

Ownership Control Shift on the Horizon for Pirates

Written by The Staff
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Today, an official request of change control regarding the ownership of the Pirates occurred, and will be voted on at the ownership meetings scheduled for Jan. 18th.

As the [press release from the Pirates reads](#) :

Pirates CEO **Kevin McClatchy** and Chairman of the Board **Robert (Bob) Nutting** have requested that an official "change of control" within the Pirates ownership group be approved by Major League Baseball. Control of the Pirates will change from Kevin McClatchy to Bob Nutting, pending approval by MLB Owners.

Mr. McClatchy, as the club's CEO, remains responsible for the day-to-day operations of the organization. As Chairman of the Board and control person for the team, Mr. Nutting's role is to provide strategic leadership for the organization.

"I am deeply and resolutely committed to the success of the Pittsburgh Pirates both on and off the field. I understand how important the Pirates are to the people of this region and I share in their passion to see this team succeed," Mr. Nutting said. "Kevin was very supportive of this change of control, and it should provide absolute clarity for our fans regarding the ownership structure of the team."

The shift brings the Nutting family, and associates through the Nuttings' Ogden Newspapers, Inc., into more power within the organization. The Pirates also announced the addition of two members to the organization's Board of Directors, William (Bill) Nutting, VP of Ogden Newspapers, Inc. and Duane Wittman, CFO of Ogden Newspapers, Inc. They join Bob Nutting (Chairman), Kevin McClatchy, G. Ogden Nutting and Don Beaver on the Pirates Board of Directors. The expansion brings the total number of seats on the Board to six, each representing one vote.

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Mr. Nutting becomes the sixth principal owner in franchise history. The previous principal owners of the Pirates were: Barney Dreyfuss (1900 - 1932), Bill Benswanger (1932 - 1946), John Galbreath (1946 - 1985), Pittsburgh Associates (1985 - 1996) and Kevin McClatchy (1996 - 2007).