

TOMAHAWK EAST LEAGUE SPECIAL MEETING
RAILWAY BAR & GRILL, SLEEPY EYE
Monday, May 23, 2011

A special meeting to determine the status of the New Ulm Brewers (who were reclassified to Class B by the MBA at their meeting on May 14, 2011) within the Tomahawk East League was called to order at 7:35 p.m. on Monday, May 23, 2011 at the Railway Bar & Grill in Sleepy Eye by President Myron Seidl. Roll call was taken with all teams present except St. James. Also in attendance were MBA President John Richter of Granite Falls and MBA Vice President Fred Roufs of Mankato.

The minutes from the March 20, 2011 Tomahawk East scheduling meeting were read by League Secretary-Treasurer Terry Helget. A motion was made by Brian Mathiowetz of Stark, 2nd by Derrick Jenniges of Lamberton to accept the minutes of March 20, 2011. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report would have been presented by League Secretary-Treasurer Terry Helget had he remembered to bring the League checkbook. A quick check of the balance when Helget got home showed an ending balance of \$432.49.

League President Myron Seidl then briefed the rest of the league that the New Ulm Brewers were reclassified to Class B by the MBA Board after it was learned by the MBA that the Brewers signed seven ballplayers who had played with the New Ulm Kaiserhoff who were a Class B team in 2010. The Kaiserhoff had petitioned the MBA in November, 2010, to be reclassified to Class C status because some or all of these seven players were either going to be leaving the state, retiring or playing elsewhere and therefore would not be a competitive Class B team. The MBA agreed to move the Kaiserhoff to Class C status with the information presented along with 10 other MBA teams. It was noted by the MBA at their November meeting, however, that all teams, specifically those that were dropped down to Class C, were advised the MBA Board would be reviewing rosters and player movement during the 2011 season and beyond to determine if the team were to be reclassified to Class B.

Since the New Ulm Brewers have been reclassified to Class B for the 2011 season at the MBA Board Meeting of May 14, 2011, the Brewers were automatically removed from the Tomahawk East League (TEL) as the TEL rules and by-laws require members of the League to be Class C teams. Citing a change to TEL by-laws in 2010, however, the Brewers petitioned the League to remain an active member of the League assuming a majority of the remaining teams vote in favor of keeping the Brewers in the League. After this petition was received by the Brewers, the representatives of the New Ulm Brewers were asked to leave the room. After much discussion amongst the remaining teams, it was decided in a motion by Brian Mathiowetz of Stark, 2nd by Steve Kloeckl of Searles to accept the New Ulm Brewers back into the TEL until the end of the 2011 regular season with all games played between the Brewers and other league members counting in the standings and also counting toward a player's four-game playoff eligibility requirement. Also, all games played between the Brewers and other league members in 2011 will count towards seedings to determine 2012 divisions. A paper ballot was distributed passing the motion by a unanimous 10-0 vote in favor. Therefore, the Brewers will remain a member of the TEL through the end of the 2011 regular season. The TEL will reassess the Brewers' status before the 2012 season as to whether to allow the Brewers back into the Tomahawk East League for the 2012 season assuming the Brewers would like to re-join the league in 2012.

The New Ulm Brewer representatives were then invited back into the room and told of the League's decision.

Fred Roufs of the MBA Board then mentioned to the TEL that he has been promoting a proposal to perhaps introduce another class of amateur baseball in the state. So far this proposal is in its infancy stages and hasn't gained much steam as of yet.

Dave Darr of Redwood Falls then made a motion, 2nd by Mikale Gustafson of Hanska to use the same playoff format as 2010 whereby the #1 seeds will host the #4 seeds and the #2 seeds will host the #3 seeds in a two out of three format in both the American and National Divisions to send two teams from each of these two divisions to the Region 2C tournament. In the Patriot Division (where the Brewers reside), the other three teams will play a double-elimination format to send one additional team to the Region 2C tournament to make the Region 2C tournament a five-team tournament to send two teams to State. This motion carried 9-1 with Stark casting the dissenting vote. Official playoff dates will be decided at the roster meeting in June.

Each team's current league record was reviewed and make-up dates were discussed.

The roster meeting of the Tomahawk East League was set for Monday, June 20, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. at the Railway Bar & Grill in Sleepy Eye.

Motion made by Mikale Gustafson of Hanska, 2nd by Bruce Woitas of Sleepy Eye to adjourn. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Helget
Secretary-Treasurer