

# DRS League Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2014 – Brewster's Bar & Grill in Veseli

Roll call was taken and all teams were represented.

Next was the Treasurer's Report. Chris Hertaus reported on upcoming expenses and expected revenues. The league is in solid financial shape heading into the Spring. Current balance is \$2,350.95. League dues of \$50 per team will be collected again in 2013.

## **Old Business**

There were some complaints about the region set up last year. After a brief discussion this issue was tabled until later in the meeting for the 2014 region tournament discussion.

There was a misunderstanding on the umpire booking for the 2013 All-Star game at Veseli. Veseli had to pay for two sets of umpires as a result. League voted to reimburse Veseli \$190 for extra costs.

## **Officer Election**

Next was the election of league officers. Jerry Walerius was re-elected President. Mike Sticha was also nominated, but withdrew his name. Chris Hertaus was re-elected Treasurer and unopposed. Sean O'Neill was re-elected Secretary and unopposed. These are one year terms. It was voted 13-0 by league members to rehire Mike Sticha as webmaster and player contract manager for 2014 at \$500.

## **New Business**

After discussion, league members voted to continue with three divisions by a 13-0 vote. The 2014 divisions will be set up as follows based on last year's final records:

Red: New Market, Lonsdale, Faribault, Webster and Elko (Class B)

White: St. Patrick, Prior Lake, Montgomery and Veseli

Blue: St. Benedict, New Prague, Union Hill and Shakopee

We will continue with a 23 game schedule - same as last year. Play will commence on Sunday April 27<sup>th</sup> and all games need to be completed by the end of the day on Sunday July 20<sup>st</sup>. Regions need to be finished by August 10<sup>th</sup>. State tournament begins August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Teams need to have their schedule requests submitted to Jerry Walerius by January 20<sup>th</sup>. Please try to be as accurate as possible with your initial requests. Changes after the schedule is made can be difficult.

League rosters, league meeting minutes and other league information including schedules and results will again be posted on the league web site. Mike Sticha, GM of the St. Patrick Irish, will maintain the web site. Mike encourages teams to submit team fundraising events and other info for posting.

Diamond baseballs were chosen as the league baseball. Cost is \$52.50 for new and \$37.50 for practice per dozen. The DRS will purchase game and practice balls from Nicklasson Athletic of New Ulm. All teams submitted orders to Jerry Walerius. Low seam baseballs may be used at this year's state tourney.

Aaron Worm of KCHK Radio gave a presentation on the station's interest in broadcasting DRS games this year. He outlined a possible scenario and asked for feedback. He also outlined the cost for sponsorship needed and asked for suggestions on businesses to contact to sponsor the broadcasts.

A discussion was held on the manager ejection policy for the DRS league. Policy reviewed, discussed and it was decided that no changes would be made at this time.

Admission for league games will remain at \$3 for an adult and \$1 for students.

Per our umpire contract with NW Umpires, there is no change in umpire fees for 2013.

A reminder: all player contracts must have the signing date **AFTER** the player's release date from any other contract.

DRS Schedule posters will be created again this year. Art Wann at Suel Printing in New Prague will be the contact person this year. A list of advertisers from last year to approach was created and given to Jerry Plambeck, Jerry Walerius, Greg Faue, Randy Gregor, Monte Hennen, Mike Sandman, Chris Hertaus, Todd Bergstrom, Terry Fredrickson and the Lonsdale representatives to contact. Ads will again be \$30 for a large and \$15 for a small. Please contact these advertisers, collect the fee and report back to Jerry Walerius in a timely fashion.

Teams submitted their updated contact information for publishing. Secretary O'Neill will forward to all teams.

There was an open discussion regarding the setup of the league and regional playoffs and draft. No decisions were made, but all agreed to set it up better than last year to maximize the draft value, attendance and overall interest for all teams in the post-season. It was noted that these decisions are made by the three divisional VP's. If teams have strong feelings, air them out with your VP. They are the ones that will set up the post season play. MBA has not made a final decision on whether 3 or 4 DRS teams will earn bids to the state tournament.

The All-Star game vs. River Valley will be held in Gaylord on July 11<sup>th</sup>. More details to come.

The next league meeting will be held in April. Final details on where and when will be sent out.

Divisional VP's were elected and will be: White – Johnny Johnson, Blue – Jerry Plambeck and Red – Todd Bergstrom. Again these gentlemen will set up the region playoffs for the league.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Sean O'Neill - DRS Secretary – 1/10/2014