

7/17/10 MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Board Athmann's Inn, Bird Island, MN Saturday, July 17, 2010

Meeting called to order by President Richter at 1:00 PM

Roll call showed all Directors present

Motion Brennan, seconded by Kreger, carried, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as mailed.

There were 12 dedicated baseball people in attendance.

The first order of business was to address the arbitration hearing from Lake City. The Twin Rivers League had sanctioned the Lake City Serpents on the grounds that Lake City had signed Kelby Halling to a contract while he was still under contract with the Rochester Royals dating back to June, 2009. Kelby Halling, subsequently then signed a contract with Lake City on June 1, 2010 and played with them prior to securing a release from Rochester. Lake City was appealing the Twin Rivers decision to make Kelby Halling and Lake City ineligible for post season play. They were there to present their case to overturn the decision to allow both Kelby Halling and the Lake City Serpents to continue to play the remainder of the 2010 season. Robin Gwaltney presented on behalf of Tom Gwaltney, Manager, Lake City Serpents and acting Manager of the team, Scott Gwaltney. Robin gave an overview of the situation stating that no protest had ever been filed with the league and cited that the league roster meeting held on June 29, 2010 was mismanaged. She also stated that the rosters were never approved for any of the teams in the Twin Rivers League. She made note that Kelby Halling had never signed a contract with the Rochester Royals and that the signatures on the Lake City contract dated June 1, 2010 did not match the signatures on the contract with the Rochester Royals on June 15, 2009. She indicated that she felt that someone had forged Kelby's signature on the Rochester Royals contract. She also indicated that she had spoken with someone at the Rochester Police Department and they had indicated that the two signatures were not the same. As a result, she felt that there was no reason for Kelby to secure a release as he had according to Lake City never signed an MBA contract. Robin also indicated that she was willing to take the matter to an expert specializing in forgery and pay \$595 to prove the signatures were not the same.

It was then requested that Kelby Halling come before the Board and was accompanied by his father, David Halling. Fred Roufs requested if he could see Kelby's drivers' license, which he presented to the members of the board. The license reflected his parents address of 2620 26th Avenue SE, Rochester, MN 55904. After reviewing the license, Dave Hartmann, asked Kelby where he lived on March 15, 2010. Kelby responded that he lived with his girlfriend and then stated that he lived with his brother in Rochester. He was then asked when he moved from his parents address and if he was paying rent and he stated "no". He was asked why he moved in with his brother and Kelby stated "so he could play baseball". He was questioned as to why he had not changed his license or if he any other documentation, ie; tax returns, mail, etc. to support that he truly had changed his residence. He stated that he did not have any evidence to support him living there. The board then asked Kelby if he had signed the contract with Rochester in 2009 and stated that he never recalled signing anything with the Rochester Royals. He did indicate that he had a phone conversation with Dan Hoefs, his high school coach and the manager of the Rochester Royals on or about May 18, 2010. He verified that Dan had called him to advise him of the various radius rules, but, he did not recollect Dan Hoefs stating that he needed a release and that he was under contract with the Rochester Royals.

At this point, President Richter called upon the representatives of the Twin Rivers League. Bernie Carlson, Vice President, Jarvis Anderson, Secretary/Treasurer, and Andy Johnson, a former President of the Twin Rivers League came forward and presented a chronological perspective of what transpired starting on or about June 20, 2010. Bernie Carlson read through the details starting with the fact that Pine Island had called and stated that Lake City had an illegal player that was still under contract with the Rochester Royals and had never been released. At that point Bernie indicated that he called Fred Roufs, MBA Director, and asked for direction on what and how to proceed. Bernie then called Jarvis Anderson and requested copies of the contract from Lake City and the Rochester Royals to compare signatures. They felt that both signatures were similar and thus pursued discussions with the Twin River League teams at the June 29, 2010 roster meeting. After much discussion and review, the Twin Rivers League voted a number of times and ultimately determined that Kelby Halling was ineligible and that as a result of playing with Lake City without getting a proper release from Rochester that Lake City would be barred from post season play, their roster would be frozen, and that none of their players could be drafted.

President Richter then requested that a letter that had been received from Dan Hoefs be read to all in attendance. Dave Hartmann then read his letter and presented the details of Hoefs' version of what had transpired with respect to

the contract signing, and discussions that he had with Kelby Halling.

It is duly noted that David Halling presented letters written on behalf of Kelby Halling.

President Richter then asked all parties to leave the room so that the board could review all details and make a ruling. After much discussion and reviewing all components of each presentation and details, Fred Roufs made a motion, second by Joe Kreger to make Kelby Halling ineligible/illegal for (A) Signing a contract with the Rochester Royals and then signing a contract with Lake City before getting a release. (B) By his own admission Kelby Halling could provide No proof of residency- no rent receipts, drivers' license with parents' address, no tax return indicating the address used for purposes of living within the 30 mile radius.

Lake City will be barred for the 2010 season, roster will be frozen, no players on the Lake City roster can be drafted. Lake City must come before the state board prior to 2011 season to be reinstated.

Kelby Halling suspended for the remainder of the season. Normally, this would include a thirteen month suspension for this violation but, the board will allow Kelby to come before the board and may be reinstated to be eligible to play in the 2011 season.

The board is recognizing the Rochester Royals release dated June 24, 2010 to be in force. We have also determined the Lake City contract to be null and void for purposes of resigning with any team for the 2011 season. As a result, Kelby will be allowed to sign with any MBA team within the 30 mile radius with respect to his residency on March 15, 2011.

The board voted 9-0 on this matter.

The parties were then asked to return to the meeting room at which time President Richter read the board decision. There were a few questions from Lake City at that time and the board noted that Lake City could play the remaining games on their schedule, but, would not be eligible for play beyond their final game scheduled with Red Wing on Wednesday, July 21, 2010

End of Arbitration Hearing

After a short break the board convened to discuss the remaining agenda items for the regularly scheduled meeting.

The board met with the tournament committees from Willmar, Bird Island and Spicer.

Items were discussed and explained on what each of the sites responsibilities would be throughout the tournament. The board inspected all three parks on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning and found them to be in great shape, with some final details to be completed at each respective park. All in all everything is coming together and everyone should look forward to an excellent tournament.

Admission for this years State Tournament will be as follows: (Adults) \$6.00, (Students) \$3.00 - (one game or all day). (Tournament pass) - 3 weekends (Adults) \$40.00, (Students) \$20.00. Passes can purchased only at the State Board Trailer.

For State Tournament information on game schedule, weather, scores, etc. you can contact the following numbers:

BIRD ISLAND State Board Trailer - 320-212-4776	320-212-4776
WILLMAR State Board Trailer - 320-212-4018	320-212-4018
SPICER State Board Trailer - 320-212-4773	320-212-4773

People to contact for broadcasting games:

BIRD ISLAND - Mike Nagel - 320-894-6149	320-894-6149
WILLMAR - Mary Sawatzky - 320-894-3808	320-894-3808
SPICER - Steve Rambow - 320-894-7702	320-894-7702

President Richter appointed Mike Nagel to the audit committee

Motion Barry, seconded Forsman, to uphold the Central Valley League ruling that Ben Knaus from Kimball be suspended for three league games for playing in a wood bat league in Oklahoma without MBA approval. Knaus and Kimball will be on probation for one year. Knaus must be in uniform and in dugout during suspension. Carried: 9-0

Motion Kreger, seconded Brennan, to suspend Ryan Bollinger for three league games for playing in two games with St. Bonifacious before his pro player questionnaire and contract were received by the State Secretary. He must be in full uniform and in the dugout during the suspension. Bollinger and St. Bonifacious will be on probation for one year. Carried: 9-0

Motion Roufs, seconded Rademacher, to approve the Pro Player Questionnaire of Todd Mathison - released by the St. Paul Saints on June 29, 2010. Todd signed with Dundas on June 29, 2010. Carried 9-0

Motion Barry, seconded Rademacher, to approve the Central Minnesota All Star Roster to play teams - USU, Team

Canada, and Team Taiwan. Players include: Ben Griffin, Zach Femrite, Darren Heying, Tim Burns, Pat De La Hunt, Scott Geiger, Kyle Gold, Brad Haag, Nate Hammers, Jeff Hille, Nate Hoelscher, Cory Hollenhorst, Chris Koenig,

Jon Nemeec, Mike Peschel, Jeremiah Piepkorn, Sam Radbill, Sam Rothstein, Luke Schumer, Chad Schwegel, Tim Scott, Drew Van Loy and Paul Schlagen. Carried 9-0

Motion Roufs, seconded Kreger to approve Le Sueur Braves to play Le Sueur Alumni. Carried 9-0

Motion Forsman, seconded Brennan, to approve the Class A Roster to play the US National Team. Players include: Erik Olsen, Arron Olson, Mike Lueck, Ted Pastoors, Matt Germar, Ben Schroeder, Nate Broehm, Brian Whinnery, Sean Lindstrom, Dan Miller, Carl Lottman, Owen Walker, Buzz Hannahan, Mike Kimlinger, Casey Garvin, Brashad Johnson, Nick Winecke, Jeff Ostrom, Dan Thompson, Chris Duda, Nick Bjerken, Ryan Sele, Matt McQuillen, Marley Thompson, Logan Bouts. Carried 9-0

Motion Brennan, seconded Kreger, to approve Travis Evgen to play for the Dubuque Snappers and return to Forest Lake Brewers for post season play, only if he meets his (4) game eligibility. Carried 9-0

It is duly noted that the MBA was notified regarding the following players returning:

Scott Leiser, returned to Lake Henry
Cody Conners, returned to New London Spicer
Cody Curry, returned to Miltona
Angel Talamantes, returned to Rochester Roadrunners
Matt Miller and Mitch Anderson, returned to Lake City Serpents
Erick Burch, returned to Rum River Bandits

Motion Barry, seconded Kreger, to approve the Cold Spring Springers to play the following teams: St. Paul Fire and the Cold Spring Silver Streaks
Huls and Hinckemeyer to play for Silver Streaks Carried 9-0

Motion Roufs, seconded Forsman, to approve the Minnetonka Millers to play the USA National Team Carried 9-0

Motion Rademacher, seconded Kreger, to approve the Tournament Sanction for the Moorhead Brewers 5/20/2011-5/22/2011 Carried 9-0

It is duly noted that the Nimrod Gnats submitted a check for \$50 for failure to sanction their tournament this year.

Motion Roufs, seconded Barry, to approve the Pro Player Questionnaire for Ashton Dorris - released by the St. Paul Saints. Dorris returns to play with the Mankato Mets. Carried 9-0

Motion Forsman, seconded Rademacher to uphold the 13-60 League suspension of Scott Robbins who was released in 2006 and played without resigning a new contract with Wells. Robbins was ruled ineligible and suspended for the remainder of the 2010 season. Wells will be barred for the rest of the 2010, their roster will be frozen and no players on the Wells roster in eligible to be drafted. Both Robbins and Wells team must come before the State Board to be reinstated for the 2011 season.

The Board also stated that the rules of conduct will again be enforced during the State Tournament. These rules will again be given to all team as they advance.

(Region-Section Commissioners) There are new State Tournament roster forms that can be downloaded on the MBA web site. These forms must be filled out completely and typed. Do not use old forms. (Commissioners) please check to see that forms are correct. (www.minnesotabaseball.org)

(Commissioners) must have team rosters before teams play their first game. Drafted players must be decided by midnight of the day section and region are completed. Send team rosters to state secretary before teams play in sections and regions.

The next meeting of the MBA will be Friday August 20th, 2010 (12:00pm) at Willmar Holiday Inn.

The board wishes all teams the best of luck in your league and Region/Section playoffs. See you at the State Tournament. The dates are August (20-22), (27-29), September (3-6).

Being no further business, motion Brennan, seconded Kreger, carrier, to adjourn at 4:20 pm

Dave Hartmann for Bob Zellmann - Secretary/Treasurer, MBA