

TOMAHAWK EAST LEAGUE
FALL MEETING
THE DAWG HAUS BAR AND GRILL, SLEEPY EYE, MN
Wednesday, November 29, 2023

The fall meeting of the Tomahawk East League was called to order at 7:07 p.m. on Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at The Dawg Haus in Sleepy Eye by League President Myron Seidl. Roll call was taken with all teams present.

The minutes from the roster meeting were distributed by League Secretary-Treasurer Marty Brandl. A motion was made by Derrick Jenniges of Lamberton, 2nd by Al Flor of New Ulm to accept the minutes from July 24, 2023. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by League Secretary-Treasurer Marty Brandl with a balance of \$83.64 reported. All deposits have been made and all bills paid for 2023. A motion was made by Scott Salfer of Sleepy Eye, 2nd by Steve Helget of Springfield to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

President Seidl and Secretary-Treasurer Brandl shared several items from the MBA board, including proposed handbook updates, possible adjustments to the team classification criteria, and a new MBA website which is replacing ScoreMonster. The 2024 season will be played with the current two class system. Changes, if any, will be implemented for the 2025 season. Marty will send the November minutes from the MBA, with links to the information shared, to all teams for their perusal and feedback. Reps were encouraged to share feedback directly with MBA board members or pass thoughts on to Marty who will be attending the February 10, 2024 MBA board meeting in St. Cloud.

Representatives from St. James shared a presentation expressing their desire to rejoin the Tomahawk East League. Their team last played in the league in 2018 before folding. They have 22 players currently committed to playing. Most of the players (18) are no longer eligible to play Legion baseball and so would be reliable participants for the amateur team. Doug Jones and Jared Schwanz will be serving as managers for the team. They will be called the St. James A's. Al Flor of New Ulm made a motion, 2nd by Chris Koob of Hanska to accept St. James as the 13th team in the Tomahawk East League. Motion carried. They will be on a two-year probation as is customary for new teams joining the league. Secretary-Treasurer Brandl will work with their representatives to educate them on registration with the MBA, roster, contracts, and releases.

Discussion ensued about options for the 2024 regular season schedule. Teams voted with the following options: 12 games, 16 games, 17/18 games, or 24 games. A 16-game regular season schedule was the top vote getter with the following results - 16 games: 7 votes, 17/18 games: 5 votes, 24 games: 1 vote. A motion was made by Terry Helget of Essig, 2nd by Scott Salfer of Sleepy Eye to have a 16 game schedule for the next 3 seasons, formatted as follows: 12 games (one each against the other 12 teams, 6 home and 6 road) plus 4 additional games (2 home and 2 road at the opposite site of the teams' other game, randomly drawn for 2024, then rotated with 4 different teams in 2025 and the final 4 teams in 2026, so each team will play all 12 other teams twice over the course of 3 years).

Region 2C Commissioner Marty Brandl presented plaques to the 3 Tomahawk East League teams who participated in the 2023 State Tournament: Courtland, New Ulm, and Stark. Brandl expressed his thanks to those who responded to the region tournament survey. He will take those responses into consideration and present the league with a proposed tournament bracket and rules for 2024 at the January meeting. Brandl shared two proposed changes to the tournament: moving the first Wednesday night games to the high seed to try to boost attendance, rather than making both teams travel to a neutral site. Secondly, he will work to put together a tournament program and sponsors with the goal of paying for the umpires and increasing the game shares for the tournament.

President Seidl was in contact with the Corn Belt League to begin planning for the 2024 All-Star Game. Several sites around the Tomahawk East were offered at which to play the game. Isaac Jenniges of Lamberton, 2nd by John Giefer of Courtland made a motion to have Essig host this year's All-Star Game on Saturday, July 13, 2024. Motion carried.

The annual meeting of the Tomahawk East League was set for Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 7pm at The Dawg Haus in Sleepy Eye.

Motion made by Isaac Jenniges of Lamberton, 2nd by Jake Mielke of Sleepy Eye to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marty Brandl
Secretary-Treasurer