

## 2014 PORTLAND POSSUM

**General Manager/Owner:** Ray Murphy/Jon Brinkmann (22<sup>nd</sup> season, 1747-1675 all-time regular season, 54-49 all-time playoffs.)  
2006 TBL Champions

**Game Type:** All home games will be played on the *APBA Baseball Blast 5.5* computer game.

NAME	MLB	L/R	BC-BBW	BC-MG	G	PA	SBA	SSN	SPD	ARM	PB/TH	ACQUIRED
<i>Davis, Khris</i>	MIL	R	SA0	-2/-1	56	153	3	F33	9	31		D-14 (1)
Goins, Ryan	TOR	L	SA2	-4/0	34	121	0	N	13	31		D-14 (5)
Gomes, Jonny	BOS	R	SA1	-1/-2	116	366	1	R26	10	31		T-10 (DAL)
Gonzalez, Carlos	COL	L	SA2	-4/0	110	436	24	D34	16	33		D-09 (1)
Hechavarria, Adeiny	MIA	R	SA1	+1/-2	148	578	21	C21	10	34		D-13 (2)
Kelly, Don	DET	L	SA1	-3/-1	112	251	2	G31	15	32		D-14 (5)
<i>Mesoraco, Devin</i>	CIN	R	SA4	+10/-5	103	352	2	C9	7	33	1/+2	D-13 (1)
Murphy, Daniel	NYM	L	SA4	-6/+1	161	697	25	E34	10	29		T-13 (DAL)
Napoli, Mike	BOS	R	PL2	+2/-3	139	578	2	G20	6	32		D-07 (BonA)
Rodriguez, Alex	NYM	R	SA0	-6/+1	44	181	6	E26	9	34		T-14 (BRO)
Ruf, Darin	PHI	R	SA0	-7/+1	73	293	0	N	6	32		D-14 (BonA)
Tulowitzki, Troy	COL	R	SA0	-1/-1	126	512	1	R26	11	38		D-07 (1)
<i>Upton, BJ</i>	ATL	R	SA0	-6/+1	126	446	17	D27	18	35		T-07 (MUN)
Upton, Justin	ATL	R	SA3	+7/-4	149	643	9	G34	15	35		D-08 (1)
Votto, Joey	CIN	L	SA5	-7/+2	162	726	9	G26	10	31		D-08 (1)
<i>Weeks, Rickie</i>	MIL	R	SA1	+1/-2	104	399	10	E27	13	32		T-09 (DAL)
Wieters, Matt	BAL	B	SA0	+6/-4	148	579	2	R31	6	34	1/+4	D-10 (1)
Wright, David	NYM	R	SA3	+7/-5	112	492	20	E33	16	33		T-12 (MID)

NAME	MLB	L/R	GRADE	GS	RIP	CTL	HRA	ST. FAT	REL. FAT	WP	HB	BK	MF	ACQUIRED
Cain, Matt	SF	R	10	30		12	-16	27		1		0	0	D-06 (1)
Gallardo, Yovani	MIL	R	8	31		-22	0	27		2		0	0	D-08 (1)
Gonzalez, Gio	WAS	L	12	32		-26	14	26		1			1	D-09 (2)
Lynn, Lance	STL	R	9	33		-24	25	27		2		0	1	D-12 (BonA)
Wainwright, Adam	STL	R	10	34		41	26	28		1		0	1	T-07 (GC)
<i>Norris, Bud</i>	BAL	R	7	30	2.7	-21	21	27	10	2		0	0	D-10 (3)
<i>Affeldt, Jeremy</i>	SF	L	11*		33.7	-22	32		6	3		0	1	T-09 (MLR)
Avilan, Luis	ATL	L	21*		65.0	-14	56		5	3			3	D-14 (2)
Benoit, Joaquin	DET	R	18*		67.0	0	25		6	2		0	0	D-11 (1)
Cook, Ryan	OAK	R	13*		67.3	-14	53		6	3		0	0	T-14 (NWW)
Farquhar, Danny	SEA	R	11*		55.7	-13	46		7	3	0		0	T-14 (MAR)
<i>Frieri, Ernesto</i>	LAA	R	13*		68.7	-34	-22		6	1		0	0	T-13 (NBO)
<i>Street, Huston</i>	SD	R	15*		56.7	21	-51		6	3	0	0	1	T-13 (NBO)
Scheppers, Tanner	TEX	R	18*		76.7	14	23		6	3		0	3	D-13 (5)
Smith, Joe	CLE	R	15*		63.0	-14	24		6	3		0	3	T-12 (MAR)
<i>Carrasco, Carlos</i>	CLE	R	1	7	14	11	25	31	8	3		0	0	D-14 (6)
<i>Venters, Johnny</i>	UNC	L												D-11 (2)

*Italics - starts year in minors*

**Minors by month:**  
**April:** B. Upton, Weeks, Norris, Street, Carrasco, Venters, Affeldt, Frieri, Davis, Mesoraco  
**May:**  
**June:**  
**July:**  
**Aug:**  
**Sept:**  
**Oct:**  
**Nov:** all up (except uncarded)!

**Cuts:**  
uncarded: Christian Friedrich, Wilson Betemit, Ian Stewart  
carded: Nick Hagadone, Rich Hill, Brandon Lyon, Jamey Carroll, Scott Hairston, Joey Terdoslavich

**Waiver Wire:**                      **Cut:**                                      **Claim:**

**Mid-season Trades:**              **Added:**                                      **Removed:**



### OFFENSIVE STRATEGY:

**Pinch-hitting:** There are a lot of mix-and-match positions on this team, and more than enough games coverage, so make moves freely. Be judicious in using Wright/Tulowitzki/C. Gonzalez off the bench (i.e. game-winning situations only), but that still leaves you with Ruf/Davis, Gomes, and A-Rod as possible PH options.

**Pinch-running:** Not a strength of the team: Hechavarria and Kelly can give a Spd upgrade, but not good SBAs.

**Steal:** We have a number of guys who can pick their spots to run, generally in 5<sup>th</sup> inning or later. **Check H&R first before 7<sup>th</sup> inning!!**

- Gonzalez, Murphy and Wright can steal anytime after 5<sup>th</sup>, score -2 to +3, 0 or 1 out, when SSN > 27. Limit one attempt per series.
- Anyone else can steal as tying/lead run in 7<sup>th</sup> or later, 0 out, SSN 28 or greater. Limit once per player per series.

**Hit & Run:** Not a strength this year. **Batters:** Wieters, Murphy, Rodriguez, Davis (do not H&R with Votto, though he is eligible). **Runners:** any runner with adjusted SSN over 21 and SBAs remaining. H&R any inning, 0 or 1 out, pitcher CTL -14 or better (no W in BBW).

**Sacrifice:** Generally only the #9 spot in the lineup will sacrifice. They can sacrifice in the following conditions: (DON'T SQUEEZE!)

- ANY inning if 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> 0 out, score -2 or better.
- 6<sup>th</sup> or later if 2<sup>nd</sup> only, 0 out, score -2 or better.
- 6<sup>th</sup> or later, 1<sup>st</sup> only, 0 out, and H&R/steal not in order., score -1 to +2

**Baserunning:** Generally, go with 28 or more chances, hold 19 or less. Otherwise see Adams Tables. With 3/4/5 in lineup due up next, add 2 to all needed chances. With 8/9 batters up, subtract 3. With two outs, score on 11 chances or more. **Computer game: go when the announcer says the runner is "well around" the base, hold when runner is "rounding" the base. When runner is "around" the base, try to score:**

- with 0 out only if (OF Arm - Runner Speed) < 15
- with 1 out if (OF Arm - Runner Speed) < 25
- 2 out if (OF Arm - Runner Speed) < 30.

### DEFENSIVE STRATEGY:

**Defensive replacements:** after POR bats in top 7<sup>th</sup>, score +1 to +4: (any fielder to be replaced can stay in another inning if due up in the 8<sup>th</sup>)

- Goins (or Kelly if Goins unavailable) to 2B for Murphy
- Kelly replaces any OF1, usually in LF.

**Outfield throws:** Throw for lead runner if < 34 chances. Otherwise hold trailing runners. Do not throw for lead runner if he is not tie/lead run, and other runner's chances are 5+ lower. In 7<sup>th</sup> or later, score +1/-2, always throw for lead runner. Always hold trailing runner if tying run (i.e. POR +2). **Computer game: throw for lead runner UNLESS "well around" and is non-slow; or trailing runner is tying run.**

**Infield In:** Three cases:

- Runner on 3rd only: 0 or 1 out, 6<sup>th</sup> or later, POR +1 to -4.
- Runners on 1st and 3rd: 8<sup>th</sup> or later, 0 out, POR 0 to -4
- 2nd & 3rd or bases full: only if winning run on 3rd, 9<sup>th</sup> or later, 0 or 1 out. (1 out, bases full, play deep if batter has 2+ 24s)

**Pitch from stretch with runner on 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Only if game within one run in 8<sup>th</sup> or later, adj. SSN > 11, and two outs.

**Hold runner on 1st:** Always with PR hitter up. Otherwise, only if score is +/-3, and adj. SSN > 22.

**Intentional walk:** 8<sup>th</sup> or later, Possum -2 to 0, 1st is open, and it makes sense (i.e. enough inferior batters coming up to end inning). If IBB will load bases, pitcher must have +16 control or better.

**Steal throws:** Always throw on single steal unless effective SSN is 36 or higher. Throw for lowest SSN on multiple steals, except throw for lead runner if tying/winning run in 7<sup>th</sup> or later regardless of SSN.

### MANAGING THE PITCHING STAFF:

**Removing Starters:** the rotation is diminished from prior years, so will require more active management. The bullpen is very deep, so they should be in when the game is on the line.

**For all SP:** Pull in the 6<sup>th</sup> if the tying run reaches base, or if any two runners reach with score -3/+3. If they escape the 6<sup>th</sup> but the heart of your lineup or an unfavorable platoon situation looms in the 7<sup>th</sup> inning and it's +3/-3, pull to start the inning. Don't let the starters dig a hole after the 6<sup>th</sup>, basically.

**Using the Bullpen:** This is a deep and diverse collection of arms and grades, so hopefully there is an alternative for most if not all situational needs here.

**Closer:** Luis Avilan. Strictly a 9<sup>th</sup>-inning option, only in save situations. His short fatigue (5) will preclude him from entering in the 8<sup>th</sup> for 4-5 out saves, but he should be used in tie games in 9<sup>th</sup> or later. And if the handedness of your lineup dictates that the LH Avilan be used in the 8<sup>th</sup>, leaving one of the RH setup guys to close in the 9<sup>th</sup>, that's fine.

**Primary setup:** Scheppers and Benoit are twin 18\* RHP with good peripherals. Ideally, they work in the setup role for 4-5 outs on alternating days. It's ok to use both in a game from time to time, but the outings should be shorter in that scenario. Basically, they get used to get out of trouble in the 7<sup>th</sup>, and to get through the 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Middle:** This will be a rotating cast of Ryan Cook, Joe Smith, Ernesto Frieri, Danny Farquhar, and Jeremy Affeldt. Three of the five should be active in any month. When Affeldt is up, he is the only LH option in this crew, so should be spotted appropriately.

**Mop/long man:** We're not really carrying one to start the year, so just let the middle-men absorb innings in blowouts, and spread the work around.

**CONCLUSION:** That's it from Portland. Hopefully this team is fairly straightforward to manage. **Good luck to all!**