



Portage North Charter

2009 Local Rules

- I. Portage North **Hot Stove League**
Incorporated under the State of Ohio
Incorporation # 573951(Exp. Date – 8/26/09)
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Officer/Representative Addresses, Telephone Numbers, Email Addresses:

		(HOME)	(CELL)
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Vice President	Jeff Jackson 11830 Plum Ridge P.O. Box 33 Hiram, Ohio 44234 jjaxon@windstream.com	(330)569-3464	(330)842-2148
Secretary/ Treasurer	Bill Phelps 10311 Liberty St. Garrettsville, Ohio 44231	(330)527-7777	(330)807-7777
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Commissioner	Dan Burns 9418 Bryant Rd Windham, Ohio 44288 PCSO124@yahoo.com	(330)351-2812	(330)
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Streetsboro Representative	Larry Wiseman 2014 Deer Meadow Streetsboro, Ohio 44241 lwiseman@thingsremembered.com	(330)626-5461	(330)328-5910
Windham Representative	David Tanner 9918 Blanton Windham, Ohio 44288 dtannerjtanner@embarqmail.com	(330)326-0181	(330)285-4039

I. Portage North Hot Stove League

- a. Regular monthly meetings will be held from February through August and will be rotated among each local. The election of officers is to be held at the end of the season (August), with two-year terms starting on February 1st of the following year. The positions of vice-president and secretary/treasurer are elected at the last meeting of the odd numbered year and their term begins in the even numbered year. The president, commissioner, and recording secretary are elected at the last meeting of the even numbered year and take office beginning in the odd numbered year. Elected officers must attend three (3) regular meetings per calendar year in order to be eligible to serve as an officer the following year. **Charter Fees should be paid in January of each year.**
- b. The Executive Board shall consist of:
 - Area Representatives from Crestwood, Garrettsville, Windham, and Streetsboro.
 - Portage North Elected Officers
 - State Commissioner
 - Umpire in Chief – votes only in case of a tie
 - The Executive Board should consist of 1 person from each local; representatives should be 1 person from each local. **(No local shall have more than 2 votes).**
 - The Recording Secretary is a **non-voting member** of the Board.
 - **A QUORUM (50% of the voting members) is needed for a vote to pass. This means 4 voting members need to be present for a vote to take place.**
- c. All area representatives of Portage North Hot Stove Baseball must notify the Recording Secretary of all scheduled local meetings and sign-up dates at least 24 hours in advance. Each representative is responsible to see that the Secretary receives a copy of their rules governing the selection of players and a copy of their sign-up documents before the start of league play.
- d. The Secretary/Treasurer, President, and Recording Secretary shall be reimbursed for all postage and telephone calls related to the operation of the league.
- e. All teams from Portage North that are involved in tournament games out of Portage County are to report the results to the Record Courier.
- f. ***The Secretary/Treasurer will have 9 copies of the financial report and related documentation plus the FINAL BANK STATEMENT available for Executive Board review at the August meeting. A copy of the December bank statement will be presented at the first meeting of the following year.***
- g. No rule changes may be made after the August meeting. **The President may call a special meeting if necessary.**
- h. ***Copies of each local's rules, including a description of your team selection process must be turned in on roster turn-in day. Otherwise rosters will not be included and teams may be ineligible to play.***

Current officers' positions, names, addresses and phone numbers also must be submitted per Ohio Hot Stove Rules.

- i. *Locals must include the following in their By-Laws:*
 - *Roberts Rules of Order (follow at locals' meetings*
 - *Treasurer's Reports*
 - *Minutes Recorded*
 - *Selection of teams*
- j. An area must be included in the Portage North charter and have teams registered to play in league games in order for the representative to vote at any meeting.
- k. Portage North Hot Stove is incorporated with the State of Ohio
Incorporation # 573951 (Exp. Date – 8/26/09)

II. Team Rosters

- a. The rosters must be submitted in the following form:
 - Players in alphabetical order (Last Name, First Name).
 - A check mark (√) should be placed in front of each player that has played in Hot Stove before.
 - All new players will have a zero (0) around the number corresponding to the players' name in **RED INK**.
 - All players requiring releases will have an x in front of their name.
 - **OFFICIAL - beginning in 2009; H League can only move up 2 players (8 yr olds) per team. All players playing up in H League will be indicated with an asterisk **.**
 - **G & F League – NO PLAYER will be permitted to move up to another classification.**
 - **Charter name – Portage North**
 - **Team Name – Must include sponsor name**
 - **It is each area representative's responsibility, along with the manager, to ensure that rosters are correct and that a copy of each player's birth certificate is presented at the annual roster meeting.**
 - **If a participant does not have a birth certificate at the roster meeting, he/she will be ineligible to participate until one is presented.**
 - **Teams who play without an approved roster will forfeit all games.**
 - **Managers will only be permitted to manage 1 team.**
- b. **NEW STARTING IN 2009 – BACKGROUND CHECKS**
The National Center for Safety Initiatives will be performing these background checks. Information will be provided to all managers and coaches at their local registrations. **Background Checks must be completed prior to April 1st, 2009 in order to meet the April 13th**

- roster deadline. Managers and Coaches names will not be allowed to appear on any roster until they have been OK'D by NCSI.**
- c. **Rosters must be submitted for approval to the Portage North Executive Board no later than 7 days to 10 days prior to state deadline. April 13, 2009 (roster check in date for Portage North)**
 - d. **Revised rosters must be submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer for approval.**
 - e. **Checking of Rosters** will be done by a **review panel** (which will consist of 2 officers/representatives or more **plus Secretary/Treasurer**. A time and date for reviewing rosters will be set.

III. Boundaries and Player Eligibility

- a. Charter boundaries include all of Portage County, north of State Route 59, excluding Ravenna and Charlestown Township. Charlestown Township north of the Ravenna Arsenal is included in the Portage North Charter.
- b. **Boundaries_“Where you pay your taxes”**
 - ***Aurora*** – must reside in the City of Aurora
 - ***Garrettsville*** – must reside in the Village of Garrettsville and within the Garfield School District (see rule 3(f) for clarification). Freedom area has merged with Garrettsville Charter and included the areas of Charlestown Township mentioned above.
 - ***Hiram*** – must reside in Hiram Township and within the Crestwood School District (see rule 3(f) for clarification)
 - ***Crestwood*** – must reside in the Village of Mantua or Mantua Township and within the Crestwood School District
 - ***Nelson*** – Must reside in Nelson Township and within the Garfield School District (see rule 3(f) for clarification)
 - ***Streetsboro*** – must reside in Streetsboro School District and/or Sugar Bush Knolls
 - ***Windham*** – must reside within the Village of Windham or Windham Township
- c. In the event that a local classification is withdrawn, players would have to play within his/her school district. If there is no team available, the player, with a release, will be free to choose any team that will allow him/her to play in the Portage North League.
- d. A release is valid only for one year. The release must be in writing and submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer prior to the start of the season as required by Ohio Hot Stove.
- e. Any player who wishes to participate must report to their local sign-up before a written release will be given. There are no exceptions to this requirement. Penalty for violation of this rule will be ineligibility for that year.
- f. If a local area has enough players signed up to form an additional team and the local does not form a team, then the local must present proof to the Portage North Executive Board as to the reasons a team was not

established (i.e. lack of managers...lack of playing fields). Penalty for violation of this rule will be ineligibility for League Championship and Tournament Play.

- g. If an area does not have a team, the player choosing to play in another local area within his/her school district must finish that classification in that local unless a proper release is submitted.
- h. Prior to the start of the season a mandatory managers meeting will be held and managers will be required to sign a form stating that they have received and understand the Portage North and Ohio Hot Stove Rules and will abide by them. Managers who send a replacement to this meeting must make arrangement to personally receive their schedules and rules.

IV. Playing Rules

- a. The Portage North Executive Board determines schedule of games at the beginning of the season. Local Boards and team Managers/Coaches **are prohibited** from rescheduling games without approval from the Executive Board. The rescheduling of games will only be permitted by the Board for sanctioned school activities (ex: Band, choir, track, Boy Scouts). Any other games needing rescheduled **MUST** be presented to their local representative and then the President for approval before game can be rescheduled. Area representatives shall submit a list of **SCHOOL ACTIVITIES** as soon as possible so that game schedules can be started.
- b. The penalty for violation of this rule will be forfeiture of the game by any manager violating this rule.
- c. Starting time for weeknight games will be 6:00 PM. If the field is equipped with lights, no inning can start after 10:30 PM.
- d. The home team must be off the field 15 minutes prior to the beginning of the game to allow the visiting team time for infield practice.
- e. Any game that does not start within 30 minutes of it's scheduled starting time will only be played with the consent of both manager's. Managers are reminded and cautioned that late starts may result in the game being declared official even though seven full innings were not completed.
- f. The field must be lined prior to the start of the game.
- g. When teams only play each other once during the season the home team will be determined by coin flip. This applies only to determining which team will get last bats.
- h. Teams should be notified of a postponement by 5:00 PM.
- i. The opposing mangers shall sign the innings pitched by each pitcher in the scorebook.
- j. The manager of the winning team shall report results to the newspaper. No more than a 10 run winning margin will be reported to the Record Courier. Scores can be **faxed** to the **Record Courier** at **(330) 296-2698** or **e-mailed** to **hotstove@recordpub.com**
- k. Exact scores must be reported when turning in wins and losses for division records (ex: 23-2, not 13-2). Scores will be reported to **www.tcybs.com/PORTAGE NORTH**

- l. All players and coaches must stay in the bench area of the field, in accordance with Hot Stove Rules
- m. Misconduct, profanity, unsportsmanlike conduct, and unnecessary roughness will not be tolerated. The **Portage North Executive Board** may suspend that person or persons from one game to one year with reinstatement subject to the review by the Portage North Executive Board. **The Portage North Executive committee** (Charter) may impose such penalty as they feel is justified. A majority vote of the Portage North Executive Board is necessary for any hearings on this rule. The Umpire-in Chief shall be an alternate member of the Portage North Executive Board for this rule.

PROTEST PROCEDURES

- n. **Each protest of a game will require at \$50 fee**, which will be returned if the protest is upheld. The league's protest form (found on page 9) must be used for the filing of all protests and the following procedure applies:
 - The League President must be notified by telephone within 24 hours from the completion of the game by the protesting manager.
 - **The protest form must be postmarked within 24 hours (excluding Sundays and Holidays) of the completion of the game and mailed to the Secretary/Treasurer.**
 - Each active area will have a person to serve on a Protest Committee.
 - The Executive Board will approve Protest Committee Representatives.
 - **The Protest Committee will hear any and all protests for all classifications and have the final ruling.**
 - Protests must be heard within 8 days of the receipt of the protest form and fee.
 - All members of the Protest Committee who are present for the hearing will vote on each protest.
 - The Executive Board will appoint a Chairperson for the Protest Committee.
 - **A tie vote on any protest shall mean that the protest is NOT upheld.**

Postponed games:

Postponed games due to weather, field conditions, and other unforeseen situations must be rescheduled within 10 days or the President will assign a make up date and time. Please see rules for suspended games (pg 6) for player eligibility requirements.

It is the home team Manager's responsibility to reschedule the game. Failure to reschedule the game or abide by the President's decision will result in a forfeit for the home team or the team that refuses to play the make up date assigned by the President.

- o. No later than 1 week following the completion of regular scheduled games of the season, all area representatives must provide team records for all teams in his/her area to the President.
- p. **PRESIDENT of Portage North MUST be notified of all forfeited games and reasons for forfeit and any tie games which need to be finished according to the rules.**
- q. Champion Trophies will be limited to \$20.00 per classification / division. If needed a co-champion trophy will be purchased. It is the President's responsibility to purchase trophies/plaques or to make arrangements for purchasing and have available no later than July 1st.
- r. **Any player, coach, or manager ejected from any league game is automatically suspended from the next league game.** Additional discipline may be taken by the Portage North Executive Committee and the Ohio to Stove Executive Committee.
- s. Ohio Hot Stove Rules are to be followed for all league play. The Executive Board must approve any exceptions.
- t. For H, G and F League:
 - A continuous batting order will be used.
 - **In the event of injury or illness, that spot in the batting order will be skipped with no out recorded.**
 - **If any player is ejected from the game, an out will be recorded for that spot in the batting order. If ejected from a suspended game, the player cannot play in the continued game.**
 - All players will play a minimum of 2 innings, excluding players subject to disciplinary action.
- u. **In the case of a suspended game, a player who was not in the first game can play in the rescheduled game. If a player from the first game is not in the second game, his position in the batting order moves up. No out is to be recorded unless the player was ejected from the original game. If there are less than 9 players, the player not at the suspended game will automatically be recorded as an out.**
- v. For H League play only:
 - *The stealing rule will be in accordance with State Rule 7:14 as outlined on page 73 of the 2007 Ohio Hot Stove Rule Book.*
- v. Players are permitted to swing a bat only on the field of play or in an out of play and PROTECTED area. The umpire will issue one warning to each team with subsequent offenses resulting in the ejection of the offending player.

V. Umpires

- a. Umpires are to be paid a minimum of \$_____ per game.
- b. Two umpires are required for all F League games. If an umpire fails to show up, the game will be rescheduled unless both Managers agree to play the game with one umpire.

- c. **For H and G League play, the visiting team may furnish a qualified base umpire. For E, EE, and F League play, the home team will provide all umpires.**
- d. The President and Vice President will approve all umpires selected for tournament play that are sanctioned.
- e. **No umpire may work Home Plate who is an immediate family member of a manager, coach or player.** This will include but is not limited to father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandma, grandpa. **If this rule is not followed – an automatic forfeit will occur for the home team.**

CHIEF UMPIRE DUTIES – To assign umpires for league games; put together umpire clinic; and gather names of umpires wanting to umpire tournament games.

VI. All Star Games

- a. The spirit of the Portage North Hot Stove League All-Star Game is to promote good sportsmanship and community interaction. These games is a chance for youth and adults to make new friends. The intention is to enjoy a day of baseball.
- b. The site of the All-Star Game is to be offered to each local on a rotating basis by alphabetical order. If a local declines to host the all-star game, the local will go to the end of the list and the next local is offered the opportunity to host the game. ***Locals may opt to hold a round robin type tournament for Portage North Teams only in lieu of the Portage North Board.***
- c. Locals to host All-Star games:
 - 2009 Windham
 - 2010 Crestwood
 - 2011 Garrettsville
 - 2012 Streetsboro
- d. The all-star game host supplies appropriate playing fields, announcer (public address system, if possible) umpires, and official scorekeepers. All locals will be asked to submit a list of qualified umpires for the game(s). There will be two qualified umpires assigned each game...
- e. The all-star teams will be determined by each local and the guidelines for selection of players will be submitted to the area representative no later than the Wednesday prior to the game. The representatives must be provided with names, positions, telephone numbers, and uniform numbers of each player selected on Tuesday night prior to the drawing on Wednesday night. A drawing will be conducted by the participating managers to assign players to teams. The managers will be selected based on their team's record as of seven (7) days prior to the scheduled

all-star game. In the event of a two-way tie, a flip of a coin will determine a manager. In the event that more than two managers are tied, names will be drawn from a hat to determine the manager. All-star managers will be permitted to select their own coaching staff. Every attempt will be made to include any manager/asst. manager/coach who has interest in assisting.

- The number of all-star players each team will select is based on their record and the number of teams in the league as follows:
- Whenever possible and practical, there will be two games in each league classification.
- No team may have more than one player greater than the team with the least number of players based on record.
-

In the event that there are more teams than listed in this rule, the Executive Board will determine the manner of player selection.

- f. The names will be American and National League All-Stars and the manager that has the highest winning percentage will select first.
- g. The all-star managers will supply equipment.
- h. Only one practice is permitted. Practices will occur on the Friday night before the All-Star game. The manager will select the date and location of the practice. The managers will notify all players about practice and game information.
- i. The all-star games will be played under special rules that apply to the all-star games only. These include:
 - **Games will be one (1) game - 9 innings for F League**
Games will be two (2) games – 7 innings for H and G League
Extra innings will be played in the event of a tie.
 - No extra players are permitted to participate.
 - Pitchers are permitted only **2 innings** – no exceptions.
 - Players wear their local team's uniform.
 - A continuous batting order will be used.
 - Each player must play a minimum of 4 innings. If the game goes beyond 9 innings, equal playing time is recommended.
 - Each local shall provide game balls and Portage North will issue a check in the amount of \$50.00 to help cover the cost.
 - **NO REGULAR SCHEDULED OR RESCHEDULED GAMES WILL BE PLAYED ON FRIDAY NIGHT PRIOR TO ALL STAR GAMES ON SATURDAY.**
- j. If there is one game in a classification, players will be kept on the same team as their local teammates (unless exceptions need to be made). Managers will be permitted to retain their child on his/her team only. Other players from that team will be placed into the draw. The drawing format will consider the number of players from all teams, player positions, and the number of players from each local team. Every reasonable attempt will be made to balance pitching and catching depth on each team.

- k. If two games will be held in a division, players will be divided by local teams between the two games. Under no circumstance will teammates play against each other. All four managers will participate in the draw. Each team will have two entries in the drawing with the number of players listed, one for each game. Managers will be permitted to retain their child on his/her team only.
- l. Managers must follow established rules or will be suspended from the all-star game in the following year.

Form for filing protests is available on page 10

See page 11 for recommendations regarding pitch count and injury avoidance for young pitchers.

Ejection form can be found on page 12



LEAGUE, INC.
4614 Duesler Ave. SW
Canton, Ohio 44708

**Portage North Chapter
Official Game Protest Form**

Date: _____ Date Received: _____ Game Date: _____

Home Team: _____ Manager: _____

Visiting Team: _____ Manager: _____

Home Plate Umpire: _____ Phone: _____

Base Umpire: _____ Phone: _____

Rule Violation(s): _____

(Must include the rule number designation and the rule book cited)

Describe in detail, the situation that resulted in this protest. You must include as much detail as is possible (inning, score, number of outs, count on the batter, name of batter, and position of runners on base as is applicable). Attach additional pages if necessary.

Protesting Manager's Signature: _____

- Contact the President within 24 hours by phone.
- This form must be dated and postmarked within 24 hours of the game (not including Sundays and Holidays). It shall be sent to the address of the Secretary-Treasurer as listed on this document.

VIII: Pitch Count Recommendations

Recommendations

Based upon its expertise and review of existing studies, the USA Baseball Medical & Safety Advisory Committee makes the following recommendations for minimizing a pitcher's risk of future serious arm injury and maximizing his chance of success

- Coaches and parents should listen and react appropriately to a youth pitcher when he/she complains about arm pain. A pitcher who complains or shows signs of arm pain during a game should be removed immediately from pitching. Parents should seek medical attention if pain is not relieved within four days or if the pain recurs immediately the next time the player pitches. League officials should inform parents about this consideration.

- Pitch counts should be monitored and regulated in youth baseball. Recommended limits for youth pitchers are as follows:

9-10 year old pitchers

50 pitches per game

75 pitches per week

1000 pitches per season

2000 pitches per year

11-12 year old pitchers

75 pitches per game

100 pitches per week

1000 pitches per season

3000 pitches per year

13-14 year old pitchers

75 pitches per game

125 pitches per week

1000 pitches per season

3000 pitches per year

Pitch count limits pertain to pitches thrown in games only. These limits do not include throws from other positions, instructional pitching during practice sessions, and throwing drills, which are important for the development of technique and strength. Backyard pitching practice after a pitched game is strongly discouraged.

- Pitchers should not throw breaking pitches (curveballs, sliders, etc.) in competition until their bones have matured (indicated by puberty) - typically about 13 years of age. In order to succeed, a youth pitcher should focus on good mechanics, a fast fastball, a good change-up, and good control.

- Pitchers should develop proper mechanics as early as possible and include more year-round physical conditioning as their body develops.

- It should be discouraged for a pitcher to return to the mound in a game once he/she has been removed as the pitcher.