

DRS Meeting Minutes

December 30, 2014

7pm Brewster's in Veseli, MN

Roll Call was taken by President Walerius. All teams were represented. Also in attendance were Chuck Kajer of the NP Times and several members of the Randolph Railcats.

Treasurer's Report was given by Chris Hertaus. Checkbook balance was \$3230.67. Upcoming annual bills \$1904.67 were stated. This will leave us with an anticipated balance of \$1,326.00. Motion to approve report was motioned by Webster and seconded by Montgomery. Approved 13-0.

Next topic was any Old Business. The region draft issue with St. Benedict having Faribault draft for them was brought up. Additionally some non-pitchers (non-draft list players) were drafted too. It will be put in future region by-laws that drafts must be conducted by participating teams and the players must come from the list of eligible players.

Next was the election of officers for 2015. President Walerius announced his retirement. He was given a plaque as thanks for his 25 years of service. He will stay involved with the league as a region commissioner and co-chair of New Prague's state tournament committee. Motion for salary increase of \$250 for President by Elko and seconded by Webster. Carried 13-0. Mike Sticha was nominated for President and with no other nominations he was elected by 13-0 vote. Sean O'Neill was unopposed and re-elected Secretary for 2015. A motion by Elko to increase salary to \$200 and seconded by Montgomery. Carried 13-0. Chris Hertaus was unopposed as Treasurer and reelected. A motion for salary increase to \$200 by Elko and seconded by Montgomery. Carried 13-0. Lastly Mike Sticha was unopposed as Web Master and Contracts Guru. He was reelected. His salary for this position will remain at \$500.

New Business was next up. Randolph Railcats of the CCVL were present and made a request for admission to the DRS. Speaking were representatives TJ Nordling and Scott Otte. They gave their history leading to this point and the positives they would bring to the league. After a Q & A and private discussion their request was denied on a 12-2 vote. Voting for were St. Benedict and New Prague. They would be considered again in future years should they make another request. Contact for Randolph is:

Scott Otte – Manager
scottotte_24@hotmail.com
507-291-1576

Discussion then turned to DRS League setup for 2015. After much discussion of division set-up, it was decided that a 23 game schedule and the DRS being set up as just one league would be the 2015 format. New Market motioned and was seconded by Montgomery. The motion carried on a 9-4 vote. Opposed were St. Patrick, Prior Lake, Union Hill and Webster. 2014 League standings were as follows:

1. E 10-2
2. NM 18-5
3. STP 18-5
4. STB 15-8
5. F 15-8
6. PL 14-9
7. UH 12-11
8. M 11-12
9. NP 10-13
10. L 7-16
11. SH 7-16
12. W 4-19
13. V 3-20

The season will begin on April 26th Sunday and must be completed by July 19th Sunday. Game times were discussed. Any 6:15pm start times must be agreed to by both teams. Teams without lights request cooperation on this as the gate and concessions greatly help their organizations.

Region set-up will be formalized after the State Board sets up final regions for the state tournament. At our April Meeting this will be formalized. This time & date is TBD, but will likely be in mid-April.

Scheduling requests should be submitted to Mike Sticha by January 7th. Please be as accurate and as specific as possible on your initial request. Adam Gill & Mike will complete the schedule ASAP. The schedule will be released by Feb 1st at the latest.

Next was a discussion on the By-Laws. The Ejection Policy was discussed and reviewed. After a high profile incident last year, it was determined to make ours more specific. A committee will review the RVL policy and make recommendations to the league for a vote at the April meeting. Terry Fredrickson - Elko and Mark Worm - Montgomery will be the co-chairs.

All teams are asked to check the link on our website for the by-laws and review before the next meeting. They need some updating. Mike Sticha and Sean O'Neill will also review. **One by-law that is instituted at this meeting by 9-3 vote is that the game time is the game time. If a team is short players, the game is to be forfeited.** Another is in regard to tie breakers in the standings. If more than two teams are tied in the standings, tie breaker number three will be the Zimanske Rule. This rule is in the current by-laws. Passed on a 13-0 vote.

Rosters have been expanded to 25 men all year long. No cuts need to be made. Continue to submit your roster information on the MBA website. List the college attended for players that **PLAYED** college baseball. Game scores should continue to be submitted on ScoreMonster.

Contracts – Remember the signing date should be after the release date for all contracts. These can be e-mailed to Mike Sticha. None before the March signing date!

Baseballs for 2015 were discussed. Teams can use high or low seam baseballs for 2015 regular season games, but cannot mix ball types during the game. For the playoffs teams must use the Rawlings low seam ball (State Tourney ball). This will allow teams to work through existing stock of baseballs. Passed on 13-0 vote. Teams submitted their orders for baseballs and Mike Sticha will order for the league.

- a. Diamond \$58/doz.
- b. Practice \$37.50/doz.
- c. Low Seam (Diamond) \$58 /doz
- d. Low Seam (Rawlings) \$55/doz

The All-Star Game will be hosted by the DRS on Friday July 10th. After presentations by Mark Worm and Charlie Lechtenberg, a vote of 9-4 gave Montgomery the honor of hosting the game over Faribault.

League Dues were raised to \$100 for 2015. Motioned by Montgomery and seconded by Shakopee. Passed on a 13-0 vote. Admission prices will remain \$3 for adult and \$1 for students.

Umpire rates are set for 2015. Teams were made aware that change may be on the way for 2016. A fee increase, a two umpire requirement or both may be instituted. Make your organizations aware.

2015 poster schedules were discussed. Managers were given names of businesses to contact and try to renew or find new sponsors. Get this information back to Mike Sticha by February 15th.

KCHK's coverage of last years' games especially the state tournament received favorable review. They will continue to cover games. 14+ games plus playoffs are expected. Please forward sponsor leads to Aaron Worm to help cover the cost of coverage.

The topics of post-season DRS Awards – such as MVP, Pitcher of the Year etc. were discussed. No appetite for this at this time.

The current DRS team contact list was e-mailed to all teams by Secretary O'Neill. Please respond ASAP with your teams updates/changes/deletions. Two contacts per team with phone, e-mail, and a mailing address are required. New manager for Montgomery will be Christian Anderson. New GM for Shakopee is Dave Pass. Field coach is Dick Steinhoff and ?? Hoffman. Welcome back to the league to all.

Chuck Kajer of the NP Times spoke. He appreciates the help of the teams in getting game recaps for the papers. He has added these duties since George Maxa's retirement, so prompt and accurate submissions are important. He will not call you for info. Remember: WINNING teams are to submit the game summaries.

The next meeting is TBD. It will likely be in mid-April.

Sean O'Neill was nominated to be the league VP for 2015 by New Prague. Seconded by St. Patrick and passed by 13-0 vote. He serves as a backup to President Sticha in league and region matters.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 pm.