

TOMAHAWK EAST LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING
RAILWAY BAR & GRILL, SLEEPY EYE
Sunday, January 31, 2010

The annual meeting of the Tomahawk East League was called to order at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, January 31, 2010 at the Railway Bar & Grill in Sleepy Eye by President Myron Seidl. Roll call was taken with all 12 teams present.

The minutes from the Tomahawk East roster meeting of June 29, 2009 were read by League Secretary-Treasurer Terry Helget. Motion by Leon Hillesheim of Leavenworth, 2nd by Al Flor of New Ulm to accept the minutes of June 29, 2009. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by League Secretary-Treasurer Terry Helget. An ending balance of \$3.64 as of December 31, 2009 was reported. Motion by Mikale Gustafson of Hanska, 2nd by John Branstad of St. James to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Myron Seidl then reviewed some of the highlights from the most recent MBA board minutes.

Tony Stadtherr gave a brief recap of the 2009 TEL All Star Game held in Gibbon. He didn't have any financial figures, but he stated it was a success for Gibbon Baseball.

Myron Seidl congratulated both Hanska and Lamberton for their fine play in the 2009 State Amateur Baseball Tournament. He thanked them for representing our league well.

Hanska then expressed interest in remaining a member of the Tomahawk East League even though the current by laws of the League state that all members must be classified as Class C by the MBA. Since Hanska took second place in the 2009 State Class C Amateur Tournament, the MBA automatically reclassified Hanska as Class B for a minimum of two years beginning in 2010. A motion was made by Bruce Woitas of Sleepy Eye, 2nd by Leon Hillesheim of Leavenworth to change the Tomahawk East League By Laws to read:

“If any active league member is reclassified to Class B status by the MBA, it may petition the League to remain an active member of the TEL for two seasons with a majority vote of the remaining teams of the Tomahawk East League. If after two seasons, the team has not been reclassified to Class C status by the MBA, the League will reassess said team's status within the league and by a majority vote may revoke said team's membership from the Tomahawk East League.”

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was then made by John Branstad of St. James, 2nd by Bruce Woitas of Sleepy Eye to allow Hanska to remain in the Tomahawk East League for two years (2010 & 2011), after which time the League will reassess Hanska's position. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Steve Kloeckl of Searles, 2nd by Brian Mathiowetz of Stark to keep league dues at \$50 for regular members in 2010. Motion carried.

Motion by Derrick Jenniges of Lamberton, 2nd by Steve Helget of Springfield to keep 2010 admission prices at \$3 for adults and \$2 for students aged 17 and under which is what they were last year. It is assumed children under the age of 6 or so who are not in school would be free. Motion carried.

Spouse passes for 2010 were approved with a motion by Tony Stadtherr of Gibbon, 2nd by Derrick Jenniges of Lamberton. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued regarding rainouts and suspension of play. A motion was made by Bruce Woitas of Sleepy Eye, 2nd by Steve Kloeckl of Searles that the Tomahawk East League rules be revised to read that "Any regular season game interrupted by rain or outside force before becoming an official game, shall be suspended and resumed from the point of interruption at a later date until gaining complete game status according to Official Baseball Rules (this is a minimum of five innings). Any league playoff game interrupted by rain or other outside force shall be suspended and resumed at the point of interruption at a later date until nine innings (seven innings if the mercy rule is in effect) have been completed." In essence, no interrupted games will be started over because they didn't reach official game status according to Official Baseball Rules. Motion carried.

The League Directory was updated for 2010.

A motion was made by Leon Hillesheim of Leavenworth, 2nd by Mikale Gustafson of Hanska for teams to continue to use either Diamond D-1 Pro, Wilson A1010, or Rawlings R100HS baseballs for the 2010 season. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Steve Helget of Springfield, 2nd by Leon Hillesheim of Leavenworth to spend \$75 on an ad in the 2010 MBA Handbook. Motion carried.

Myron asked Bruce Woitas of South Central Umpires Association if the umpire group had set any prices for 2010. Bruce indicated the umpires have yet to meet for 2010 and could not give an indication as to what rates might be in 2010.

Myron asked the team representatives if they knew of any new advertisers for either the poster or pocket schedules. By general consensus, poster ads will remain at \$70 and pocket schedule ads will remain at \$60.

A motion was made by Tony Stadtherr of Gibbon, 2nd by Bob VanHee of Redwood Falls to begin the 2010 season on Sunday, May 9, 2010, and end on Sunday July 25, 2010. Motion carried. Teams who wish to start their seasons before May 9th may still do so however.

Discussion on an All Star Game in 2010 was tabled.

The teams voted 6-5 (Hanska was left out since they will be playing in Class B sectional play) to petition the MBA Board to allow our league to remain Region 2C for 2010 and NOT be split up.

A motion was then made by Derrick Jenniges of Lambertton, 2nd by Brian Mathiowetz of Stark to form three divisions in 2010. Motion carried by an 8-3 vote.

Divisions for 2010 were set up as follows using the final league records from 2009. (Ties were broken based on tied teams being seeded based on how far they advanced in the playoffs in 2009. Springfield won a coin flip over Searles because both teams finished 11-11 in 2009 league play and were eliminated in the first round of league playoffs):

American

1 Hanska
6 Stark
7 St. James
12 Gibbon

National

2 Sleepy Eye
5 Essig
8 Springfield
11 New Ulm Brewers

Patriot

3 Lambertton
4 Leavenworth
9 Searles
10 Redwood Falls

After nominations for President, Bruce Woitas of Sleepy Eye made a motion, 2nd by Steve Helget of Springfield to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Myron Seidl for President. Motion carried. Myron Seidl is President for 2010.

After nominations for Vice President, Bob VanHee of Redwood Falls made a motion, 2nd by Al Flor of New Ulm to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Ralph Zwaschka for Vice President. Motion carried. Ralph Zwaschka is Vice President for 2010.

After nominations for Secretary-Treasurer, Bruce Woitas of Sleepy Eye made a motion, 2nd by Brian Mathiowetz of Stark to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Terry Helget for Secretary-Treasurer and that his salary for 2010 remain at \$200. Motion carried. Terry Helget is Secretary-Treasurer for 2010.

Herb Schaper of New Ulm Sports Central web site invited all team representatives to an electronic scorebook seminar to be held at New Ulm Civic Center on Saturday, March 27.

The scheduling meeting of the Tomahawk East League was set for Sunday, March 21, 2010 at the Railway Bar & Grill in Sleepy Eye at 3:30 p.m.

Motion by Leon Hillesheim of Leavenworth, 2nd by Derrick Jenniges of Lamberton to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Helget
Secretary-Treasurer