nashville was a pitching duel between Max Scherzer and Chris (Cy) Young. Cruz homers to give Nashville a 1-0 lead but that would be all the scoring they would muster on the night. Possums play small ball to tie it up in 5th. In the ninth, managerial blunder of rookie manager Doug Campbell costs the Assassins as he pulls Scherzer to bring in Javy Lopez. First pitch to Darin Ruf went deep into the night to give the Possums the 2-1 win.

Possums.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	-	2	6	0
Assassins.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	1	4	1

WP-Rondon (1-0) LP Lopez (0-1) SV-  
HR-Cruz, Ruf

Hotlanta leads series 1-0

### Game 2

Justin Verlander twirled a gem as Nashville squeaked single runs early and then held on to tie the series at 1. Kris Bryant hit a solo shot, letting the fans know that there would be more good things to come later in the series.

Possums.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	5	1
Assassins.....	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	-	3	6	0

WP-Verlander (1-0) LP-Miley (0-1) SV-Tolleson (1)  
HR-Bryant

Hotlanta and Nashville tied at 1

### Game 3

Game three in Hotlanta looked very similar to the first two games-- Very little offense, especially with runners on base. Mike Leake held the Possums to six hits and the bullpen did its' best Possum impersonation by not allowing a hit the final 2 2/3 innings. Kris Bryant stroked a two run double in the 4th that would give Nashville the lead.

Assassins.....	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	-	3	9	1
Possums.....	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	1	6	1

WP-Leake (1-0) LP-Iwakuma (0-1) SV-Tolleson (2)

Nashville leads 2-1

## Game 4

Where or where did the offense go? Hotlanta turned the tables on Nashville as Daniel Norris tossed 4 no-hit innings before being lifted (bloody finger maybe?). The Possum bullpen could not keep the no-hitter in tact but did improve their scoreless streak to 17 innings. Preston Tucker's two run shot in the 7th stretched a 1-0 lead into an insurmountable 3-0, with the way the bullpen has been throwing.

Assassins.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	4	0
Possums.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	-	3	5	0

WP-O'Day(1-0) LP-Scherzer(0-1) S-Janzen (1)

HR-Tucker

Hotlanta and Nashville tied at 2

## Game 5

Hotlanta bats woke up as they smashed 6 extra base hits, including Fielder's first homerun of the series. Kyle Hendricks was shelled for 7 runs as his slider failed to slide out of the strike zone. The bright spot for the Assassins was scoring 2 runs off the Possum pen in the ninth to end the scoreless streak at 21.

Assassins.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-	2	4	0	
Possums.....	1	0	3	2	0	1	0	0	-	7	10	0

WP-C. Young (1-0) LP-Hendricks (0-1)

HR-Fielder (1)

Hotlanta leads series 3-2

## Game 6

Nashville spent the day off in the batting cage taking 250 swings each and it paid off. Justin Verlander didn't need much support but got it to the tune of 11 runs and 13 hits. Leading 3-0 in the 5th, the Assassins erupted for 7 runs to take a 10-0 lead. Nelson Cruz and Kris Bryant hit their second homers for the Assassins. Chris Coughlan accounted for the lone run of the night with a solo shot off Verlander, his only run allowed in his 13 innings thrown during the series.

Possums.....	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	-	1	9	0
Assassins.....	1	1	0	1	7	0	1	0	-	11	13	0	

WP-Verlander (2-0) LP-Miley (0-2)

Homeruns-Cruz (2) Bryant (2) Coughlan (1)

Series tied at 3

## Game 7

With a series dominated by great pitching, game 7 proved to be the best one of the bunch. David Murphy, inserted in the lineup as a last minute replacement, hit a solo shot in the bottom of the first. The Possums went small ball and tied it up in the 3rd. Kris Bryant launched his third homer of the series in the bottom of the third to put the Assassins back ahead. The score remained that way, with no threats of runs until the 9th. Phil Gosselin led off the inning with a double, Beltre then moved Gosselin to third with a groundout. Tolleson then struck out Cabrera on a 3-2 count. Curt Casali took a called third strike to end the game, giving the Nashville Assassins the narrowest of margin of victory in the game and the series.

Possums.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	1	5	0
Assassins.....	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	2	3	0

WP-Scherzer (1-1) LP-Iwakuma (0-2) S-Tolleson (3)

Homeruns-Murphy (1) Bryant (3)

***Nashville wins series 4-3***