



2013-14

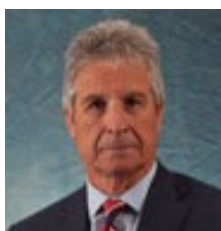


Annual Report





Greetings From the RIIL



Thomas A. Mezzanotte
Executive Director, RIIL



Kevin J. McNamara
Chairman, Principals'
Committee on Athletics

Dear Friends,

As we begin our 82nd year, it is important that we as teachers, coaches, administrators, and parents all make a difference in the lives of our children, athletes, students, and all other people. The impact—whether negative or positive — many times is greater than we realize. We need to do our best to make that impact a positive one. As we know, the important thing in life is not about who we are or what we accomplish, but about the positive impact we have on others.

Educational based athletic programs in our schools give all of us the opportunity to have that positive impact on others. The challenge I present to you...as you get ready to start a new year, a new season, a new project, is to show all what you're made of as you do your best to have a positive impact on all that you come in contact with.

Thomas A. Mezzanotte

Executive Director

Rhode Island Interscholastic League

As Chairman of the Principal's Committee on Athletics (PCOA), I am proud to serve along with Vice-Chair Dr. Michael Sollitto and the other members of the committee representing the member schools and affiliated groups of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League (RIIL). The PCOA is the governing body of the RIIL and its members are committed to providing the students of Rhode Island with high quality interscholastic athletic competition, sportsmanship development activities as well as health and wellness programs.

The RIIL is committed to providing students with lessons and memories that will last a lifetime. The members of the PCOA always keep the student-athlete at the center of our decision making. We believe deeply that high school interscholastic athletics are "the purest form of sport."

Under the guidance of the PCOA, the RIIL has grown into a vibrant and dynamic organization. RIIL Executive Director Mr. Thomas Mezzanotte, Assistant Director Mr. Michael Lunney and the talented office staff work diligently every day to ensure the success of the League. Along with Dr. Sollitto, Mr. Mezzanotte and Mr. Lunney, I welcome your feedback and input.

Kevin J. McNamara

Chairman, Principals' Committee On Athletics

Principal, Lincoln High School

Year In Review

COACHES EDUCATION

In cooperation with the Rhode Island Department of Education, we have supported a comprehensive Certification process for all athletic coaches hired after January 1, 2012. This certification process which incorporates elements of the NFHS Coaches Ed program will help athletic coaches meet the significant challenges they face each day. This process which must be renewed every five years will include a combination of in-house and NFHS online courses approved by the RIIL. To assist we are organizing an annual conference for new and grandfathered coaches to fulfill their certification obligations. In addition, the conference will offer other coaches and athletic directors the opportunity to address numerous sport-related issues.

UNIFIED SPORTS

We have continued to build our relationship with Rhode Island Special Olympics and promote the development of the RIIL/SORI Unified Sports Program. To date there are 32 schools participating in Unified basketball and 17 schools participating in Unified Volleyball. In December, the RIIL and Special Olympics Project Unify sponsored a Youth Forum "Fuel the Passion": Conference. This Conference brought students involved in Unified Sports together to discuss ways to promote inclusion and acceptance among all students in all schools.

"At the conference, students were refueled with knowledge to bring Project Unify to their schools. The entire bus ride home from the conference was a group of teenagers discussing how to promote Project Unified at Central Falls HS. Central Falls is one of the pioneer schools and each year the program grows with students wanting to get involved."

Katie Gomes
Central Falls HS Unified Coach

"Unified Sports has opened up opportunities for our students with intellectual disabilities that were not available to them before: playing on a varsity team, acceptance by their peers, 'superstar' status in their schools and new found friendships. School climates have been transformed into socially inclusive, accepting environments with less bullying."

Nancy Fitzgerald
Portsmouth HS Unified Coach
Project Unify School Coord., SORI

STUDENT/TEAM RECOGNITION

We have continued to implement the RIIL "Student Athlete of the Month" and "Team of the Week" Recognition Program. Outstanding Students and Amazing Team Accomplishments are recognized and publicized through the media. In addition "Students of the Month" are honored at an annual luncheon. The overall 2014 Male and Female Student Athletes of the Year were selected and each received a \$1000 scholarship from our corporate sponsor – Burger King.

Also honored at the luncheon were four of this year's RIIL Spirit of Sport selections: Jacob Martin, Mount St. Charles; Josie Chaves, Rogers High School; Natasha Shein, The Prout School; and Molly Giudice, The Prout School.

At the 2014 Hall of Fame banquet in May, Isaac Lufkin from Classical High School was recognized as the RIIL Spirit of Sport recipient as well as the Section 1 recipient of the NFHS National High School Spirit of Sport Award. Each of these student-athletes have not only overcome challenging circumstances they all embody the ideals of the positive spirit of sport.

"In January, the RIIL initiated a new business partnership with Burger King and Cumulus Media. Together a new program, the "Burger King High School Team of the Week", was developed. Anyone could nominate a team for consideration and the votes poured in. Our unique marketing campaign includes shout out by the winning teams on 92PROFM, HOT1063, LiteRock105FM & 630WPRO. It was chosen nationwide as the "Best Client Focused Digital Solution" at the 2014 Radio Ink Digital Awards in Silicon Valley, CA."

Tracy Quarella
RIIL Director of Marketing





RIIL STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD (SAB)

Kristina Lynch (SR.) – Mt. Hope High School, Chairperson

All SAB members attended the New England Student Leadership Conference at Stonehill College in July of 2013.

Over the course of the school year, the SAB met 7 times at the RIIL Office for discussion, planning and the development of initiatives. The SAB provided the RIIL Staff with valuable feedback from a student athlete’s perspective.

The SAB accomplished the following:

1. Made presentations at the RIIL Principals’ Breakfast and the Annual AD’s Fall Workshop at Johnson & Wales University.
2. Wrote letters to all member schools and followed up with school visits to recruit student ambassadors in each school.
3. Planned and executed the first ever RIIL Sport Captains Leadership Workshop held at North Kingstown High School in March.

4. Helped plan and promote the RIIL Unified Sports Youth Activation Conference held at the Crowne Plaza in November.
5. Provided help and support at RIIL Tournament Events throughout the year.
6. Provided help and support at the RIIL Hall of Fame event in May.
7. Helped promote the Unified Sports Plunge in conjunction with Rhode Island Special Olympics.

RIIL SPORTS MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Worked with the Rhode Island General Assembly to recommend appropriate revisions to the Rhode Island Concussion Law.

- Promoted ways of minimizing risk in all sports. (Concussion Management, Heat Acclimitization, Overuse injuries, Limiting “contact “ in collision sports, the use of appropriate pre-participation physicals for all athletes, and urging all school athletic teams to have access to certified athletic trainers).

- Worked with the football sport committee to implement a limited contact program throughout the entire season.

- Discussed ways of limiting dangerous contact in the sport of ice hockey.

- Discussed the use in schools of an Injury Surveillance On-Line Survey to record and accumulate sport-related injury data.

NFHS/RIIL SPORTS NETWORK

The RIIL partnered with the NFHS Network to stream-live many RIIL Championship events during the 2013-2014 school year. In addition, several schools joined the NFHS School Broadcast Program and streamed numerous school athletic and other related activities.

The RIIL website homepage was revamped and made more user-friendly, and the RIIL is now on Twitter (@riil_sports). In addition, sport statistics are now available in many sports.



Mission Statement

The mission of the Rhode Island 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.

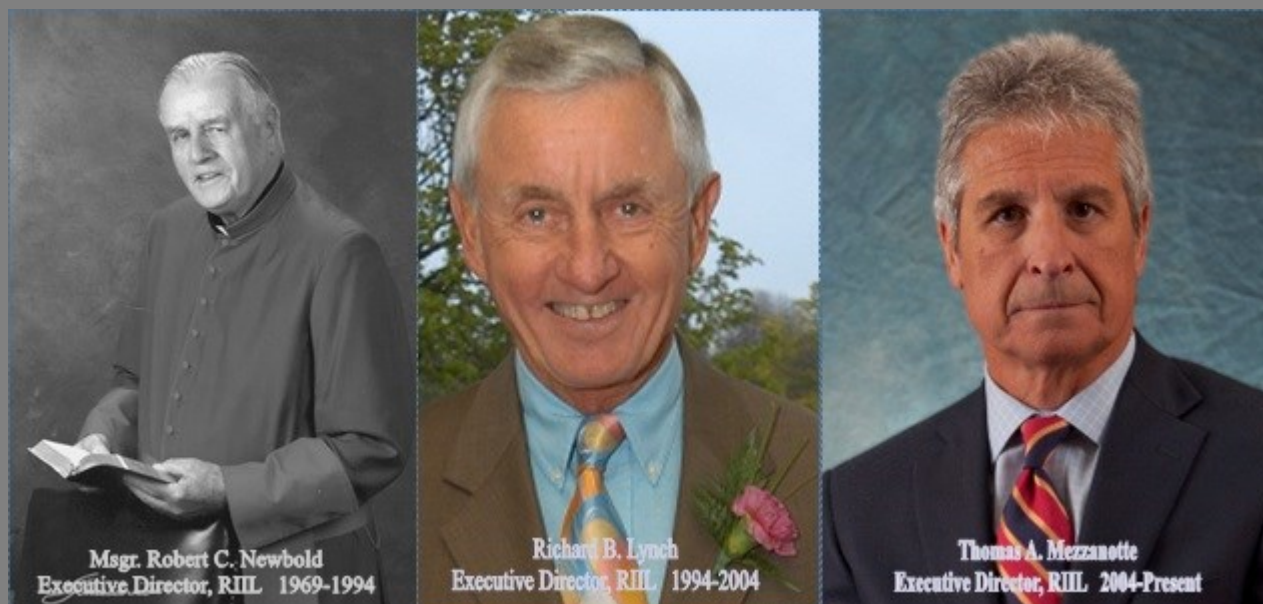
Core Values

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.



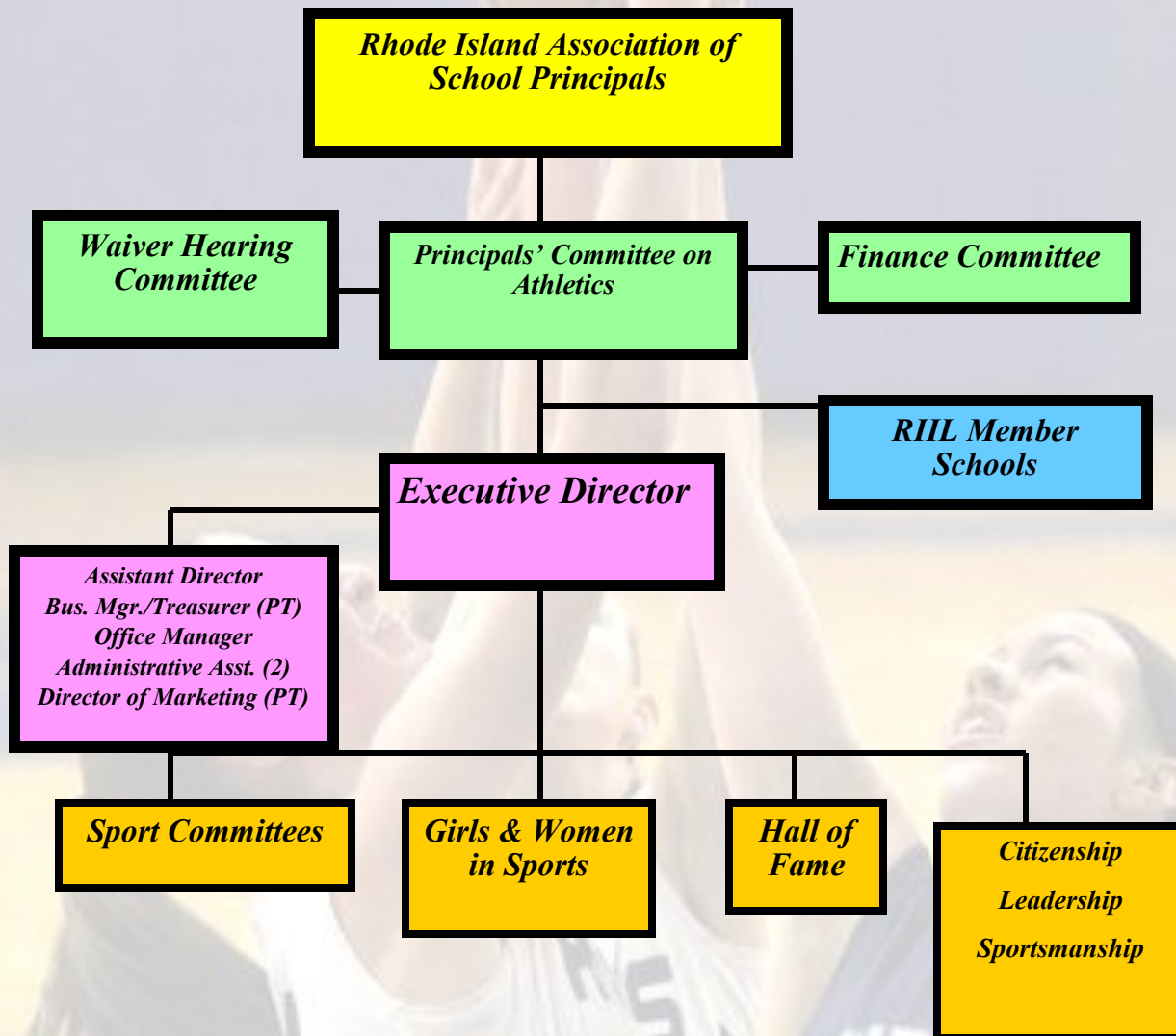
History

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.

Organizational 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 2013-2014 school year:

Kevin J. McNamara, *Chairperson*
Principal, Lincoln High School
Michael Sollitto, Ed.D., *Assistant Chairperson*
Principal, Scituate High School

Gail Abromitis, Principal, Middletown High School	Michaela Keegan, Principal, Juanita Sanchez Complex
Scott D. Barr, Principal, Classical High School	Sean T. Kelly, Principal, Cranston High School East
Kathryn Crowley, RISSA / Superintendent, Little Compton	Thomas W. Kenworthy, Ed.D., Principal, N. Kingstown High School
Robert DiMuccio, Asst. Principal, Johnston High School	Robert E. Littlefield, Principal, Portsmouth High School
Joseph Goho, Principal, N. Providence High School	Robert McCarthy, Principal, S. Kingstown High School
Colleen Gribbin, Principal, St. Mary Academy-Bay View	Michael Traficante, RIIAA/Athletic Director, The Prout School
Donald J. Kavanagh, Principal, La Salle Academy	Daniel F. Warner, Principal, Narragansett High School
	Michael Whaley, Ed.D., Principal, Burrillville High School

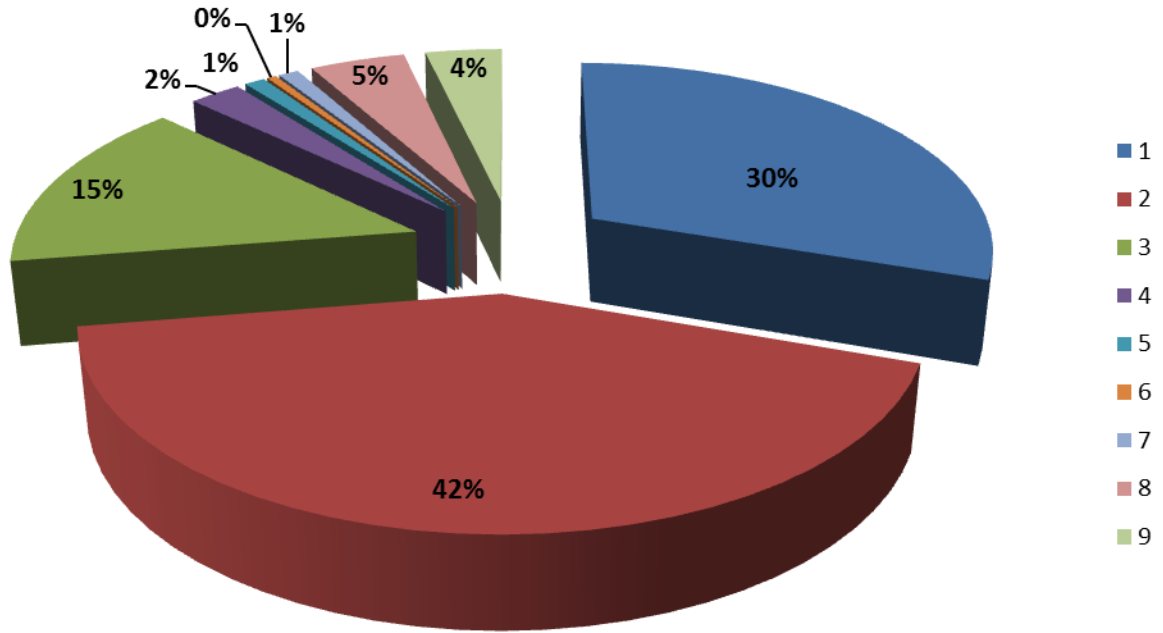
I wish to express my sincere thanks to the members of the PCOA for their dedication, compassion and loyalty to student-athletes and the Mission of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League. In addition, I would like to acknowledge our new Committee Chair, Mr. Kevin McNamara, Principal of Lincoln High School, and Assistant Chair Dr. Michael Sollitto, Principal of Scituate High School for their leadership and counsel. Throughout the past year they have served with distinction on numerous committees and dedicated countless hours to many important League matters.

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 Michael Lunney, Assistant Director, for his cooperation, support and efforts on behalf of the League and its student-athletes. I would also like to thank Donna Kane, Business Manager/Treasurer; Gail Lepore, Office Manager; Susana Borges and Julie Mancini, Administrative Assistants; and Tracy Quarella, Director of Marketing for the important role they play in the success of the League.

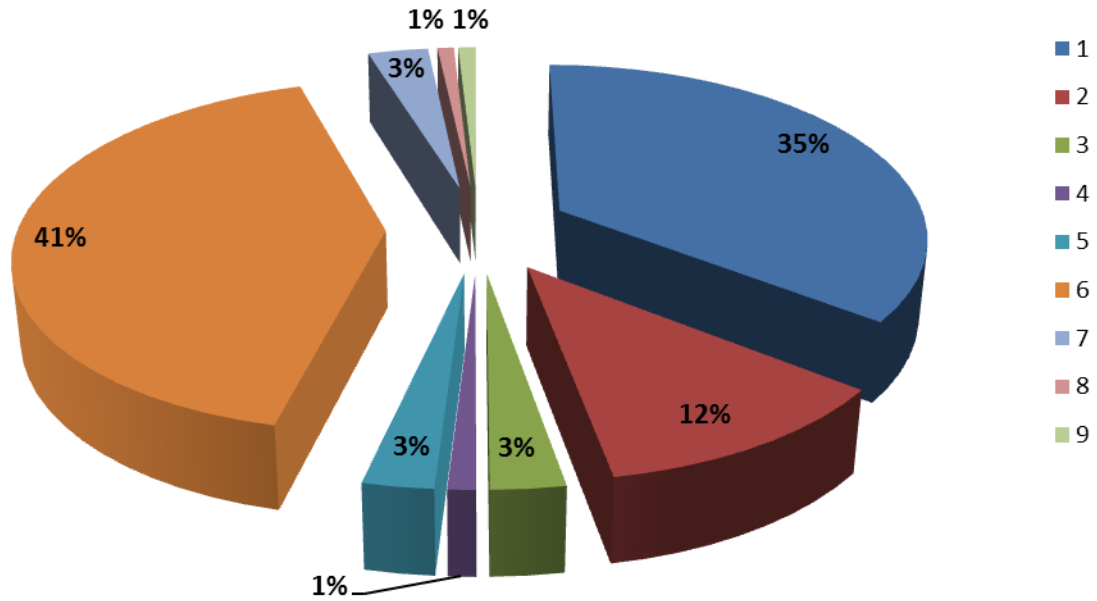
RIIL Financial Report

Revenue 2013-2014



Dues/Fees	\$343,371.00	30%
Tournament	\$478,212.00	42%
Sponsors	\$165,200.00	15%
Hall of Fame	\$11,000.00	1%
Grants	\$5,000.00	1%
Coaches Ed	\$27,612.00	2%
Miscellaneous Income	\$10,404.00	1%
Conferences	\$10,870.00	1%
Media Rights	\$51,150.00	5%
Investment Income	\$41,101.00	4%
Total	\$1,143,920.00	

2013-2014 Expenses



Salaries/Benefits	\$394,134.00	35%
Operations	\$129,385.00	12%
Meetings/Conferences	\$30,704.00	3%
Hall of Fame	\$11,516.00	1%
Awards	\$29,241.00	3%
Playoffs	\$461,130.00	41%
Insurance	\$34,220.00	3%
Miscellaneous	\$9,256.00	1%
Grants to Schools	\$10,046.00	1%
Total	1,109,632.00	

Tournament Finances

Tournament Revenue/Expenses 2013-2014

Sport	Tournament Revenue	Tournament Expenses
Football	\$28,788.00	\$17,530.75
B/G Soccer	\$38,560.00	\$21,882.46
B/G Cross Country	\$11,358.00	\$14,147.08
Wrestling	\$26,318.00	\$26,567.31
B/G Basketball	\$103,434.75	\$74,729.33
B/G Swim	\$12,203.00	\$18,986.96
B/G Hockey	\$107,043.41	\$125,643.44
B/G Indoor Track	\$28,406.00	\$52,495.24
Baseball	\$27,187.00	\$10,378.23
B/G Golf	none	\$2,246.46
B/G Tennis	none	\$5,426.06
B/G Outdoor Track	\$13,745.00	\$30,017.71
B/G Lacrosse	\$25,865.00	\$15,102.70
B/G Volleyball	\$16,546.00	\$16,862.14
Field Hockey	\$7,221.00	\$6,623.27
Gymnastics	\$1,476.00	\$5,138.48
Fast Pitch Softball	\$13,045.00	\$9,101.01
Cheerleading	\$9,836.00	\$6,685.49
Freshman Sports	\$7,595.00	\$6,783.37
Totals	\$478,627.16	\$466,347.49

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.

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

Communications

The League posts on its website.

Recognition

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

Revenue Share Plan

The RIIL will share yearly profits it has accumulated and distribute these funds to schools.

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.

RIIL/NFHS Network

The heart of the RIIL/NFHS Network primarily consists of the season-ending RIIL Sport Tournaments. The RIIL/NFHS Network has produced internet broadcasts for most sports during this past two years of operation.

While high school state associations like the RIIL provide an immense potential for content, there are nearly 20,000 member high schools coast-to-coast who now have the opportunity to broadcast their own school specific content. It is this local content through the School Broadcasting Program that gives the network its legs.

School sports are first, last and always about local teams and it's not just about high-profile sports and varsity teams; it's about just as much about lower-profile programs and events.

The success of the NFHS Network will not be "made for TV," national tournaments or matchups between teams with the most highly regarded players. Our success will come from the aggregation of hundreds of typical local rivalries that are played all school year long in every nook of our State.

The NFHS Network School Broadcasting Program gives all of our schools and communities the opportunity to highlight our programs, our fans and our athletes. It is for all these reasons that I encourage every Rhode Island high school to become part of this great opportunity.

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

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.

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

Sports Participation 2013-2014

Participation in Rhode Island high school sports has once again increased. According to the 2013-2014 High School Athletics Participation Survey conducted by the RIIL, the total number of teams and participants has increased from previous years. While boys participation figures dipped slightly, girls participation and Unified Sports participation has increased. Overall, there was an increase of 174 participants for 2013-2014.

TRENDS:

1. The fastest growing sports for both boys and girls continues to be Lacrosse.
2. The total number of girls teams and participants continues to grow.
3. The number of participants in boys cross country, lacrosse, and basketball showed moderate increases, while the numbers in boys tennis and ice hockey decreased.
4. Unified Sports continues to significantly grow in both the sports of basketball and volleyball. These are both co-ed sports.
5. The number of participants in high school sports in Rhode Island closely reflect the National participant trends.

Athletic Participation Survey

YEAR	BOYS	TEAMS	GIRLS	TEAMS	UNIFIED	TEAMS	TOTAL
2007-2008	16,642	524	11,516	460	N/A	N/A	28,158
2008-2009	16,621	531	13,105	484	N/A	N/A	29,726
2009-2010	16,557	523	11,915	463	150	10	28,622
2010-2011	16,221	523	11,849	468	326	26	28,396
2011-2012	16,570	529	12,001	474	472	38	29,043
2012-2013	16,597	533	12,271	490	580	44	29,448
2013-2014	16,565	536	12,305	496	752	48	29,622

RIIL Challenge Cup



The RIIL Challenge Cup program is designed to recognize Rhode Island high schools for excellence in athletics and sportsmanship. The Challenge Cup is awarded to a high school in each division of small, medium and large schools. Points are earned based on each school's participation in a RIIL Varsity Sport, each school's finish in RIIL Varsity State Tournaments, Sportsmanship Awards and School Spirit. Recognition is given to the schools that tally the most points in each division (small, medium and large) for each sport season (fall, winter and spring). A Challenge Cup trophy is presented to the winning school in each division after the points are tallied for the fall, winter and spring sport seasons are completed.

2013-2014 Winners:

Large Division: La Salle Academy
 Medium Division: Classical High School
 Small Division: Bishop Hendricken High School



**RIIL HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES
MAY 14, 2014**

Seated Row: (L-R)

Meredith Caswell (*for the late Lawrence "Larry" Caswell*),
Shannon Perry, Leah Grant, Tolulope "Tolu" Fayanjuola,
Jane M. Toomey

Back Row: (L-R)

Rocco Baldelli, David R. Stenhouse, Gerald Foley, Frank Geiselman,
Special Recognition Award: Isaac Lufkin, "Spirit of Sport,"
David Emma, Keith Carney

RIIL STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR WINNERS

Sponsored by:



Andrew Miner
East Greenwich High School

Sarah Andrews
North Kingstown 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

Email: info@riil.org ♦ Tel: (401) 272-9844 ♦ Fax: (401) 272-9838