



Annual Report

2011-12





Greetings from the RIIL

DEAR FRIENDS,

As high schools in Rhode island and the nation struggle to fend off the effects of this recession, the importance of education-based athletics has never been clearer. Although more and more schools and communities are faced with budget deficits and finding alternative ways to fund extracurricular activities; our student-athlete participation continues to increase. The values of these programs to students, families and communities is evident, and the RIIL will continue to defend and protect high school athletic programs— our American institution.

Working with the NFHS the RIIL is committed to minimizing risk for all student-athletes by leading the way with an emphasis on the management of concussions, and in general, wellness. The RIIL has sponsored workshop and info on student wellness, the dangers of overuse injuries in young athletes, and the best practices in the management of sports-related concussions.

The RIIL and the RI Department of Education have worked together to update the certification process for all coaches hired after January 1, 2012. These new certification requirements are intended to provide a person with an understanding of the basic philosophy and principles of athletics in education, the health related aspects of athletics and the techniques used to coach a specific sport. In addition, they help to provide a safe environment and a successful experience for boys and girls who participate on interscholastic teams. Incorporating the NFHS Coaches Education Program, our coaches will possess an understanding of the social, moral and physical values inherent in secondary school athletics.

As a leading advocate for high school athletic programs, the RIIL recognizes that these are very difficult financial times in both education and education-based athletics. However, we must continue to stress the fact that education-based athletic programs are the No. 1 dropout prevention program in America's schools today. Our programs have value and that value is reflected in numerous studies that show that students who participate in these programs do better in school, have fewer discipline referrals, have better attendance and enjoy greater success in post-secondary education.

Our school administrators, athletic directors, teachers and coaches have provided excellent leadership throughout the years. The torch now passes to a new generation of leaders. We must learn from the past, and model those values that produce learning opportunities for our students to mold them into the leaders of tomorrow. We all must pitch-in in this worthwhile endeavor.



Thomas A. Mezzanotte
Executive Director, RIIL



Gerald Foley
Chairman, Principals'
Committee on Athletics

Year In Review

In addition to our new Coaches Certification Program, the RIIL has continued to build a strong relationship between our members schools and RI Special Olympics. Through this partnership our Unified Sports Program has increased. To date there were 25 schools (312 athletes) participating in Unified Basketball and 12 schools (161 athletes) participating in Unified Volleyball. This program continues to grow and become an integral part of a school's athletic program.

We have developed and implemented the RIIL Student of the Month recognition Program. Students from our schools were nominated each month and a male and female athlete was selected as our Student of the Month. All nominees and winners were recognized at the first "Student of the Month" Recognition luncheon. The overall 2012 male and female Student Athlete of the Year were selected and each received a \$1000 scholarship from Washington Trust.

We continued to promote sportsmanship and leadership ideals through our annual December Conference. This past year's conference included speakers and topics dealing with the following:

- Confusion about Sportsmanship
- Leadership in your School
- Hazing in Athletics
- Hot Topics in Sports Medicine

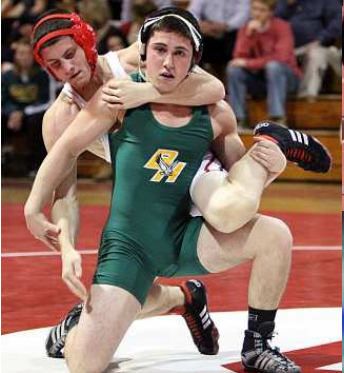
In addition, our principal speaker was Chris Herren, former NBA Basketball Player, and recently featured on ESPN "30 for 30" Documentary. His topic was, *Making Good Decisions*.

In cooperation with the RIIL Sports Medicine Advisory Committee:

- We worked with the RI General Assembly to revise the RI Concussion Law.
- Developed the "Best Practices for the Care and Prevention of Concussions for Athletes."
- To discuss and provide assessment of health and safety concerns for our athletes, organized a lecture for Parent and Coaches on *The Pressure to Excel in Youth Sports—Am I Hurting My Child?*



Looking Back On An



INCREDIBLE YEAR!!



Mission Statement

The mission of the RI Interscholastic League is to provide its member schools governance, leadership and support for interscholastic athletics which gives student-athletes opportunities to compete in an environment that stresses education, sportsmanship, integrity and safety.

Core Values

We believe:

- Athletics is an integral part of education in our schools;
- Interscholastic athletics is a privilege that enhances the education of students;
- Leadership, responsibility, sportsmanship and scholarship are essential parts of athletics;
- Athletics is an enjoyable experience which fosters valuable life lessons;
- All member schools have the opportunity to be represented and are accountable to the standards of the RIIL;
- Fostering a professional relationship among its colleagues is a responsibility of the RIIL.

Vision Statement

The RIIL is an organization with high standards for its member schools, student-athletes, and constituencies. Through professional collegiality the League advocates and promotes the value of interscholastic athletics. The League provides athletic experiences that enable student-athletes to reach their highest level of academic and athletic potential and prepares them to become responsible citizens.

RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

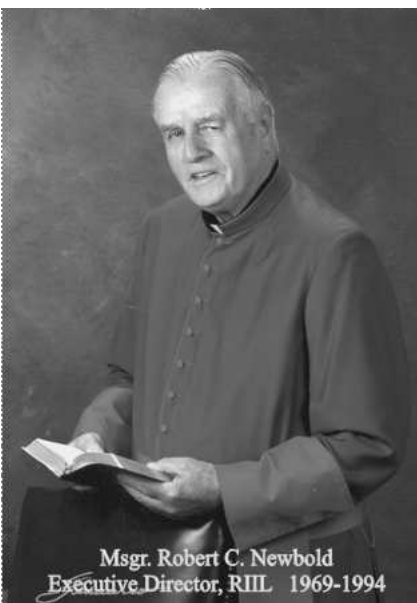
R I I L

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.



Msgr. Robert C. Newbold
Executive Director, RIIIL 1969-1994

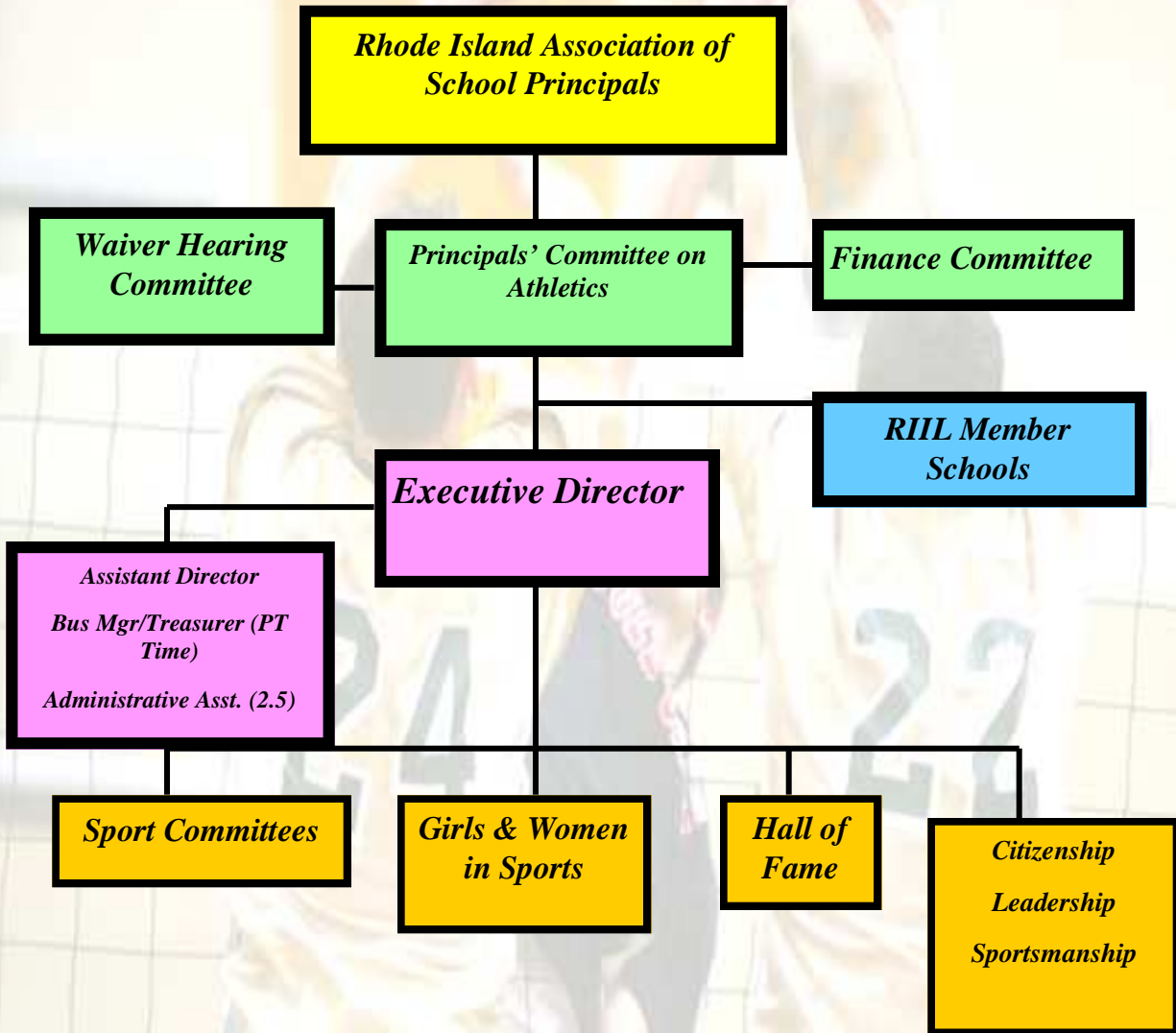


Richard B. Lynch
Executive Director, RIIIL 1994-2004



Thomas A. Mezzanotte
Executive Director, RIIIL 2004-Present

Rhode Island Interscholastic League Organization Chart



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 member high schools. The Committee meets regularly. 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.

The following administrators served on the Principals' Committee on Athletics during the 2011-2012 school year:

Gerald Foley, *Chairperson*
Principal, *Johnston High School*
Donald Kavanagh, *Assistant Chairperson*
Principal, *La Salle Academy*

Gail Abromitis, Principal, *Middletown High School*

Scott Barr, Principal, *Classical High School*

Janelle Clarke, Principal, *Juanita Sanchez*

Kathy Crowley, RISSA / Superintendent, *Little Compton*

Joseph Goho, Principal, *No. Providence High School*

Colleen Gribbin, Principal, *St. Mary Academy-Bay View*

Daniel Kelly, Principal, *Smithfield High School*

Robert Littlefield, Principal, *Portsmouth High School*

Robert McCarthy, Principal, *So. Kingstown High School*

Kevin McNamara, Principal, *Lincoln High School*

Michael Sollitto, Principal, *Scituate High School*

Karen Tarasevich, Principal, *West Warwick High School*

Michael Traficante, RIIAA/Athletic Director, *The Prout School*

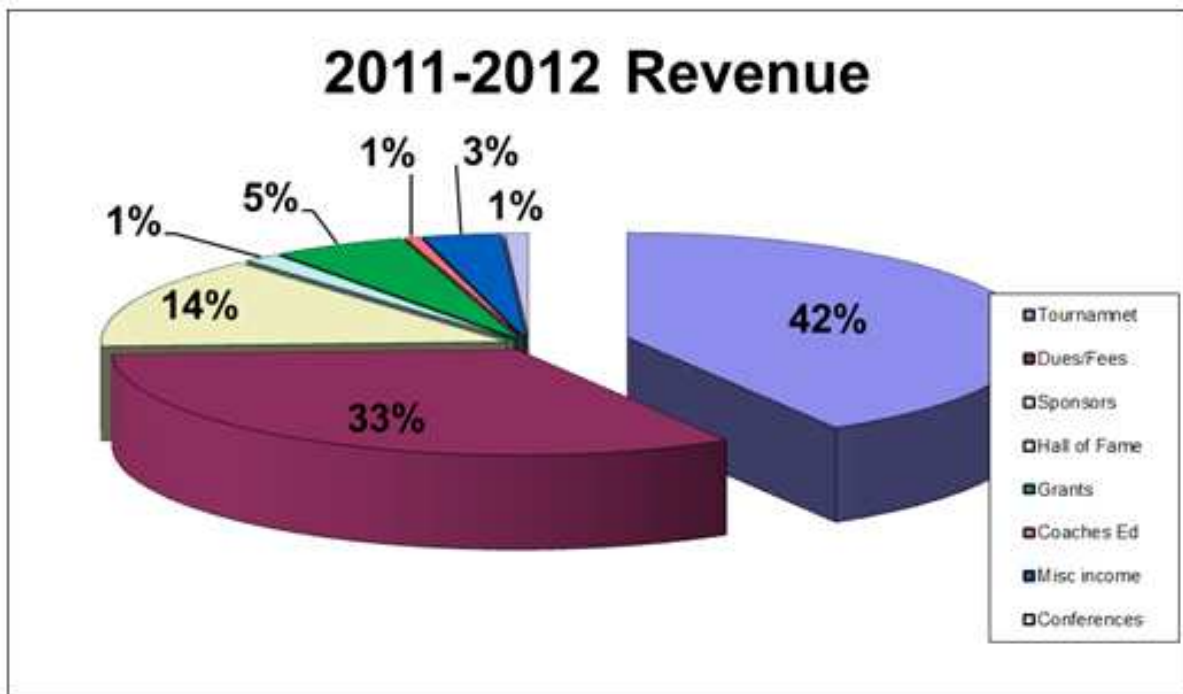
Daniel Warner, Principal, *Narragansett High School*

Michael Whaley, Principal, *Burrillville High School*

I want to express my sincere thanks to the Principals' Committee on Athletics, Mr. Gerry Foley and Mr. Don Kavanagh, Chairperson and Assistant Chairperson respectively for their leadership, expertise, and support. In addition, many thanks to the RIIL Sport Committees, 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.

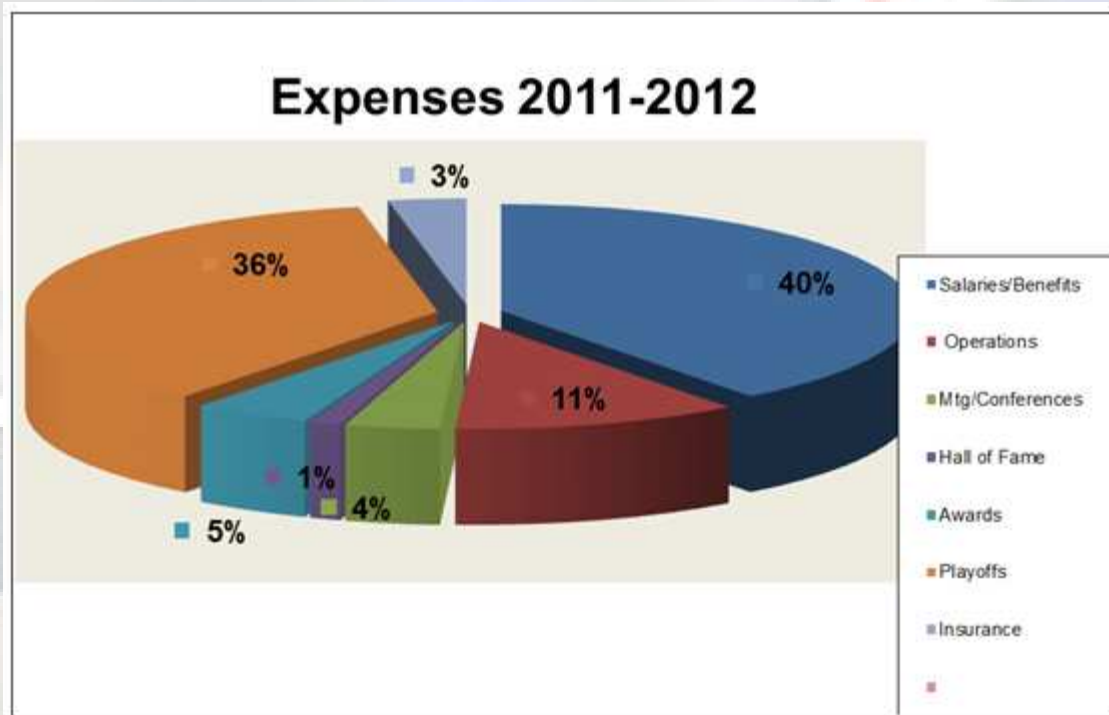
The RIIL and the Principals' Committee on Athletics are deeply grateful to the RI Association of School Principals, the RI Athletic Administrators Association, and the RI School Superintendents Association for their continued support of its membership. Without the strong support of the principals and athletic administrators of our member schools, the Rhode Island Interscholastic League would not enjoy the level of success that presently exists.

As Executive Director, I would like to acknowledge and express my appreciation to Richard Magarian and Michael Lunney, Assistant Director, for their cooperation, support and efforts on behalf of the League and its student-athletes. I would also like to thank Donna Kane, Business Manager/Treasurer; Susana Borges, Gail Lepore, and Julie Mancini, Administrative Assistants for the important role they play in the success of the League.



2011-2012 Income

Tournament	\$425,680.00	42%
Dues/Fees	\$337,972.00	33%
Sponsors	\$146,045.00	14%
Hall of Fame	\$14,550.00	1%
Grants	\$54,859.00	5%
Coaches Ed	\$6,000.00	1%
Misc Income	\$32,280.00	3%
Conferences	\$9,815.00	1%
Total	\$1,034,244.00	



2011-2012 Expenses

Salaries/Benefits	\$388,240.00	40%
Operations	\$110,065.00	11%
Mtg/Conferences	\$36,383.00	4%
Hall of Fame	\$11,965.00	1%
Awards	\$45,049.00	5%
Playoffs	\$356,892.00	36%
Insurance	\$29,954.00	3%
Total	\$978,548.00	

RIIL Finances Tournaments

Revenues/Expenses

2011-2012

Sport	Tournament Revenue	Tournament Expenses
Football	\$29,849.00	\$13,138.00
B/G Soccer	\$31,613.00	\$17,395.00
B/G Cross Country	\$10,979.00	\$12,248.00
Wrestling	\$23,908.00	\$21,647.00
Boys Basketball	\$53,201.00	\$22,532.00
B/G Swim	\$10,794.00	\$21,926.00
B/G Hockey	\$124,173.00	\$97,549.00
B/G Indoor Track	\$27,094.00	\$35,712.00
Baseball	\$18,349.00	\$10,888.00
B/G Golf	none	\$1,693.00
B/G Tennis	none	\$6,557.00
B/G Outdoor Track	\$11,454.00	\$26,421.00
B/G Lacrosse	\$17,318.00	\$10,049.00
B/G Volleyball	\$10,665.00	\$10,262.00
Field Hockey	\$5,224.00	\$5,115.00
Gymnastics	\$2,257.00	\$4,990.00
Fast Pitch Softball	\$11,391.00	\$10,795.00
Cheerleading	\$12,893.00	\$7,488.00
Girls Basketball	\$16,059.00	\$12,001.00
Totals	\$423,235.00	\$364,330.00

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 and in its monthly bulletin.

Athletic Rules and Regulations, includes the by-laws and regulations for the RIIL.

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

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

RIIL Foundation

The RIIL Foundation was created to serve the interests of student-athletes by awarding grants in the areas of character education, sportsmanship and leadership.

Recognition

The League sponsors the **RIIL Hall of Fame** for the most distinguished individuals involved in high school athletics.

Tournaments

The League supervises and administers state tournaments in 28 athletic events for its member schools.

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

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

Student Leadership Conferences

The League sponsors numerous opportunities for student-athletes to take part in an assortment of leadership and sportsmanship activities.

Student-Athlete Wellness Program

The Performance Edge: Wellness for Winners is a program designed to provide our student-athletes and coaches with a comprehensive wellness program that will support our high schools by embracing the health and wellness of all participants.

Rhode Island Interscholastic League

Online @ www.riil.org

Number of Boys/Girls Participants for 2011-2012

According to the 2011-2012 High School Athletics Participation Survey conducted by the RI Interscholastic League the total number of boys/girls participating in the RIIL has increased from previous years.

To date, there are 567 boys' teams participating in fifteen sports (including Cheer), and 17,042 boys participating on these teams. These numbers reflect all-time highs in both teams and participants. In the last ten years, the number of teams has grown from 486 to 567 and 14,277 participants to 17,042 participants.

Participation on our girls' sports teams have varied from a high in 2008-2009 of 484 to the present number of 474 teams. Just over 12,000 girls have participated in fifteen sports (including Cheer). This figure represents an increase from the last two years, but slightly down from a high of 13,105 in 2008-2009. In the last ten years, the number of teams has grown from 468 and 11,849 participants to 474 teams and 12,001 participants.

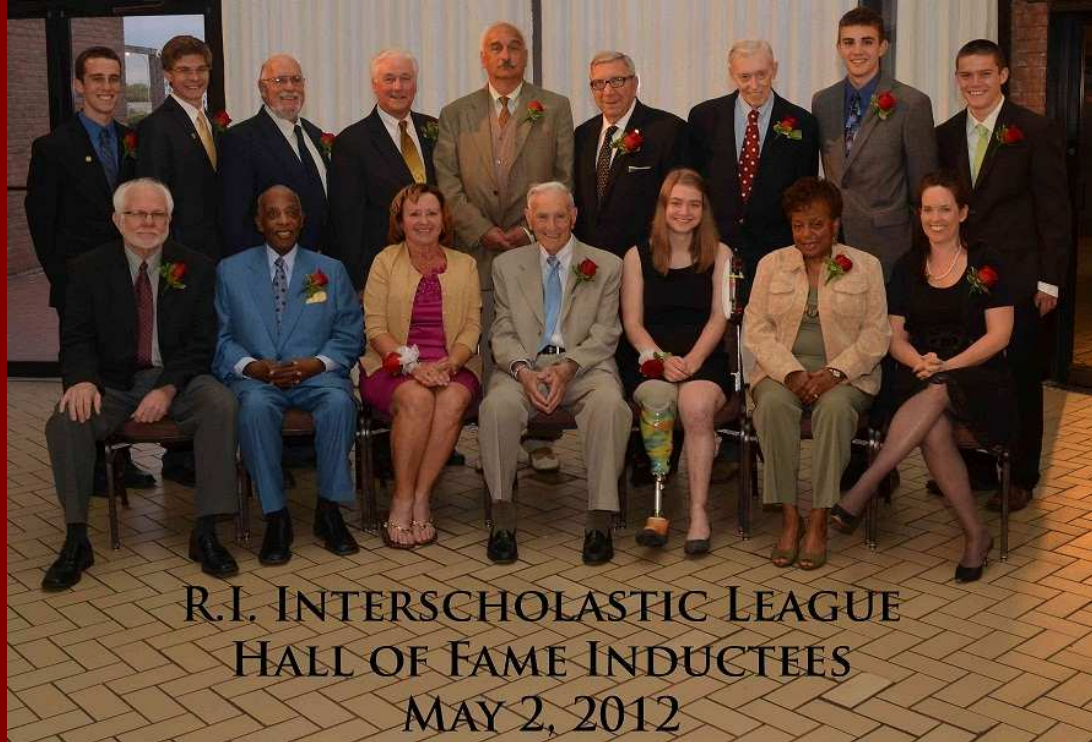
Trends:

1. In boys' sports, the fastest growing sport over the past ten years is Lacrosse. In 2000-2001 there were 5 teams and 215 participants. Today, there are 25 teams and 1,002 participants. There have been few changes in other sports. Most have remained fairly consistent.
2. The fastest growing girls' sport is Lacrosse as well. Since it began in 2000-2001, the number of teams and participants has grown from 4 teams and 148 participants to 27 teams and 940 participants.
3. Girls' ice hockey has certainly benefited from our sport co-op program. Now with 11 teams and 220 participants, we have seen both the quality of play and the number of participants increase.
4. In the Unified Sports Program this program has expanded and grown significantly in the last three years. We now have 25 schools and 311 students participating in Unified Basketball, and 13 teams and 161 participants in our Unified Volleyball Program. These numbers reflect both the athletes and partners.
5. The combined total of boys/girls participants is the highest in the history of the RI Interscholastic League.
6. As the number of teams and participants has increased, we do not accurately know how many participants play multiple sports.

Despite the fact that Rhode Island's so called elite athletes are leaving and choosing to attend prep schools or non-school athletic programs, our number of participants continues to increase. The RI Interscholastic League, a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations, promotes the overall benefits of educational based athletic programs, provides numerous athletic opportunities for all those wishing to participate; and provides the guidance, leadership and support for interscholastic athletics which gives our student-athletes opportunities to compete in an environment that stresses education, sportsmanship, integrity and safety.

Athletic Participation Survey

YEAR	BOYS	TEAMS	GIRLS	TEAMS	TOTAL
2007-2008	16,642	524	11,516	460	28,158
2008-2009	16,621	531	13,105	484	29,726
2009-2010	16,707	533	11,915	463	28,622
2010-2011	16,547	549	11,849	468	28,396
2011-2012	17,042	567	12,001	474	29,043

**SEATED ROW: (L-R)**

Bobb Angel, Bernie "Slick" Pina, Kathy Hazard, Domenic "Zip" Raiola
Special Recognition Award: Maité Van Hentenryck, "Spirit of Sport"
 Lorraine Adams (for the late James N. Adams),
 Lori Doyle Whalley (for the late Robert "Bobby" Doyle)

BACK ROW: (L-R)

Special Recognition Awards: Daniel Kilcoyne, Jake Kilcoyne, "Outstanding Achievement in Sport"
 Roland "Rollie" Rodrigues, J. Robert Bellemore, Kevin Jackson,
 Edward L. DiSimone, Paul F. Donovan
Special Recognition Awards: Michael Marsella, Bryce Kelley, "Outstanding Achievement in Sport"

R.I. Student-Athlete of the Year Winners



J. Michael Marsella
 Chariho High School

Sponsored by:



Rebecca McVicker
 Portsmouth High School

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

Bldg. #6 RI College Campus ♦ 600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue ♦ Providence, RI 02908-1991

Tel: (401) 272-9844 ♦ Fax: (401) 272-9838