

TOMAHAWK EAST LEAGUE SCHEDULING MEETING
RAILWAY BAR & GRILL, SLEEPY EYE
Sunday, March 2, 2014

The scheduling meeting of the Tomahawk East League was called to order at 2:05 p.m. on Sunday, March 2, 2014 at the Railway Bar & Grill in Sleepy Eye by President Myron Seidl. Roll call was taken with all teams present.

The minutes from the February 9, 2014 Tomahawk East annual meeting were read by League Secretary-Treasurer Terry Helget. A motion was made by Steve Kloeckl of Searles, 2nd by Mikale Gustafson of Hanska to accept the minutes of February 9, 2014. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was presented by League Secretary-Treasurer Terry Helget. An ending balance of \$926.96 was reported. A motion was made by Brian Mathiowetz of Stark, 2nd by David Krause of St. James to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

2014 MBA Handbooks were distributed to each team. MBA Acknowledgment forms were also signed by each team and collected by league secretary Terry Helget.

Bruce Woitas of South Central Umpires said that their group has not yet met for 2014. He stated SCUA would meet on March 23. He wasn't sure if rates would stay the same as last year or not. In 2013, rates were \$150 for league games, \$160 for league playoff games and \$170 for regional games for two umpires.

Discussion on an All Star Game for 2014 ensued. Myron reported that Ralph Zwaschka has been in contact with representatives from the Gopher and Corn Belt Leagues about the possibility of matching up All Stars from either league to play All Stars from the Tomahawk East League. Ralph has already heard from the Gopher League that they aren't interested at this time, but Mike Nagel of the Corn Belt League thought there might be a chance an arrangement could be made between the Corn Belt and Tomahawk East Leagues for 2014. As such, this item of discussion was tabled until the roster meeting in June to allow Ralph more time to talk to Mike. In the event the Corn Belt League declines our offer, both Gibbon and Searles expressed some interest in hosting an All Star Game with All Stars from the Tomahawk East League playing against each other similar to years past possibly on Tuesday, July 1, 2014 in Searles.

Significant discussion ensued as to how to best split up into divisions with 11 teams (if at all) for 2014. A few proposals were brought up at the annual meeting in February including no divisions at all leading to an 8-team, double elimination regional tournament or splitting into one 5-team division and one 6-team division which would lead to a 6-team, single round robin regional tournament like the past two years. After weighing the pros and cons of both of these proposals came a third proposal from David Krause of St. James whereby the league would not split into divisions and would grant the team with the best league record in 2014 an automatic berth in the regional tournament and have the other 10 teams "play into" a 6-team, single round robin tournament by playing a best of three series to get in. The #2 seed would play the #11 seed, the #3 seed would play the #10 seed and so on. After more discussion after hearing this third option, a paper ballot was taken with 8 votes for this third proposal, 2 votes for the 8-team regional format with no divisions and one vote for two divisions leading to a 6-team regional.

As a result, the Tomahawk East League will not be split into divisions for 2014. As mentioned above, the team with the best league record will receive an automatic berth into the 6-team, single round robin Region 2C Tournament. Best of three series commencing on Friday, July 25, Sunday, July 27 and Tuesday, July 29 (if necessary) will be played by seeds determined by each team's 2014 Tomahawk East League record--#2 vs. #11, #3 vs. #10, #4 vs. #9, #5 vs. #8 and #6 vs. #7. The higher seed will host Games 1 & 3 in each series and the lower seed will host Game 2 of each series unless another arrangement is made by mutual agreement of both teams. Tiebreakers to determine seeds for the league playoffs and regions will be 1) Head-to-head if two teams tied. If three or more teams are tied, then combined record versus the other teams tied with. 2) Total number of wins by teams the tied teams defeated during the regular season. 3) Each tied team's record versus individual teams, starting with the top of the regular season league standings and moving down. 4) Runs allowed versus the other tied team(s). 5) Run differential versus the other tied team(s). 6) If these five tiebreakers still fail to break the tie, a coin flip will be used. Each winner of these five playoff series will advance to the regional tournament along with the #1 seed whereby the three highest seeds entering the regional tournament would receive three home games out of the initial five games and the other three teams would receive two home games. Other logistical concerns of this regional tournament will be decided by the regional officers.

By a 6-5 vote, it was determined the six teams heading to regions will draft one pitcher from the five teams who didn't qualify for the regional tournament in the order of their seed based on their 2014 league record. The four teams who advance to the State Tournament will then draft two additional pitchers one at a time alternately based on their seed heading into the State Tournament from the remaining seven teams from the Tomahawk East League who did not qualify for State.

League President Myron Seidl presented the proposed 2014 Tomahawk East League schedule to the teams. The schedule was reviewed with each team making necessary adjustments. Myron will now draw up the official 2014 schedule and get the schedules to the printers as he has done in the past.

The roster meeting of the Tomahawk East League was tentatively set for Monday, June 23, 2014, at the Railway Bar & Grill in Sleepy Eye at 7:00 p.m.

By general consensus, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Helget
Secretary-Treasurer