

CONSTITUTION

Article I – Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy

Name – Buckeye Pokémon League

Purpose – Our purpose is to give students and community members who share a common interest in Pokémon the opportunity to interact with one another, providing them with a place to talk, trade, and compete at any level of competition they desire.

Non-Discrimination Policy – This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) for reasons of age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Article II – Membership

Any community member may join the Buckeye Pokémon League. However, only those members who are currently enrolled students may hold positions as university-recognized officers.

Article III – Organization Leadership

President – The president of the organization is the leader of the overall operation of the club. The president's duties include, but are not limited to, running weekly meetings, the delegation of tasks involving club activities, and serving as public relations for the club. Once appointed, the president serves until they change positions, resigns, graduates, or is removed from office.

Vice-President – The vice-president of the organization is the secondary leader of the club. They is the chief liaison to the President, and their duties are assigned by the president. The vice-president adopts the duties of the other members of leadership during vacancies. Once appointed, the vice-president serves until they change positions, resigns, graduates, or is removed from office. When this position is vacant or will be vacant, the members of the Executive Committee may, instead of a proper nomination, motion to keep this position vacant until the following term (the vacancy will act as the nominee for purposes of election). This clause should only be used when there is a lack of capable members that are willing to participate.

Treasurer – The treasurer of the organization is the financial manager of the club. The treasurer's duties include, but are not limited to, keeping records of club funds, keeping records of all club debts (if any), and maintaining contact with the university with regard to organization funding. Once appointed, the treasurer serves until they change positions, resigns, graduates, or is removed from office.

Secretary – The secretary of the organization is the chief record-keeper of the club. The secretary's duties include, but are not limited to, keeping attendance at all meetings, recording the

meetings administrative minutes, notifying members about upcoming events or needed information, and overseeing the maintenance of the organization's various social media outlets. Once appointed, the secretary serves until they change positions, resigns, graduates, or is removed from office.

Article IV – Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the organization is comprised of the four members of the organization leadership as defined in Article III of this Constitution. The main purpose of the Executive Committee is to lead and serve as model images of the organization to both members and others. The members of the committee should know and uphold the rules and regulations of the activities being performed by club members, and be able to maintain a safe and fair environment for the members to carry out these activities. The Executive Committee is responsible for holding special meetings to discuss future league activities, including future club trips. The Executive Committee reserves the right to allow members of the general membership to participate in an official meeting if the leadership deems their input on discussed matter to be beneficial. The discretion of decisions of the Executive Committee are ideally unanimous. However, a majority vote of the committee will suffice for approval when not otherwise specified by the Constitution and By-Laws.

Article IV – Assistant Committees

The Executive Committee can, at any time, create and make appointments to an Assistant Committee. Titles and responsibilities of Assistant Committee members will be defined by the Executive Committee. Assistant Committees are designed to relieve the workload from the Executive Committee while providing an opportunity for General Members to observe and participate in leadership activities. Any General Member can be appointed to an Assistant Committee. Assistant Committee members can attend Executive Committee meetings at the discretion of the Executive Committee, but cannot vote in them. Members can, at any time, be removed from an Assistant Committee at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Article VI – Method of Removing Officers and Members

Removal of General Membership – If a general member does not meet University standards or is unable to conduct themselves in a way that reflects well on the organization or the University, they shall be relieved of any special leadership positions previously given, and placed on probation for one semester. Any hearing on member probation shall be conducted by the organization leadership. It is the duty of the Executive Committee to be unanimous in their decision. If unanimity is not achieved, it is the right of the member to appeal for use of a dispute settlement service provided by the university.

Removal of Executive Committee members – If a member of the organization leadership does not meet University standards, or is unable to conduct themselves in a way that reflects well on the organization or the University, they shall be relieved of their position and placed on probation for one semester. If three of the four Executive Committee members believe that the fourth of them should be removed, they may officially ask for their resignation. If there is refusal, a hearing in the eyes of and a vote of the general membership shall occur. The general membership shall hear the case, in both

directions, then receive a week to deliberate. This hearing will be presided over by a Senior Member deemed impartial or a General Member agreed upon by both parties (that General Member will forfeit the right to cast a vote in the matter). If none can be agreed upon, dispute settlement services provided by the University shall be sought. At the next meeting a vote shall be taken, with 60% required in favor of removal. Involved Executive Committee members are not permitted to vote. The removal process may be performed, with extreme discretion, with two accusing Executive Committee members, requiring 75% in favor for removal, one accusing Executive Committee member, requiring 85% in favor of removal, or by a 95% vote of the general membership. Unsuccessful or frivolous use of the last provision in this act can be used as grounds for probation or expulsion.

Probationary Period – A member that is placed on probation will not be allowed to hold a leadership position in the organization or travel with the group on organization trips. If a member commits another infraction while on probation, it is grounds for removal from the club.

Article VII – Advisor(s)

Advisor(s) of the club must either be members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. Advisor(s) must receive the University-required training and check off on the treasurer's financial reports. It is the duty of the President to maintain communication with the club's advisor, and to seek notification of any potential changes. Failure to do so is a serious violation that has the potential to damage the legitimacy and integrity of the club in the eyes of the university, and is a blatant disregard for their duties. While the actions of this duty may be delegated to another Executive Committee member, the responsibility will always fall on the club's president.

Article VIII – Meetings of the Organization

There will be regular meetings of the organization each week during the academic semesters, with potential exclusion of weeks in which there are University holidays, changes in club venue availability, exam weeks, or other emergencies. It is the duty of the Executive Committee to schedule meeting times prior to the start of term, as well as maintain a regular meeting schedule.

Article IX – Method of Amending the Constitution

Any general member of the organization may propose an amendment in writing and submit it to the organization leadership. The officers will invite the member to a meeting in which the changes will be discussed. It is the duty of the Executive Committee to determine whether the proposed changes are both necessary and desired, and otherwise beneficial to the club. If approved, the changes will be put to a vote of the general membership. The proposed changes will be read aloud (or otherwise made available for public viewing) at the next available meeting. At the following meeting, the motion(s) will be voted upon. A simple majority is required to approve.

It is the right of the Executive Committee to amend the constitution to fix minor spelling and grammatical errors without using the above process. However, if, in any way, the desired minor changes would change the definitions provided in the constitution, the process must be used.

Article X – Method of Dissolution of the Organization

If the organization is to be disbanded, a vote shall be called over two meetings. In order to disband, 96% of the general membership must vote in favor. Dissolution will not be final until the end of the semester the decision was made. The Executive Committee will become responsible for creating a method for which the organization is to deal with any outstanding debts. Any monetary assets are to be used for any final club meeting activities and/or donated to other University organizations. Any non-monetary assets should be dealt with by a decision of the existing Executive Committee in conjunction with any claimants.

By-Laws

Article I – Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, and its future editions, shall govern the organization, when requested, in all cases to which it is applicable, and in which it is not inconsistent with the constitution and by-laws of this organization.

Article II – Membership

In order to become a member, an individual needs only to attend a meeting or event, and provide their information to the secretary (or other Executive Committee member to be forwarded to the secretary).

-General Members of the organization are the voting and leading body of the group. To be a General Member, one must be enrolled at The Ohio State University. General Members are eligible to hold office and to vote in elections.

-Senior Members are members of eighteen years of age or more who are not enrolled at The Ohio State University. These members may not hold positions in the Executive Committee or vote in elections.

-Junior Members are members below the age of eighteen who are not enrolled at The Ohio State University. These members may not hold any leadership positions, vote in elections, or make official motions. Junior Members must have parent or guardian permission to attend league meetings, and must provide official permission from parent or guardian to travel on club trips.

-Probationary Members are members who have been placed on probation by organization leadership. These members may not hold leadership positions, vote in elections, make official motions, or travel with the group. Probation is served from the date of sentencing to the corresponding day of the following major academic term (autumn and spring).

-Termination of Membership – A member may withdraw themselves from membership, without any need for justification, by informing the secretary (or other Executive Committee member to be forwarded to the secretary) of their desire to withdraw. Probationary Members, on the condition of a second infraction, may be asked to leave permanently.

Article III – Nomination of New Organization Leadership

Announcement of Vacancies – It is the duty of Executive Committee members to announce their intent to vacate as early as possible. In the event of graduation, intent to graduate must be brought to the Executive Committee's attention at the start of their final term. In the event of resignation, the date that the resignation becomes effective should be brought to the attention of the Executive Committee as

soon as possible. Effective dates on resignations can be changed by said member, but once the specified date has passed, the person is considered resigned and is no longer eligible to vote for a nomination.

Internal Appointments – The Executive Committee may decide to select one of their current members to fill a vacancy, thereby creating a different vacancy. This may occur without the need for a confirmation vote by the general membership. These will still need to be announced when declaring nominees the week before voting. On voting day, below any external nominations, the general membership will have the opportunity to “veto” any of these appointments, as outlined in Article IV.

External Officer Nomination – The Executive Committee will, preferably unanimously, select a member(s) to fill a vacancy. This person has the right to refuse, in which another individual must be selected. This person shall undergo shadowing for the position, working with the Executive Committee in order to learn the prospective position’s required tasks. This will also allow the Executive Committee to observe how the prospective officer would handle the position. Upon completion of training, the Executive Committee will vote to make the individual the official nominee. This vote should be unanimous, but can be three to one, provided that the minority is not the officer being replaced. Once again, the prospective nominee has the right to refuse. If this occurs late in the process, the Executive Committee should work to repeat this process with haste. In the event that the Executive Committee feels that they cannot come to a consensus, they may forego the right to nominate, and ask for a vote as though a nominee was not confirmed as defined below in Article IV.

Officer Removal-led Nominations – Voting for a nominee after the removal of an officer by provisions outlined in Article V of the Constitution must be unanimous between the three remaining members of the Executive Committee. If this is deemed impossible, the right to appoint a nominee is lost, and voting will start as though a nominee was not confirmed as defined below in Article IV.

Simultaneous vacancies – If there are two or more simultaneous vacancies or impending vacancies in the Executive Committee, vacancies shall be filled in order from top to bottom as listed in Article III of the Constitution, regardless of the order of notification of said vacancies. If less than three Executive Committee members are active, the right to appoint an external nominee is lost, and voting will start as though a nominee was not confirmed as defined below in Article IV.

Timing – Vacancies should be declared as early as possible with respect to the term it occurs in. Nomination must be declared to the general membership before the point at which four meetings remain on the schedule for a term.

Article IV – Confirmation of New Organization Leadership

General Procedures – The nominee will be declared by the Executive Committee at a regular meeting of the general membership. At the next meeting, a vote by secret ballot will take place. Those eligible to vote will cast their vote for either “Confirm” or “Deny” (or other opposite pairs making clear the choice being voted upon).

If a nominee receives a greater than 50% majority, that nominee will assume the position at said position’s vacancy (which could be immediately).

If a nominee fails to receive a majority as listed above, there will be an additional vote at the next regular meeting. In this vote, each voting member will write the name of an eligible member to assume the position. Voting for the previous nominee is allowed.

If one member receives a greater than 50% majority, that member may assume the position at said position's vacancy (which could be immediately). The chosen member has the right to refuse, and has twenty-four hours to do so.

If no member receives a majority as listed above, there will be an additional vote at the next regular meeting between the top two vote-getters who accept their impromptu candidacy. If there is a tie for second place, the Executive Committee will vote to eliminate the tied members until only one remains. In the event of a tie in the secondary vote, the highest-listed filled position according to Article III of the Constitution will vote (again) to break the tie. If, in rare cases, only one member wishes to accept their candidacy, they may assume the position. If, in rare cases, no members voted upon wish to accept, the Executive Committee has the right to seek and appoint someone to the position freely.

If a final vote is needed, the member who receives a greater than 50% majority will assume the position at said position's vacancy (which could be immediately). In the event of a tie, the highest-listed filled position according to Article III of the Constitution will vote (again) to break the tie.

Once confirmed, the new officer must complete any University-required training necessary to hold the position in the eyes of the University.

Vetoing an Internal Appointment – Below any external nominations, the ballot will iterate the previously announced changes inside the Executive Committee. Two options, "Approve" and "Veto" will accompany them. If "Veto" is marked on at least 60% of ballots received in the initial vote, that officer is barred from changing positions for one semester. The Executive Committee may then freely appoint one of the other internal members (including the newly elected member) to the position.

Timing – The initial voting process must be completed by the end of the third-to-last meeting of a semester. Voting shall begin fifteen minutes after the start of the meeting, and end thirty minutes prior to the meeting's end. Results of the voting shall be read within the last fifteen minutes of the meeting. In the event of a tie that calls for a member(s) of the Executive Committee to vote again, they shall have until five minutes remain in the meeting to break the tie.

Voting Process and Tabulation – Members will cast their votes on printed ballots and place them inside a box. This box will be monitored at all times by a member of the Executive Committee. When voting has concluded, an impartial Senior Member or General Member agreed upon by the Executive Committee will take the box into a different room for tabulation. Tabulation will be observed by the Executive Committee. Any ballots that are incorrectly labeled (checking both boxes, checking neither, et cetera) will be disqualified.

Article V – Advisor Responsibilities

The organization's advisor is not required to be present at any of the organization's activities unless they wishes to be. The advisor has the right to review the constitution and by-laws, and any

changes to those documents. The advisor is responsible for reviewing any documentation required by the University in order to maintain the good standing of the organization.

Article VI – Meeting Requirements

-Regular Meetings are the average, weekly meetings of the club. At least two of the Executive Committee members must be present to maintain the club's procedures.

-Special Meetings are situational meetings called by the leadership of the organization. While these meetings are usually Executive Committee meetings, at least one member of the Executive Committee must sanction the meeting.

-Quorums are defined as meetings of the general membership, without the sanction of Executive Committee members. At least 40% of the voting membership should be in attendance to maintain status as a Quorum.

Article VII – Buckeye Pokémon League at Organization Meetings

The club shall play host to the "Buckeye Pokémon League", a sanctioned league by The Pokémon Company International, during its regular meetings. It is the duty of the Executive Committee to maintain communication with League leadership. Per League rules, at least one member of the League leadership is required to sanction the club meeting as a league meeting. Due to the special relationship between the organization and the League, greater-than-normal discretion should be used if attempting to remove a member from the club.

This partnership is non-binding, and can be revoked at any time by either party, in this organization by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee, or by a vote of at least two-thirds of the voting membership. If this provision is enacted, Article VII is hereby removed from these By-Laws, with Article VIII becoming Article VII, barring further revision.

Article VIII – Method of Amending the By-Laws

Any general member of the organization may propose an amendment in writing and submit it to the organization leadership. The officers will invite the member to a meeting in which the changes will be discussed. It is the duty of the Executive Committee to determine whether the changes proposed changes are both necessary and desired, and otherwise beneficial to the club. If approved, the changes will be put to a vote of the general membership. The proposed changes will be read aloud (or otherwise made available for public viewing) at the next available meeting. At the following meeting, the motion(s) will be voted upon. A simple majority is required to approve.

It is the right of the Executive Committee to amend the by-laws to fix minor spelling and grammatical errors without using the above process. However, if, in any way, the desired minor changes would change the definitions provided in the by-laws, the process must be used.