

TOMAHAWK EAST LEAGUE MEETING
SLEEPY EYE BREWING COMPANY, SLEEPY EYE, MN
Wednesday, February 4, 2026

A meeting of the Tomahawk East League was called to order at 6:37 p.m. on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at Sleepy Eye Brewing Company in Sleepy Eye by President Al Flor. Roll call was taken with all teams present, except St. James.

The minutes from the Tomahawk East November meeting were emailed by League Secretary-Treasurer Marty Brandl. A motion was made by Sam Hansen of Essig, 2nd by Dusty Mangen of Stark to accept the minutes of November 12, 2025. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by League Secretary-Treasurer Marty Brandl. A current balance of \$1559.11 was reported. A motion was made by Scott Black of Fairfax, 2nd by Scott Salfer of Sleepy Eye to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Dusty Mangen of Stark, 2nd by Chase Meyer of Courtland for Sleepy Eye and New Ulm to host the 2026 Region 2C Tournament. It was noted that New Ulm is also hosting the State Legion Baseball Tournament. Al will work out a plan for any games that may need to be played at another site. The Corn Belt asked for the first tiebreaker to be league wins against Class A (2pts) and Class B (1pt) teams. After some discussion, a motion was made by Derrick Jenniges of Lamberton, 2nd by Jevan Richert of Leavenworth to approve the tournament rules with the adjusted first tiebreaker. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Steve Helget of Springfield, 2nd by Isaac Jenniges of Lamberton to set league dues at \$350 to cover umpire scheduling, website ad, paying Marty Brandl \$200 for maintaining the Tomahawk East League website: www.tomahawkeast.com, \$200 to reimburse him for website hosting and domain name and \$300 for the Secretary-Treasurer salary for 2026, and to secure sponsors, produce and distribute a poster schedule for the Tomahawk East League for 2026. Motion carried.

Team representatives were emailed a copy of proposed updates to the Tomahawk East League rules which hadn't been updated since 2013. Discussion about options for extra innings and how to handle interrupted games, led to agreement that the league would follow traditional baseball rules for extra innings and suspend/resume games that are interrupted before becoming official, as has been the league's practice for many years. A motion was made by Adam Slander of New Ulm, 2nd by Sam Hansen of Essig to accept all the changes to the league rules. Motion carried.

KNUJ radio representative Casey Lux shared his desire to promote the Tomahawk East League on the radio. Teams are encouraged to contact him if they would like to have a game. The cost to put a game on the air is \$600, but they would work together to secure ads so an association's cost would be less.

Al Flor reported that the South Central Umpires Association will be meeting on 2/15. He asked teams to let him know whether they would like one or two umpires scheduled for games. He did not anticipate an increase in this year's umpire charge and said that he has sufficient umpires to schedule two to cover games. Part of each team's league dues will pay \$200/team to compensate for umpire scheduling.

Secretary-Treasurer Brandl distributed sheets to all teams asking them to verify and update their league directory information, website sponsor ad, caps, logos, Twitter accounts and website addresses. Brandl will make necessary updates and distribute the league directory in addition to posting it on the league website. He also requested that teams send him any updated logos and/or graphics to be shared on the league website to aid in the promotion of our league. He noted there were many positive comments about the full color caps on the poster schedules.

Teams were reminded to use flat-seamed baseballs: Wilson A1010Pro, Diamond D-1 Pro LS, or Rawlings FSOLB baseballs for the 2026 season. Rawlings is the ball used by the MBA for the State Tournament.

Secretary-Treasurer Marty Brandl briefly discussed team rosters, contracts, and releases. Teams will be able to purge points between 3/15 and 4/14 to impact their 2027 classification. All players currently "property" of your

team are in the MBA website. Any player on a team's roster that is currently "Inactive" can be simply changed to "Active" to make them eligible to play. Teams were encouraged to pay special attention to their players with points and consider keeping them "Inactive" until you know for sure they will be playing to avoid unnecessary points for your team. Remember to update player experience for players who have graduated and gone on to play college baseball. Also, double-check that players marked as "exempt" are in the school district or city limits. Sometimes those boundaries aren't as obvious as one might think. If a player who played in 2024 or 2025 is going to be signed by a new team, they should show up in the Free Agents list. If you'd like to sign someone who has not played in several years, please talk to Marty to get all their paperwork to get them into the MBA system. Marty will communicate additional details coming from the MBA with teams prior to team registration and roster moves beginning.

Marty reminded teams to check out the MBA Handbook online. The proposed changes for 2026 are available in the November MBA meeting minutes and will be finalized at the February State Board meeting.

The Tomahawk East League will host the 2026 All-Star Game against the Corn Belt League due to their win in Stark in 2025. St. James will host the game on Saturday, July 11, 2026, at 5pm. The Tomahawk East All-Stars will be managed by Chase Meyer of Courtland and Al Flor of New Ulm. The managers were chosen due to Courtland and New Ulm finishing first and second in the regular season in 2025. Before this year's game, teams will be asked to submit their top 3 players. Then Meyer and Flor will construct the All-Star roster with each team having at least one representative.

Teams have been working on the 16-game 2026 Tomahawk East League schedule. The season will begin on Sunday, May 17 and end on Sunday, July 26 with Monday, July 27 available as a make-up date for postponements from 7/26 only. The setup of games is a 16 game schedule for 3 seasons (2026 is year #3), 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 a total of 4 times over the course of 3 years). It was also noted that non-league games against region opponents can be used for players to meet their four-game minimum, provided they are scheduled before May 15th. Teams were asked to complete their tweaks to the schedule by 2/15/26 so an accurate schedule can be posted online and to allow umpire scheduling to begin. Any changes to the schedule before or during the season should be communicated to Al and Marty.

The roster meeting of the Tomahawk East League was set for Wednesday, July 29, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Sleepy Eye Brewing Company. It was requested that a Zoom meeting option be provided for those who don't want to make the drive for what is typically a pretty short meeting. We'll see what we can do and communicate prior to the meeting.

A motion was made by Isaac Jenniges of Lamberton, 2nd by Sam Hansen of Essig to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marty Brandl
Secretary-Treasurer