

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, August 19, 2013
1:30 pm
RIIL Office
Bldg. #6 R. I. College Campus
600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue ♦ Providence, RI**

Executive Director's Report #1

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Crowley and Gribbin; Messrs., DiMuccio, Goho, Kavanagh, Kelly, Littlefield, McCarthy, Sollitto, Traficante, and Whaley

Also Present: Thomas Mezzanotte, Executive Director; Mike Lunney, Assistant Director and Gail Lepore, Office Manager

Absent: Mme., Abromitis; Messrs. Barr, Warner

The August meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee discussed several matters in Executive session.

On a motion made and Seconded, the Committee voted to adjourn Executive Session and open the Committee Meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

On a motion made and seconded, the Executive Director's Report from the June 17, 2013 meeting was unanimously approved (12-0).

PCOA VACANCIES

Due to anticipated vacancies on the PCOA, the Board requested Mr. Mezzanotte request applications in accordance with Article 1, Section 4.J. The deadline for submission of applications is September 20, 2013.

NOT-FOR-PROFIT GOVERNANCE & BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

Mr. Mezzanotte reviewed with the Committee Not-for-Profit Governance & Board Responsibilities.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Mezzanotte referred to several letters, memoranda and publications placed in each member's folder or filed in the League office.

NFHS NETWORK

Mr. Mezzanotte explained the recently signed NFHS Network Rights Agreement which includes the RIIL. The Committee reviewed a video highlighting the student broadcast program. The League will be hosting a workshop for schools to implement school streaming events.

RIIL COOP PROPOSAL

Mr. Mezzanotte asked for volunteers to serve on a committee to review the new RIIL COOP Proposal. Volunteers Kathy Crowley and Bob Littlefield requested to serve.

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REQUESTS FROM MEMBER SCHOOLS

- On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA approved the request from Mt. Hope High School to **drop** Boys' Tennis and **add** Boys' Volleyball in the spring of 2014.
- The Committee reviewed the request from the Wheeler School to join the RIIL in Girls' Lacrosse. The Committee has requested that the Wheeler School Principal and Athletic Director meet with the Board to discuss this request at the November meeting.
- The request from Narragansett High School to move Girls' Lacrosse to Division II for the 2014 season has been tabled.

COOPERATIVE TEAMS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted unanimously (12-0) approving the following member school requests:

- Barrington High School to continue Girls' Ice Hockey between Barrington/Mt. Hope/Portsmouth for the 2013-2014 season.
- Cranston School Department to continue the Girls' Ice Hockey Co-op Program between Cranston West/Cranston East/East Greenwich for the 2013-2014 season.
- Rogers High School to continue the Boys' Hockey Co-op between Rogers/Tiverton/Rocky Hill for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 seasons.

ALIGNMENT: RIIAAA PROPOSAL

After reviewing the Alignment Proposal submitted by the RIIAAA, on a motion made and seconded (12-0), the PCOA approved this new re-alignment guideline to begin in 2014 and extend for a period of two years.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- The PCOA reviewed an appeal on behalf of Cranston High School West to waive Article 3, Section 1.E. On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA denied the appeal (10-0-1).
- The Toll Gate High School Track Coach appealed a recent decision made to suspend him for the 2013-2014 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA voted to approve a reduction in the original suspension.

RIIL FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT AND BUDGET 2013-2014

The Finance Committee met on August 19, 2013 and submitted its report regarding the 2013-2014 RIIL budget. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee on Athletics unanimously approved (12-0) the RIIL budget for the 2013-2014 school year.

ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013

The 2012-2013 Annual Report was reviewed and approved. Copies will be distributed to all schools.

The Committee then adopted the following closing motion: THAT ANY AND ALL MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS TO THIS DATE BE REAFFIRMED AND RATIFIED.

The August meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Signed:

Gail Lepore
RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, November 18, 2013
1:30 pm
RIIL Office
Bldg. #6 RI College Campus
600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI**

Executive Director's Report #2

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Abromitis, Crowley and Gribbin; Messrs., Barr, DiMuccio, Goho, Kavanagh, Kelly, Littlefield, McCarthy, Sollitto, Traficante, Warner and Whaley

Also Present: Thomas Mezzanotte, Executive Director; Mike Lunney, Assistant Director and Susana Borges, Administrative Assistant

Absent: none

The November meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee discussed several matters in Executive session.

On a motion made and Seconded, the Committee voted to adjourn Executive Session and open the Committee Meeting.

FINANCE REPORT

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved the finance report submitted by Ms. Donna Kane, Business Manager.

PCOA MINUTES AUGUST 19, 2013

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the August 19, 2013 meeting was unanimously (14-0) approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- RIIL games on the NFHS Network –
 - Numerous RIIL Fall Championship events were steamed live on the NFHS Network.
 - A workshop for schools interested in providing in-school streaming was held on September 11.
- Continued adjustments and upgrades are being implemented on the RIIL Website.
- Mr. Mezzanotte and Mr. Lunney attended the annual NFHS Section I meeting in New Hampshire.
- Mr. Mezzanotte attended a national NFHS Task Force meeting on adaptive athletics.
- Clean Competition Grant –
 - Numerous schools have hosted the Hooten Foundation Presentation on the dangers of self-enhancing and steroids.
- RIIL Sports Medicine Advisory Committee -
 - The RIIL SMAC met in September and discussed numerous sports injury related issues. Concussions and "Return to play," collection of athletic related injury data, heat acclimatization, etc.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: NEW MEMBER

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved to add Mr. Stephen Angell, Esq. Pres of Dexter Credit Union to the RIIL Finance Committee.

PCOA NEW APPOINTMENTS

The Committee on Athletics reviewed and discussed a number of applications of those administrators interested in serving on the PCOA. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted (11-3) to approve the appointments of Michaela Keegan, Principal of Juanita Sanchez Complex and Thomas W. Kenworthy, Ed.D, Principal of North Kingstown High School.

2014 RUIL HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

On behalf of the RUIL Hall of Fame Committee, Mr. Mezzanotte recommended the following eleven (11) names for consideration as inductees into the 2014 Class of the RUIL High School Athletic Hall of Fame: Rocco Baldelli; Keith Carney; Lawrence Caswell (posthumously); David Emma; Tolu Fayantuola; Gerald Foley; Frank Geiselman; Leah Grant; Shannon Perry; David Stenhouse and Jane Toomey.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee on Athletics unanimously approved (14-0) the recommended names for the Class of 2014 Hall of Fame induction.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Mezzanotte spoke about numerous issues and topics regarding the RUIL and NFHS. In addition, Mr. Mezzanotte recognized Mr. Gerry Foley for the 2014 RUIL Award for Outstanding Service. Also, recognition of Allie Gould of North Smithfield High School selected to join the Special Olympics Global Unified Sports Advisory for a two (2) year term. Congratulations!

RUIL RULES VIOLATION

Pilgrim High School: Soccer Ejection

The Committee reviewed an incident on October 14, 2013 between a Pilgrim player and soccer official. After discussion, the Committee voted to suspend player #6 from participating in any sports at Pilgrim for the remainder of the year, and from participating in soccer next season (2014). In addition, the Committee has requested the principal to investigate the actions of the Pilgrim coach during and after this incident. The Committee will review and discuss this matter at its next meeting.

Pilgrim High School: Article 6, Section 6 – Use of an Ineligible Athlete – Boys' Cross Country

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously voted (14-0) to impose a fine of \$100 for violating Article 6, Section 6. The Committee also reminded Pilgrim High School to be sure that all the athletes are added to the eligibility lists prior to them participating in any future competition.

Toll Gate High School: Article 7, Section 6.D.1 – Coaching out of Season – Girls' Ice Hockey

After reviewing a violation as reported by the Toll Gate Athletic Director, the Committee voted to assess the following sanctions:

1. Two (2) game suspension of the head Girls' Hockey coach. (First two (2) RUIL *League* contests and any games in between beginning with the 2013-14 hockey season)
2. Fine Toll Gate High School the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200.00)
3. Place the Girls' Ice Hockey program on probation for a period of two (2) years

In addition, the Committee expects the athletic director of Toll Gate High School to carefully review all RUIL Rules and Regulations with the Girls' Ice Hockey Coaches.

West Warwick High School: Article 7, Section 6.D.1 – Coaching out of Season – Girls' Ice Hockey

After reviewing a violation as reported by the West Warwick Athletic Director, the Committee voted to assess the following sanctions:

1. Two (2) game suspension of the head Girls' Hockey coach. (First two (2) RUIL *League* contests and any games in between beginning with the 2013-14 hockey season)
2. Fine West Warwick High School the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200.00)
3. Place the Girls' Ice Hockey program on probation for a period of two (2) years

In addition, the Committee expects the athletic director of West Warwick High School to carefully review all RUIL Rules and Regulations with the Girls' Ice Hockey Coaches.

RUIL RULES REVISIONS

ALTERNATE SPORTS PROGRAM – ARTICLE 3, SECTION IK

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved a change to Alternate Sports Program – Article 3, Section IK on behalf of the Providence School Department.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved the following:

Article 7 – Limitation of Seasons

Section 6.L

L. Captain's Practice: The term "Captain's Practice" usually means the team's captain(s) organizing and conducting, *without adult supervision*, out-of-season practice for that sport.

The RIIL does not in any way sanction, encourage, or condone "Captain's Practice" in any sport.

"Captain's Practice", depending on the member schools' involvement, may be a clear violation of the rules defining season limitations.

Even though coaches are not present, allowing captain's practice to be held on school grounds may constitute that the school has organized, encouraged or condoned the activity.

There is also a serious practical consideration. If it can be demonstrated that a school is allowing "Captain's Practice", the liability responsibility for an injured athlete may be quite serious.

We strongly recommend that member schools communicate their stance on captain's practices to coaches, students and parents so that there is no confusion. In many cases, students and parents perceive that this type of activity is organized and administered by the school and there is an obligation for students to participate.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved the following revisions to Article 28 and 29 – Boys Track and Girls Track:

Section 7 WINTER TRACK

A. Dual Meet Entries- Dual meet entries must be submitted to the RIIL Track and Field Director as an electronic HYTEK Entry File. Entry deadline and number of changes will be designated by the Director. Teams are limited to **four (4)** entries per event. **(Entrants in the 3000 may be limited to 3 if the additional runners would require a third heat of the 3000.**

D. For an athlete to be eligible to compete in the Class meet, an athlete must meet the established minimum standards. If the number of qualifying performances does not complete the field of 18 competitors, the best non-qualifying performances will be allowed to complete the field of 18 competitors. The list of standards will be provided to coaches at the Winter Interpretation Meeting.

E. An athlete to compete in the State Championship must be among the top eighteen (18) and ties (12 in relay events). The Games Committee may adjust the number of competitors in the Hurdles and Dash to a field of 24. Rank order performance lists as maintained by the Meet Director shall determine eligibility to compete. Performances from dual meets, class meets, as well as any additional meets designated as "qualifying" meets shall be used in developing ranking lists. Four (4) alternates will be accepted in individual events and 2 alternates in the relays. Alternates will be decided by the designated scratch period.

REQUESTS FROM MEMBER SCHOOLS

EAST PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL – APPEAL OF ATHLETIC PROBATION

The Committee reviewed and discussed East Providence High School's request to waive the probationary status for a previous violation of Article 3 Section 4A –Eligibility. The Committee was very appreciative that the East Providence School Department took the violation very seriously and did in fact take appropriate steps to correct the problem. They also commended East Providence for being proactive in instituting new protocols that will ensure the success of its athletic department. However, the Committee will not take action to remove the probationary status for the 2013-2014 school year.

REQUEST WAIVER OF \$50.00 FINE FOR MISSING THE RIIL MANDATORY PRINCIPALS' BREAKFAST

The RIIL received requests from the following schools requesting a waiver of the \$50.00 fine for missing the mandatory Principals' Breakfast on September 13, 2013: Academy for Career Exploration, Blackstone Academy Charter School, RI Nurses Institute Middle College, NEL/CPS Charter School and Alvarez High School. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved a one-time waiver of the \$50.00 fee. However, the Committee expects all member schools to attend future mandatory meetings.

In another matter, the Committee received a request from Shea High School requesting a waiver of the \$50.00 fine for missing the mandatory Principals' Breakfast in September. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved to waive the \$50.00 fee.

F-1 VISA ISSUE: REQUEST FROM ST. RAPHAEL AND MOUNT SAINT CHARLES ACADEMY TO MODIFY ARTICLE 3, SECTION 6.E. -- FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

The Committee reviewed requests from St. Raphael and Mount Saint Charles Academy to reconsider a previous ruling involving of F-1 Visa students. After discussion, the Committee voted to amend the existing rule. The amended version of Article 3, Section 6.E. as follows:

F-1 VISA STUDENTS – After receiving a favorable ruling from the Executive Director, F-1 Visa students will be eligible immediately provided they did not participate on a varsity level at their previous school. If they participated on a varsity level at their previous school, they must sit out 50% of the League schedule in each sport in which they participated on a varsity level. After completing Form # 2 & #3, and receiving a favorable ruling from the Executive Director, F-1 Visa students may participate in sports during their high school career, but may only participate at the Varsity Level for 1 year. In the sports where a junior varsity level team is not available, the F-1 Visa student will be required to obtain a waiver from the RIIL to participate at the varsity level in that sport.

NFHS COACH OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

The RIIL nominated Rhode Island coaches for the NFHS Coach of the Year 2013.

RIIL TRANSGENDER POLICY

The Committee discussed the existing RIIL Transgender Policy. A committee will be formed to review and make the necessary recommendations.

RIIL WAIVER APPEAL PROCESS – ARTICLE 1, SECTION 16, WAIVER OF RULES FOR STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

The Committee discussed the RIIL Waiver Appeal Process – Article 1, Section 16, Waiver of Rules for Student Eligibility. The Committee advised Mr. Mezzanotte to re-write new policy for future approval.

FALL SPORTS AND FALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The RIIL received a request from Jim Ashley to extend the agreement with the SE Mass Officials Association one more year. The Committee tabled the matter to its next meeting in January.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (14-0) the following 2013 fall championships: Girls' Tennis, Girls' Volleyball, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Soccer, Boys' and Girls' Cross Country, Field Hockey and Freshman Football.

WINTER SPORTS

- **BOYS' AND GIRLS' ICE HOCKEY** – Terry Lynch and George Egan, Co-Directors – The RIIL received a request on behalf of the Ice Hockey Committee for Girls' Hockey to play 15 minute periods and a Mercy Rule during the third period. Mercy rule proposal: *"Running time can commence in the third period if there is a 6 goal difference in the score. The clock will stop when a penalty is assessed. If during the third period the score is reduced to less than a 6 goal difference regular stop time will be reinstituted."* On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved the adoption of the mercy rule (Girls Hockey only).
- **BOYS' AND GIRLS' INDOOR TRACK** – Ken Skelly and Bob Bayha, Co-Directors -- A proposal was presented to the Committee on Athletics for inclusion of Pole Vault as an exhibition event at the Indoor Track State Meet. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved the request. Also, the Indoor Track Committee requested a waiver of Article 7, Section 1.C. *"Games shall begin on the 11th day."* **Result:** Season will start 8 or 9 days after the first practice. Reason: PCTA facility is the only site for indoor track meets. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved the request.

COOPERATIVE TEAMS APPROVAL – GIRLS' ICE HOCKEY

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved a request from the Coventry Public Schools Committee to join the North Smithfield and Smithfield High School Girls' Ice Hockey coop team beginning with the 2013-2014 season. This request is pending school department approval from all schools. It's approved for one (1) year only (2013-14).

SPRING SPORTS

- **GIRLS' LACROSSE** – Tom Kenworthy, Director -- The RIIL received a letter from The Wheeler School requesting to enter Girls' Lacrosse beginning with the 2013-2014 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee approved (13-1) the request. In another matter, the RIIL received a request from Narragansett High School requesting to move to up to Division II in Girls' Lacrosse beginning with the 2013-2014 year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved the request.

WAIVER HEARING COMMITTEE APPEALS

Sean McElkenny – *The Prout School*

Waiver of Article 3, Section 5, Transfer Rule. Appealing a decision of Waiver Committee.

Motion to grant waiver: 2-7-2 (**denied**)

The Committee then adopted the following closing motion: THAT ANY AND ALL MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS TO THIS DATE BE REAFFIRMED AND RATIFIED.

The November meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges
RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, January 27, 2014
1:30 pm
RIIL Office
Bldg. #6 RI College Campus
600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Abromitis, Crowley, Gribbin and Keegan; Messrs., Barr, DiMuccio, Goho, Kavanagh, Kelly, Kenworthy, McCarthy, Sollitto, Traficante, Warner and Whaley

Also Present: Thomas Mezzanotte, Executive Director; Mike Lunney, Assistant Director, Susana Borges, Administrative Assistant; Bob Cavanagh, Director, Boys' Soccer and Brendan McGair, *Pawtucket Times*

Absent: Messr: Littlefield

The January meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

WELCOME NEW PCOA MEMBERS AND SPORT COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

The Committee welcomed new PCOA members Michaela Keegan, Principal of Juanita Sanchez Complex and Thomas W. Kenworthy, Ed.D, Principal of North Kingstown High School. Ms. Keegan is the sport director for Boys' Tennis and Mr. Kenworthy is the sport director for Girls' Lacrosse. Also, Mr. Whaley will become the co-sport director of baseball. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (15-0) approved the assignment of Mr. Jay Brennan, Principal, Bishop Hendricken as co-sport director of Boys' and Girls' Indoor Track.

FINANCE REPORT

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (15-0) approved the finance report submitted by Ms. Donna Kane, Business Manager.

PCOA MINUTES NOVEMBER 18, 2013

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the November 18, 2013 meeting was unanimously (15-0) approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte provided updates regarding the following:

- Legal Issues
- Next PCOA meeting scheduled on March 24, 2014
- RIIL/RIIAAA Coaches-AD Conference scheduled for August
- NFHS PSA's and Posters
- Proposed RI Legislation revised-Chapter 16-91

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Mezzanotte referred to several letters, memoranda and publications placed in each member's folder or filed in the League office. The RIIL has had three student-athletes featured in the NFHS High School Today magazine. Also, Mr. Mezzanotte congratulated Mount Saint Charles Academy for their Sportsmanship program.

RIIL CHALLENGE CUP – FALL STANDINGS

The Challenge Cup fall standings are posted online. The Large School Division leader is LaSalle Academy; Medium School Division leader is Coventry High School and Small School Division leader is Moses Brown School. Congratulations to all teams!

RIIL MARKETING REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the approved sponsorship between the RIIL and Burger King. This sponsorship will feature the Student-Athlete of the Month and Team of the week.

RIIL STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Lunney reported on the progress of our Student Advisory Board. The RIIL Student Advisory Board and Burger King are teaming up together to publically recognize an individual team every week, starting in April, for their significant academic success, leadership, community service, sportsmanship, team growth, and athletic service. Also, they will be sponsoring a Captain's Workshop scheduled on March 8, 2014 at North Kingstown High School.

RIIL RULES VIOLATIONS

Narragansett High School: Article 3 (Eligibility), Section 1.G – allowing grade 8 students to participate with the Narragansett Boys' and Girls' Outdoor Track team

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (15-0) voted to assess the following sanctions:

1. Fine Narragansett High School the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00)
2. Place the Narragansett Boys' and Girls' Outdoor Track program on probation for a period of one (1) year

Classical, Juanita Sanchez, Moses Brown and Mount Pleasant: Article 6, Section 6 – Use of an Ineligible Athlete – Boys' Indoor Track

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (15-0) voted to impose a fine of \$100 on the following schools Classical, Juanita Sanchez, Moses Brown and Mount Pleasant for violating Article 6, Section 6 due to error by a school official.

Central Falls, Providence Country Day, St. Raphael and Tolman: Article 6, Section 6 – Use of an Ineligible Athlete – Boys' Indoor Track

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (15-0) voted to impose a fine of \$100 on the following schools Central Falls, Providence Country Day, St. Raphael and Tolman. In addition, each coach is suspended for the next scheduled League meet (one meet) for violating Article 6, Section 6 due to coach error.

LaSalle Academy: Article 6, Section 6 – Use of an Ineligible Athlete – Gymnastics

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (15-0) voted to impose a fine of \$100 on the LaSalle Academy for violating Article 6, Section 6 due to error by a school official.

Mt. Hope High School: Article 6, Section 6 – Use of an Ineligible Athlete – Boys' Hockey

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (15-0) voted to impose a fine of \$100 on Mt. Hope High School. In addition, the Boys' Hockey coach is suspended for the next scheduled League meet (one meet) for violating Article 6, Section 6 due to coach error.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM REQUEST FROM BARRINGTON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

The Committee on Athletics reviewed and discussed a request from the Barrington Christian Academy requesting to join the RIIL and allow students the opportunity to play in accordance with Article 3, Section 1.L of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously voted (15-0) to approve their request.

RIIL TRANSGENDER POLICY

The RIIL Transgender Policy Committee met and will have another meeting. Transgender Policy will be presented at the March meeting.

FALL SPORT ALIGNMENT APPROVALS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (15-0) the following RIIL sport fall alignments for 2014-2016: Boys' Soccer, Girls' Soccer, Field Hockey, Football, Girls' Tennis, Girls' Volleyball and Boys' and Girls' Cross Country.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS

Article 24, Soccer

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously voted (15-0) to approve the following rule revisions to Article 24, Soccer:

1. The **home** team **MUST** have a scorer located at mid field (table is not a requirement). If none is provided, the **home** team coach will be issued a yellow card prior to the start of the game.
2. Shootout eligibility: Anyone who played in the game is eligible to participate in the shootout.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee discussed several matters in Executive session.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move out of Executive Session.

TOLMAN HIGH SCHOOL APPEAL - DENIED

Mr. Christopher Savastano, Principal, Tolman High School appealed sanctions levied against the Tolman High School football team. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously voted (0-15) to deny the appeal.

RIIL COOP PROPOSAL – ARTICLE 3, SECTION I-J

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (15-0) the new rules governing the formation of cooperative teams. (See Article 3, Section I-J online.)

RIIL WAIVER APPEAL PROCESS – ARTICLE 1, SECTION 16, WAIVER OF RULES FOR STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (15-0) the revised process described in Article 1, Section 16 - Waiver of Rules for Student Eligibility. (See Article 1, Section 16 online.)

ARTICLE 30: UNIFIED SPORTS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (15-0) changes to Article 30, Unified Sports. (See Article 30 online.)

FOOTBALL

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (15-0) voted to approve the following:

1. Article 19 (Football), Section 5 – Football playoff format. All Thanksgiving Day “League games” must be played during the regular season. As a result, all semifinal football games will be played on the Friday before Thanksgiving. The traditional Thanksgiving Day games will be played as in the past as “non-league” games. Divisional championship games will be played a minimum of seven (7) days after Thanksgiving.
2. Article 19 (Football), Section 1 – Rule prohibiting football full contact to no more than 90 minutes per week.
3. Proposal allowing Mr. Jim Ashley, RIIL football assigner to assign all junior varsity and freshman games for the 2014 season.

RIIL OFFICIALS’ FEES 2014-2017

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (15-0) approved all RIIL Officials’ Fees for 2014-2017 (Article 9 - Officials).

WINTER SPORTS

- **GIRLS’ BASKETBALL** – Cindy Neal, Sport Director – The RIIL received a letter from Saint Patrick Academy notifying the League they cannot field a Girls’ Basketball team for the 2013-2014 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (15-0) approved St. Patrick Academy’s request to drop Girls’ Basketball for the 2013-2014 season without sanctions.
- **BOYS’ AND GIRLS’ INDOOR TRACK** – The Committee reviewed a request from the RI Indoor Track & Field Coaches Association regarding the recent PCOA approval of the indoor pole vault as an exhibition event at the RIIL State Indoor Track & Field Championships. There was no motion to revisit this matter.

SPRING SPORTS

- **BOYS’ LACROSSE** – George Finn, Sport Director – The RIIL received a letter from North Providence High School requesting to enter Boys’ Lacrosse beginning with the 2013-2014 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (15-0) the request.
- **BOYS’ TENNIS** – Michaela Keegan, Sport Director – On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (15-0) approved a request from Middletown and Rogers High School to form a cooperative team in Boys’ Tennis beginning with the 2013-2014 school year.

The Committee then adopted the following closing motion: THAT ANY AND ALL MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE PRINCIPALS’ COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE PRINCIPALS’ COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS TO THIS DATE BE REAFFIRMED AND RATIFIED.

The January meeting of the Principals’ Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Signed:

Date: _____

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, March 24, 2014
1:30 pm
RIIL Office
Bldg. #6 RI College Campus
600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Abromitis, Crowley, Gribbin and Keegan; Messrs., Barr, DiMuccio, Goho, Kavanagh, Kelly, Kenworthy, Littlefield, McCarthy, Sollitto, Traficante, Warner and Whaley

Also Present: Thomas Mezzanotte, Executive Director; Mike Lunney, Assistant Director, Susana Borges, Administrative Assistant; and Brendan McGair, *Pawtucket Times*

Absent: none

The March meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE ON BEHALF OF GEORGE NASUTI, AD, WOONSOCKET HS

A moment of silence was held for George Nasuti, the beloved Woonsocket athletic director and coach who passed away unexpectedly last month.

NEW SPORT DIRECTORS

Mr. Mike Whaley, principal at Burrillville High was officially appointed as the co-director of baseball and Mr. Jay Brennan, principal at Bishop Hendricken as the co-director of Boys' and Girls' Indoor Track.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Sollitto, chairman of the Finance Committee submitted a summary of their meeting held on March 24, 2014. The Committee welcomed Mr. Stephen Angell, Esq., CEO of Dexter Credit Union. In addition, the Committee reviewed and discussed the following items:

- RIIL Investments
- Profit and Loss Report
- Fall and Winter Sports (revenue/expenses)
- Financial status of the 2013-2014 hockey season
- Indoor Track Fees
- 2012 Audit Report

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously approved (17-0) the recommendation by the Finance Committee to increase the Boys' and Girls' Indoor Track fee from \$175 to \$200 for the 2014-2015 school year.

PCOA MINUTES JANUARY 27, 2014

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the January 27, 2014 meeting was unanimously approved (17-0).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte provided updates regarding the following:

- FINAO Project
- NCAA/NFHS Litigation
- UCA Cheer Championships
- RI Legislation Update
- NFHS Section I Spirit of Sport Award

RIIL/NFHS SECTION I SPIRIT OF SPORT AWARD

Isaac Lufkin, a student-athlete and kicker of the football team at Classical High, not only has been selected as the 2014 RIIL Spirit of Sport Award recipient but also the 2014 Section I recipient of the NFHS Spirit of Sport Award. The NFHS Spirit of Sport Award was created by the NFHS to recognize those individuals who exemplify the ideals of the spirit of sport that represent the core mission of education-based athletics. Isaac will be presented with both awards at the RIIL High School Hall of Fame banquet in May.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Mezzanotte referred to several letters, memoranda and publications placed in each member's folder or filed in the League office.

RUIL STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Lunney reported on the progress of our Student Advisory Board. The RIIL Student Sport Leaders Workshop was held on Saturday, March 8, 2014 at North Kingstown High School. It was a tremendous success.

WAIVER HEARING COMMITTEE, ARTICLE 1, SECTION 16 C1. ORGANIZATION

After Committee approval of Article 1, Section 16 C1. – Waiver Hearing Committee, the Committee recommended several names of Rhode Island High School principals to serve on the Waiver Hearing Committee.

RUIL RULES VIOLATIONS

Bishop Keough: Article 3, Section 5 – Transfer Rule – Girls' Basketball

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (17-0) voted to impose a fine of \$100 on Bishop Keough for violation of Article 3, Section 5. The student-athlete did sit out the appropriate number of games.

REQUEST FROM MEMBER SCHOOL

The Committee received a request from Johnston High School requesting a waiver of a \$200 fine for a violation of Article 6, Section 6 of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (17-0) denied the request to waive the \$200.00 fine.

RUIL TRANSGENDER POLICY

Mr. Lunney informed the Committee of a meeting held with Michele Forcier and Stephen Alexander, members of the RIIL Transgender Committee, regarding the RIIL Transgender Policy. Mr. Lunney recommended approval of a new transgender policy Article 1, Section 22. Formal approval will take place at the June PCOA meeting.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session.

PCOA EXECUTIVE SESSION

The following items were discussed in Executive Session: Full and affiliate membership - Article 2, Section 1.; RIIL Cheer proposal and RIIL hockey status update.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move out of Executive Session.

FALL SPORT ALIGNMENTS – BOYS AND GIRLS SOCCER REVISIONS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (17-0) revisions to the Boys' and Girls' Soccer alignment for 2014-2016.

FOOTBALL

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to approve the following:

1. Preseason football schedule with a start date of Aug 14. This to accommodate the heat acclimatization guidelines and new 90 minute contact rule. Rule: Practice starts 18 days prior to the Injury Fund games (not counting Sundays).
2. Injury Fund Games – two 15 minute periods
3. Freshman games – 10 minute quarters
4. JV games – 12 minute quarters (unless both coaches agree to play 10 min quarters)

WINTER SPORTS

The RIIL received a letter from Masters Regional Academy requesting to join the League in Boys' and Girls' Basketball beginning with the 2014-2015 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (17-0) approved Masters Regional Academy's request to join the league in Boys' and Girls' Basketball.

WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (17-0) the following winter championships: Boys' and Girls' Indoor Track, Boys' and Girls' Swim, Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Boys' and Girls' Hockey, Gymnastics and Competition Cheer.

The Committee then adopted the following closing motion: THAT ANY AND ALL MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS TO THIS DATE BE REAFFIRMED AND RATIFIED.

The March meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____

RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, June 16, 2014
1:30 pm
RIIL Office
Bldg. #6 RI College Campus
600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Abromitis, Crowley, Gribbin and Keegan; Messrs., Barr, DiMuccio, Goho, Kavanagh, Kelly, Kenworthy, McCarthy, Sollitto, Traficante, and Whaley

Also Present: Thomas Mezzanotte, Executive Director; Mike Lunney, Assistant Director, Susana Borges, Administrative Assistant; and Brendan McGair, *Pawtucket Times*

Absent: Messrs. Littlefield and Warner

The June meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

PCOA MINUTES MARCH 24, 2014

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the March 24, 2014 meeting was unanimously approved (14-0).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

RIIL HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME BANQUET – FALL 2015

Mr. Mezzanotte reported the RIIL High School Hall of Fame Banquet will now be held in the fall beginning with fall 2015. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved the change to RIIL High School Hall of Fame Banquet to begin fall 2015.

RIPCOA GRADES 6-8

The Committee received a letter from RIPCOA grades 6-8 rejecting the RIIL proposal to include grades 6-8 as part of the RIIL.

2014-2015 PCOA, WAIVER HEARING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Principals' Committee on Athletics Meeting Dates (2014-2015): August 18, November 17, January 26, March 16, June 15 and August 17.

Waiver Hearing Committee Meeting Dates (2014-2015): Fall: August 7 & 12 – Winter: October 15 & 29 – Spring: February 5 & 11.

Finance Committee Meeting Dates (2014-2015): August 18, March 16, June 15 and August 17.

2013-2014 RIIL CHALLENGE CUP – WINNERS

The 2013-2014 Challenge Cup winners are: The Large School Division LaSalle Academy; Medium School Division Classical High School and Small School Division Bishop Hendricken High School. Congratulations to all schools!

2014 RIIL PRINCIPALS MEETINGS

Mr. Mezzanotte summarized comments and suggestions presented by principals during these meetings which were informative and substantive.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee received a letter from Mr. Christopher Savastano, Principal of Tolman High School asking the Committee to reconsider the sanctions imposed on the Tolman High School football program based on additional information that he presented. The Committee took no action on this matter.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Sollitto, chairman of the Finance Committee submitted a report of their meeting held on June 16, 2014. The Committee reviewed a preliminary 2014-2015 budget.

RUIL STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Lunney presented highlights of the RUIL Student Advisory Board for the 2013-2014 school year.

UNIFIED SPORTS REPORT

After meeting with the Unified Sports Committee, Mr. Lunney explained the expansion of unified volleyball and basketball teams. In addition, he presented a review of funding for the 2014-2015 school year.

MARKETING END OF YEAR REPORT – TRACY QUARELLA

Mrs. Quarella, RUIL Director of Marketing, presented an end of year marketing report. In addition, the committee voted to approve the extension of Mrs. Quarella's contract for 2014-2015 for one year.

RUIL WAIVER HEARING COMMITTEE

The Committee recognized the following principals who have agreed to serve on the RUIL Waiver Hearing Committee: Mike Podraza, E. Greenwich High School; Susan Chandler, Exeter/West Greenwich High School; Janet Sheehan, E. Providence High School, Tamara Sterling, Hope HS; Dan Richard, St. Raphael Academy and Jay Brennan, Bishop Hendricken High School.

RUIL RULES VIOLATIONS

Scituate High School self-reported a violation of Article 6, Section 6. (Use of an Ineligible Athlete-Fastpitch Softball). As a result, the Committee unanimously voted (14-0) to impose the following penalties:

- Scituate High School is fined \$100. The violation was due to a clerical error by the athletic office.

LaSalle Academy self-reported a violation of Article 6, Section 6. (Use of an Ineligible Athlete-Boys Tennis). As a result, the Committee unanimously voted (14-0) to impose the following penalties:

- LaSalle Academy is fined \$100. The violation was due to a clerical error by the athletic office.

St. Mary Academy-Bay View self-reported a violation of Article 13, Section 1 (Coaches Certification-Girls Hockey). As a result, the Committee unanimously voted (14-0) to impose the following penalties:

- St. Mary Academy-Bay View is fined \$100.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session.

PCOA EXECUTIVE SESSION

The following items were discussed in Executive Session: Full and affiliate membership - Article 2, Section 1.; Outdoor track penalty; RUIL cheer proposal; Coop exception-Providence School Department and NFHS Board President meetings and responsibilities.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move out of Executive Session.

RUIL RULE REVISIONS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee approved the following RUIL rule revisions:

Article 2, Section 1 (Membership): As a result of these modifications, schools would be classified as full or affiliate members.

Article 1, Section 22 (Transgender participation)

Article 28 & 29 (Indoor & Outdoor Track) Section 5: Entries for the Class and State Meets must be submitted at a time and manner as designated by the Director(s) of Track. **Penalty for late entries:** Schools who submit late (after the deadline) entries for the State Meet will be subject to the following: 1st offense - \$50.00 fine; 2nd offense - \$100.00

Article 6, Section 7 (Penalties): Coaches Ejected: Any coach/school official who is uncooperative or exhibits unsportsmanlike behavior to the official representative of the RUIL during any RUIL playoff contest may be ejected from said contest.

Article 6, Section 5 (Penalties): Use of Ineligible Coach: All coaches (paid or volunteer) must be listed on the RUIL website (www.ruil.org).

RIIL RULE REVISION – PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee approved the following rule revision to Article 3, Section 1-J. Cooperative Teams: Providence School Department exception: The following schools will be linked together to form three athletic coop programs in all sports: Mt. Pleasant HS & Alvarez HS; Hope HS & E3 HS and Central HS & PCTA.

COOPERATIVE TEAM REQUESTS

The RIIL received a request from Middletown and Rogers High School to form a co-op in Boys and Girls Cross Country. The request was denied.

The RIIL received a request from Providence Country Day, Wheeler School and Juanita Sanchez High School to continue co-op in football. It was approved for 2014 with a phase out period.

REQUEST FROM PAUL CUFFEE SCHOOL TO PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS

The Committee received a request from Paul Cuffee School to join the league in boys' basketball, baseball and fastpitch softball beginning with the 2014-2015 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved their request.

RIIAAA

The Committee thanked Mr. Michael Traficante who served as the RIIAAA representative on the PCOA throughout the past four years. He has served with distinction and dedication.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved James Vetelino, athletic director at Westerly High School to serve as the RIIAAA representative on the PCOA for a two year term.

FALL SPORTS - FOOTBALL

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved to rescind the contract extension for Mr. Jim Ashley (Football Officials Commissioner) to 2015. Under the present agreement, Mr. Ashley's contract ends at the conclusion of the 2014-2015 football season and a new bid process will begin.

WINTER SPORT ALIGNMENT APPROVALS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (14-0) the following RIIL sport winter alignments for 2014-2016: Boys' Basketball, Girls' Basketball, Boys' and Girls' Ice Hockey, Boys' and Girls' Swim, Boys' and Girls' Indoor Track, Wrestling and Gymnastics.

WINTER SPORTS

- **ICE HOCKEY** – George Egan and Terry Lynch, Co-Sport Directors – The Committee received a letter from St. Mary-Bay View Academy notifying the league they must withdraw from the League in Girls' Ice Hockey beginning with the 2014-2015 school year due to lack of players. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously voted (14-0) to not penalize St. Mary-Bay View Academy for withdrawing from the League in Girls' Ice Hockey.

SPRING SPORTS

- **FASTPITCH SOFTBALL** – Betty Marquis, Director – The Committee received a letter from Bishop Keough High School notifying the league they must withdraw from the League in fastpitch softball beginning with the 2013-2014 school year due to lack of players. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously voted (14-0) to not penalize Bishop Keough High School for withdrawing from the League in fastpitch softball.

SPRING CHAMPIONSHIPS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (14-0) the following spring championships: Boys' and Girls' Outdoor Track, Boys' and Girls' Lacrosse, Boys' Tennis, Boys' Volleyball, Fastpitch Softball, Golf, Unified Basketball and Freshman Baseball.

HEARING

The Committee heard the testimony of the Barrington High School Boys' Basketball head coach regarding his actions during a playoff game held in March. As a result, on a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted (11-1-2) to impose the following sanctions:

- A fine of \$100.00 to Barrington High School.
- A suspension of Boys' Basketball head coach for the first two (2) RIIL League games (and all games in between) for the 2014-15 Boys' Basketball season.
- To require Coach Sullivan to complete the NFHS online Sportsmanship Course prior to the 2014-15 season. This should be verified by the Barrington High School Administration.

WAIVER HEARING COMMITTEE APPEAL

Erin St. Pierre – Lincoln High School

Waiver of Article 30, Section 1.3., Unified Sports. Appealing a decision of Waiver Hearing Committee.

Motion to grant waiver: 12-1-1 (approved) – based on the strict adherence to specified guidelines and restrictions are adhered to)

The Committee then adopted the following closing motion: THAT ANY AND ALL MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS TO THIS DATE BE REAFFIRMED AND RATIFIED.

The June meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____