



Annual Report

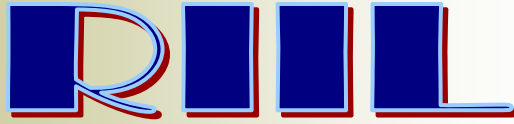
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Mission Statement

The Mission of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League is to provide educational opportunities for students through interscholastic athletics and to provide governance and leadership for its member schools in the implementation of athletic programs.





History

The Rhode Island Interscholastic League was established in 1932. It is a voluntary, private, incorporated, non-profit organization of principals who pledge their high schools and participants to follow the Rules and Regulations of the league.

There are fifty-five (55) public, private, and parochial high schools that make up the membership. These schools sponsor athletic activities in twenty-eight (28) sports. Over twenty thousand (20,000) young men and women compete annually in thousands of competitions.

The purpose of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League is to supervise and administer the athletic programs, contests, schedules and matters related to participating schools in the State of Rhode Island.

**Rhode Island
Interscholastic League
Organizational Chart**

Rhode Island Association of School Principals

Rhode Island Interscholastic League

Principals' Committee on Athletics

Member Schools	Standing Committees	Executive Director <i>Tom Mezzanotte</i>
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Assistant
Executive Director
Richard Magarian

Girls and Women In Sports	Sportsmanship	Waiver Hearing Committee	Eligibility	Sport Committees
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Sports Medical Advisory	Hall of Fame	Sports Officiating Committee	Finance
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GOVERNING PROCESS OF THE RIIL

The legislative body of the League is the Principals' Committee on Athletics, which consists of principals/assistant principals of the fifty-five (55) member high schools. The Committee meets on a monthly basis. All meetings are open to the public and anyone who wishes may attend.

Standing Committees are appointed by the Chairperson of the Principals' Committee on Athletics with the approval of the Principals' Committee on Athletics. Standing Committees are established for each sport. Others are established to address issues of general concern to the RIIL membership and to plan programs/activities for the members.

Membership on standing committees is open to superintendents, school administrators, athletic directors, coaches, game officials and physicians. Recommendations are made by these committees to help the Principals' Committee on Athletics set rules and regulations and to provide programs for its schools

SCHOOL	SCHOOL
Barrington	Narragansett
Bishop Hendricken	North Kingstown
Bishop Keough	North Providence
Burrillville	North Smithfield
Central	Our Lady of Fatima
Central Falls	Pilgrim
Chariho	Ponaganset
Classical	Portsmouth H.S.
Coventry	Prout
Cranston East	Providence Country Day
Cranston West	Rocky Hill
Cumberland	Rogers
Davies	St. Mary/Bay View
East Greenwich	St. Raphael
East Providence	Scituate
Exeter/West Greenwich	Shea
Feinstein School	Smithfield
Hope	South Kingstown
Johnston	Times ²
Juanita Sanchez Complex	Tiverton
LaSalle	Toll Gate
Lincoln H.S	Tolman
Lincoln School	Warwick Vets
Middletown	Westerly
Moses Brown	West Warwick
Mt. Hope	Wheeler
Mt. Pleasant	Woonsocket
Mt. St. Charles	

Rhode Island Interscholastic League

SPORTS	PARTICIPANTS
Baseball	1600
Basketball (Boys & Girls)	2692
Cross Country (Boys & Girls)	1451
Fast Pitch Ball	909
Field Hockey	631
Football	2776
Golf	540
Gymnastics	180
Ice Hockey (Boys & Girls)	897
Indoor Track (Boys & Girls)	2210
Lacrosse (Boys & Girls)	641
Outdoor Track (Boys & Girls)	2613
Slow Pitch Softball	198
Soccer (Boys & Girls)	2853
Swimming (Boys & Girls)	754
Tennis (Boys & Girls)	1596
Volleyball (Boys & Girls)	1384
Wrestling	849
Total:	24, 774

League Services to Member Schools

The Rhode Island Interscholastic League is a service organization providing its member schools with publications, training opportunities, recognition programs, tournaments, rules interpretation meetings, and other services that assist in the administration of interscholastic sports.

Communications

The League publishes or posts on its website:

Bulletin, published monthly.

Athletic Rules and Regulations, includes the bylaws and regulations for the RIIL.

Tournament Programs, to provide tournament fans with information about the teams participating in each League-sponsored tournament/meet.

Web Site, www.riil.org keeps member schools up to date on League activities, rules and events.

Recognition

The League sponsors the:

Hall of Fame, for the most distinguished individuals involved in high school fine arts and athletics.

Tournaments

The League:

Administers state tournaments in 28 athletic events for its member schools.

Assists the media outlets statewide in their coverage of high school sports.

Provides catastrophic insurance for every student, coach, and official that participates in a league-sponsored activity.



*Rhode Island Interscholastic League
Principals' Committee on Athletics*

2004-2005 Annual Report

It is indeed a pleasure for me to submit the Rhode Island Interscholastic League Principals' Committee on Athletics 2004-2005 Annual Report to the Rhode Island Principal's Association. I am honored to serve as the Executive Director and follow in the footsteps of Richard Lynch and Monsignor Robert Newbold, who have provided the leadership and dedication to our member schools and the student-athletes of Rhode I

I am excited and look forward to the challenges that this position presents. However, I recognize that one can not be successful and attain their goals unless they have the cooperation and assistance from others. With the help of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League staff, the Principals' Committee on Athletics, School Principals, Athletic Directors, Coaches, Officials and Volunteers we hope to maintain the mission and high standards that the RIIL has embodied for many years. Their hard work and service in advocating and supporting what is best for the student-athletes we serve, and their role in the success of the League is acknowledged and appreciated.

The Principals' Committee on Athletics, operating under its corporate title of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League, provides its member principals and their schools an opportunity to compete on a statewide basis in a sports program administered by principals. The League sports include Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Golf, Gymnastics, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Indoor and Outdoor Track, Soccer, Fast and Slow Pitch Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Volleyball, and Wrestling. In excess of twenty-four thousand (24,000) girls and boys on 891 individual school teams participated in the aforementioned sports offered by the League representing fifty-five (55) public, private, and parochial member schools.

sThe 2004-2005 school year has been a very busy one for the League staff and the Principals' Committee on Athletics. In addition to the monthly meeting(s) of the Committee, many standing committees and ad hoc committees have met throughout the year to deal with issues being addressed by the League.

The Waiver Request Hearing Committee heard a total of nineteen (19) waiver requests for eligibility issues such as transfer, eight-semester, age, academic eligibility, and foreign exchange. In addition, the Principals' Committee heard four (4) appeals of decisions rendered by the Waiver Request Hearing Committee. This has proved to be a very successful process for two reasons. It added another level for hearings, which allowed the unsuccessful applicant(s) to appeal to the Principals' Committee on Athletics. Secondly, it reduced the number of hearings conducted by the Principals' Committee on Athletics.

In September 2004, the Rhode Island Interscholastic League conducted its Annual Workshop for Principals/Assistant Principals, Athletic Administrators, and Secretaries/Clerks. The workshop was held at the Johnson and Wales Radisson Hotel in Warwick. The purpose of the program was to prepare for the upcoming school year. Many issues pertinent to supervising and administering high school athletic programs for the League's fifty-five (55) member schools were addressed. The Key-note Speaker was Julie A. Moore, Esquire. Ms. Moore spoke about the issues associated with "Sports and Hazing". The message she delivered was outstanding and had a great impact on the audience.

The Rhode Island Interscholastic League inducted ten (10) outstanding individuals into the Rhode Island Interscholastic League High School Athletic Hall of Fame – Class of 2005. The Hall of Fame is dedicated to preserving the colorful tradition of high school athletics in Rhode Island and seeks to highlight the past in order to insure a promising future for Rhode Island high school athletics. The ten (10) inductees were chosen after a two-level selection process involving the Hall of Fame Selection Committee and the Principals' Committee on Athletics. The inductees were: Pasquale J. Abbruzzi (posthumously); Robert Brooks; Alice Lenore Cranston; G. Gail Davis; Joseph P. Hassett; Frank E. Morrey, Jr. (posthumously); Ann H. Morris; Alfred Morro; and Haig Varadian. They were inducted on Wednesday, May 4, 2005 at the Quidnesset Country Club.

The 2003-2004 year marked the end of the four (4) year alignment for all Rhode Island Interscholastic League sports. As the 2004-2005 season began all sports participated in new alignments. The criteria for this alignment was developed by an alignment sub-committee of the Principals' Committee on Athletics. Part of the criteria stipulated a two year alignment, as opposed to four, a weighted win/loss percentage for the past four (4) years, enrollment and geography.

I want to express my sincere thanks to the Principals' Committee on Athletics, the League staff, the sport directors, and all the people who volunteer their services for their dedication, cooperation, and hard work. The success of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League is due to the efforts of these outstanding people.

The following administrators served on the Principals' Committee on Athletics during the 2004-2005 school year or a part of it:

John Gray, Chairperson

Elizabeth Marquis, Assistant Chairperson

Denise Boulé	Colleen Gribbin
Candace Caluori	Marie Johnson
Robert Cooney	Donald Kavanagh
John Craig	Robert Littlefield
Edward Daft	Dr. Elizabeth Mantelli Resigned Sept, 2004
Gerald Foley	Steven Knowlton Resigned Sept, 2004
Frederick Silva	Cheryl Gomes Appointed Oct 2004
Dan Warner	Appointed Oct 2004

Listed below is a list of issues/topics that were addressed by the Principals' Committee on Athletics, including, but not limited to:

1. Approved a change in the following RIIL Rules:

Article 16, Section (4C) as follows: *The home school should provide the services of a licensed doctor and/or a licensed athletic trainer at all football games.*

Eliminate Article 7, Section 5 – Rationale for All-Star and Out-of-Season Games.

Revise Article 7, Section 6 – All-Star Games.

Eliminate all except Article 7, Section 5.9 – No athletic team from any school shall compete against any All-Star team.

The Committee on Athletics may sanction only one All-Star game per sport provided the game is played during the regular season of the sport involved.

Revise Article 7, Section 7 – Non-School Competition and Loyalty to School team

Delete D 1.B – “Provided it is not an All-Star contest/team.”

Revise Article 7, Section 7 D-2 – The high school coach(s) may not coach: Perspective member(s) of his/her high school club, freshman, junior varsity or varsity team during the off season of his/her sport.

Revise Article 3 – Eligibility – Section 1.A Determining eligibility:

“Each school must file with the RIIL a Varsity eligibility list at least one week prior to the first RIIL contest of each sport including Injury Fund and non league contests.”

Exception: schools participating in RIIL freshman sanctioned sports in Football, Boys and Girls Basketball and Baseball must file a freshman eligibility list.

2. Approved rule changes in the following sports:

Boys and Girls Soccer

Boys Baseball

Boys and Girls Volleyball

Wrestling – Dual meet state championship

3. Approved a change in the hockey alignment for the 2003-2004 school year only.

4. Approved the establishment of several Cooperative Teams in several sports.

5. Approved the Mandatory Score Reporting in all sports on the RIL website

6. Approved the mandatory use of the new Assumption of Risk form to be used by all schools starting in September 2005.

7. Created the *Girls and Women in Sports Committee*

8. Increased the guarantee for hockey rinks for triple games to \$1275.

9. Approved the increase of ticket prices for all championship events to \$6.00 (Except softball)

10. Increases the price of a regular season ticket to \$5.00

11. Approved the Budget for the 2004-2005 school year.

12. Approved the waiver request from alternative educational programs/schools so that their student-athletes may participate in athletics for their feeder school. The student-athletes must all meet the standards and stipulations of the approved proposal

13. Approved the waiver of sport fees for Alternative Ed Programs/Schools

14. Approved the budget and hiring of the Strategic Planning Facilitator which will begin in the fall of 2005.

15. Approved with the recommendation from the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee to member schools the purchase of Automated External Defibrillators for each athletic department.

16. Shamrock Lacrosse (lacrosse), Penn Monto (field hockey), and Spalding (softball) were approved as the official balls in those sports.

17. Reported [in August 2004] that there are 14,449 boys and 9,976 girls participating in Rhode Island Interscholastic Athletics. There are 509 boys' teams and 435 girls' teams.

18. Commended Bishop Hendricken High School for their compliance with the terms of their probation for recruiting violations.

19. Approved the agreements with the following new corporate sponsors:

AMICA Ins

Citizens Bank

Wrights Farm

The RIIL would like to recognize and thank the following corporate sponsors for their generous support of the League and the student-athletes it serves: Baden Athletic Balls; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island; Bob's Stores; Brine; Empire Corporate Federal Credit Union; Martin Screen Print; Met-Life Auto & Home; Pawtucket Red Sox; Penn Monto; Pepsi Cola Co.; Rawlings Sporting Goods; Spalding; U.S. Air Force, and U.S. Marines.

The Principals Committee on Athletics is deeply grateful to the Rhode Island Association of School Principals for their continued support of its membership. Without the strong support of the principals of our member schools, the Rhode Island Interscholastic League would not enjoy the level of success that presently exists. The Committee would like to thank John Gray and Betty Marquis, Chairperson and Assistant Chairperson respectively, of the Principals' Committee on Athletics, for their leadership, expertise, and support. A thank you also to the Principals' Committee on Athletics, Sport Directors, and Standing Committee members for their dedication and hard work.

As Executive Director, I would like to acknowledge and express my appreciation to Richard Magarian, Assistant Executive Director, for his cooperation, support and efforts on behalf of the League and its student-athletes. I would also like to thank Jane Hale, RIIL Treasurer, and Ruth Nicastro, Secretary ; Susana Borges, Secretary; and Gail Lepore, Secretary for the important role they play in the success of the League.

Respectfully Submitted,

RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

John Gray

Chairperson

Principals' Committee on Athletics

Thomas A. Mezzanotte

Executive Director

NATIONAL AFFILIATION

The Rhode Island Interscholastic League is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations, which consists of the state high school associations of all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Guam, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and all provinces of Canada are affiliate members.

The objectives of the National Federation of State High School Associations are to:

Serve, protect, and enhance the interstate activity interests of the high schools belonging to the state associations;

Assist in those activities of the state associations which can best be operated on a nationwide scale;

Sponsor meetings, publications, and activities which will permit each state association to profit by the experience of all other member associations;

Coordinate the work so duplication will be minimized;

Formulate, copyright, and publish rules of play or event conduct pertaining to interscholastic activities;

Preserve interscholastic athletic records, and the tradition and heritage of interscholastic sports;

Provide programs, services, material and assistance to state associations, high schools and individual professionals involved in the conduct and administration of interscholastic activities;

Study in general all phases of interscholastic activities and serve as a national resource for information pertaining thereto;

Identify needs and problems related to interscholastic activities and, where practice, provide solutions thereto; and,

Promote the educational values of interscholastic activities to the nation's public.



Rhode Island Interscholastic League

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