

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, August 21, 2017 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
875 Centerville Road, Building #3
Warwick, RI 02886**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mme., Gribbin, Keegan and Ponte; Messrs., Barbieri, Brennan, Goho, Habershaw, Kavanagh, Kelly, Marcello, Sollitto, and Solomon.

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

Absent: Messrs: Barr, Henderson, Warner and Whaley

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

WELCOME NEW PCOA MEMBERS

The Committee welcomed new PCOA members Michaela Keegan, Principal of Blackstone Valley Prep Academy and Michael Sollitto, RI School Superintendents' Association.

PCOA MINUTES JUNE 19, 2017

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the June 19, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved (13-0).

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: Rule Revisions: Article 1, Section 16.G and Article 3, Section 1.J.; 2016-2017 Budget; New Building Finances; Budget 2017-2018; Meeting at Mt. St. Charles; Korey Stringer Institutes Report ranking High School State Associations regarding managing injury risk; NFHS Response to the Korey Stringer Report and Pathway Programs and eligibility.

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Kelly, chairman of the Finance Committee reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on August 21, 2017 and submitted its report regarding the 2017-2018 RIIL budget. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee on Athletics unanimously approved (13-0) the RIIL budget for the 2017-2018 school year. In addition, the 2015-2016 RIIL Audit had no issues.

NEW MEMBER FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Tom Barbieri was appointed to the Finance Committee

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- Computer Management System - rSchool Today
- Coaches Certification: Update – It is the schools responsibility to certify all coaches.
- 2017 NFHS Summer Conference – Providence, RI
- NFHS Student Leadership Conference
- NESLC Student Leadership
- Goals 2017-2018
- Fall Coaches Meeting
- Venue Contracts
- NFHS Information: For the 28th consecutive year, participation has increased nationally. Participation in the RIIL is up from 2016. The NFHS voted to reserve Friday night for High School Football.

2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2016-2017 Annual Report was reviewed and approved. Copies will be distributed to all schools.

SPORTS MEDICINE

Mr. Mezzanotte discussed several NFHS Position Statements and the Korey Stringer Institute (KSI) report ranking High School State Associations regarding managing injury risk. In addition, the Committee reviewed and discussed the NFHS response to the KSI report and referred it to the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee.

2018-2020 RE-ALIGNMENT

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (13-0) a recommendation from the RIIAAA of the formation for a new RIIL sub-committee for realignment. Also, a timeline was established for realignment in all sports beginning with fall 2018: February 2018 – deadline for fall sports alignment approval; May 2018 deadline for winter sports and October 2018 deadline for spring sports.

PATHWAY PROGRAMS AND ELIGIBILITY

The Committee reviewed Article 3 as it relates to Certified and Career Technical Programs as well as Pathway Programs. The Committee will revise Article 3, Section 1 to include Pathway Programs. In addition, Mr. Sollitto representing RISSA, will submit state guidelines regarding the Pathway Programs at the November meeting.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS

On a motion made and seconded the following RIIL Rules Revisions were unanimously (13-0) approved:

1. Article 1, Section 16. G. (Organization)
2. Article 3, Section 1.J. (Co-ops)

SCHOOL REQUESTS

The Committee received a request on behalf of Central Falls, Tolman and Shea High School to form a Wrestling Co-Op team. Based on the guidelines listed in Article 3, Section 1 J of the rules and regulations of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League, the application meets the established guidelines. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the request and it is approved for two years (2017-2018 & 2018-2019).

WINTER SPORTS

Girls Basketball – Cindy Neal, Girls Basketball Sport Director – Upon recommendation from the Girls' Basketball Sport Committee, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved Chariho High School's request to drop to Division 2. As such, Lincoln School will move up to Division 1.

Boys Basketball – Joe Goho and Mike Sollitto, Sport Co-Director's – The Committee received a request from Times Stem to join the League in Boys' Basketball beginning with the 2017 season. Due to the lateness of this request, it was denied. They will be added to the Boys' Basketball alignment in 2018.

WAIVER HEARING COMMITTEE APPEAL

Patric Semedo Varela – Central High School

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

Motion to grant waiver: 12-1 (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 August meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, November 13, 2017 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
875 Centerville Road, Building #3
Warwick, RI 02886**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mme., Gribbin; Messrs., Barbieri, Barr, Habershaw, Kavanagh, Marcello, Sollitto, Solomon, Warner and Whaley.

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

Absent: Mmes: Keegan and Ponte Messrs: Brennan, Goho, Henderson, and Kelly.

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

PCOA MINUTES AUGUST 21, 2017

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the August 21, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved (10-0).

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: Meeting with RI Department of Ed Commissioner Wagner; Venue Contracts; RIIL Rule Revisions and school requests.

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

RIIL BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

The Committee reviewed the August - October RIIL Profit and Loss Budget Report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- Computer Management System - rSchool Today
- Winter Coaches Meeting – November 15th
- Venue Contracts
- Mike Lunney – “The State of High School Athletics” - Panel Discussion at Springfield College
- Meeting with Kristen Stringfellow – RISSA
- NE Council Meeting: Golf & Game Day
- Ball Bids – 5 year renewal proposals
- Championship Merchandise Bids

SPORTS MEDICINE

the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee.

2018-2020 RE-ALIGNMENT

The timeline for realignment in all sports beginning with fall 2018: February 2018 – deadline for fall sports alignment approval; May 2018 deadline for winter sports and October 2018 deadline for spring sports.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS

On a motion made and seconded the following RIIL Rules Revisions were unanimously (13-0) approved:

1. Article 8, Section 4.A. (Appeals) – “The procedure outlined speaks to student’s eligibility issues and violations of the bylaws of the RI Interscholastic League. Matters dealing with individual sports, i.e. protests, **ejections**, schedule concerns, league alignments, official’s complaints, etc. will be handled by the Executive Committee of the sport (Article 8, Sections 1 and 5). The committees(s) will be chaired by the Director/designee of the sport.

2. Article 1., Section 16. C.1 (Waiver Request Hearing Committee) – “Eligibility waiver requests and violations of the by-laws of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League are addressed by the five (5) member Waiver Request Hearing Committee. This committee consists of four members (high school administrators) selected by the Principals’ Committee on Athletics and the Chairperson of the Principals’ Committee on Athletics. A majority vote of the members present is required for a decision. Hearings are held in August, October and February, or at special meetings called in order to accommodate all waiver requests.”
3. Article 1., Section 16. D. (Waiver Request Hearing Committee) – “Appeals of decisions made by the Waiver Hearing Committee will be heard by the Principals’ Committee on Athletics. Principals’ Committee on Athletics meetings are scheduled for August, September (**if needed**), November, January, March and June. In extenuating circumstances, which would cause undue hardship, these rules may be waived by **60%** of the members of the Principals’ Committee on Athletics present and voting. See Article 8, Section 4, paragraph B.
4. Article 7, Section 3. C (Pre-Season Heat-Acclimatization Rules for all ~~Fall~~ Sports)
5. Article 13, Section 1 (Coaches Certification) – Pursuant to the passage of Title 16, Chapter 91.1 – An Act Relating to Education – Cardiac Prevention in School Sports and in accordance with this **Rhode Island Law: “Beginning with the 2017 winter season**, ALL coaches must complete the **free** online course NFHS Sudden Cardiac Arrest prior to the start of the season.
6. Article 28 & 29, Section 5 (Track) – “For the **Class** and **State Meets**, a school may submit as many entries per event as are qualified by the rankings.”
7. Article 3., Section 1 (Career and Tech Ed - *Pathway Programs*)

SCHOOL REQUESTS

The Committee received a request from Blackstone Academy Charter School to waive the RIIL Rules and Regulations, Article 3, Section 2 – Alternative Education Athletic Participation, to modify the number of students to 350. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the request.

The Committee received a request from Times2 STEM Academy to join the league in Boys and Girls Outdoor Track and Fastpitch Softball beginning with the 2018 season. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their request pending availability in the 2018 schedule.

RIIL RULE VIOLATIONS

Portsmouth High School: Article 6, Section 4: (Eligibility List)

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously (13-0) voted to sanction Portsmouth High School for violating Article 3, Section 1A of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Portsmouth High School is assessed a \$200 fine.

FALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the 2017 Girls Tennis, Field Hockey, Boys and Girls Cross Country, and Boys and Girls Soccer Championships.

WINTER SPORTS

Girls Hockey – George Egan and Terry Lynch – Sport Co-Directors – The Committee received a request on behalf of Smithfield, Coventry and Rogers High School to form a Girls Ice Co-Op team. Based on the guidelines listed in Article 3, Section 1 J of the rules and regulations of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League, the application meets the established guidelines. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the request and it is approved for **two** years (2017-2018 & 2018-2019).

Wrestling – Bob DiMuccio and Tony Torregrossa, Sport Co-Director’s – The Committee received a letter from Moses Brown school informing the League they must drop wrestling due to lack of participation. The Committee approved this with no penalty. The Committee received a request from Central High School to join the League in wrestling beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their request.

Freshman Basketball – Gerald Habershaw – Sport Director – The Committee received a request from Juania Sanchez Complete to join the League in freshman basketball beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their request.

WAIVER HEARING COMMITTEE APPEAL

Cam Nappi – Mt. Hope High School

Waiver of Article 3, Section 6., Transfer Rule. Appealing a decision of Waiver Hearing Committee.

Motion to grant waiver: 7-3 (**approved**)

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 4:00 P.M.

Signed: _____

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, January 22, 2018 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
875 Centerville Road, Building #3
Warwick, RI 02886**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Gribbin and Ponte; Messrs., Barbieri, Barr, Goho, Habershaw, Kavanagh, Kelly, Marcello, Solomon, Warner and Whaley.

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

Absent: Mme: Keegan; Messrs: Henderson and Sollitto.

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

PCOA MINUTES NOVEMBER 13, 2017

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the November 13, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved (13-0).

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: Special Legislative Study Commission regarding high school start time; ESports - PlayVS; Revised realignment formula; Coventry head hockey coach and PCOA vacancy.

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

RIIL BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

The Committee reviewed the 2017 Fall Tournament Income and Profit and Loss Budget Report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- Correspondence
- Providence School Dept Co-ops and Alternative Programs
- NFHS Winter Conference – Update
 - National Events
 - ESports - PlayVS
- Special Legislative Study Commission regarding high school start time
- NFHS Section I meeting in RI – October 2018
- RIIL received a donation of \$1,000 from Twin River for community service. \$500 was sent to Chariho HS for the Maddie Potts scholarship and \$500 was sent to Toll Gate HS for the Gianna Cirella scholarship.

PCOA RESIGNATION

The Committee received notification of the resignation of Jay Brennan, as a member of the Committee and Co-sport Director of Track and Field.

RIIL SPORTS MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The next RIIL Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2018.

2018-2020 RE-ALIGNMENT

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the revised realignment formula submitted by the RIIAAA. The timeline for realignment in all sports beginning with fall 2018: February 2018 – deadline for fall sports alignment approval; May 2018 deadline for winter sports and October 2018 deadline for spring sports.

RUIL RULE REVISIONS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved a rule revision of Article 3, Section I. J. Cooperative teams:

- Article 3, Section I.J. (Cooperative Teams) – revised to allow the RIIL Office to review schools that are put in the “Phase Out” period on a year to year basis. The RIIL will determine whether co-ops can be extended based on an analysis of their participant numbers.

SCHOOL REQUESTS

The Committee received a request from Hope High School notifying the League they cannot participate in their Thanksgiving Day Football game versus Central due to player safety and low participation. The Committee determined this a non-league game and therefore, has no authorization whether Hope participates.

RUIL RULE VIOLATIONS

Pilgrim High School: Article 6, Section 6A: (Use of an Ineligible Athlete) – Boys Indoor Track

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously (13-0) voted to sanction Pilgrim High School for violating Article 6, Section 6A of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Pilgrim High School is assessed a \$100 fine.

Barrington High School: Article 6, Section 6A: (Use of an Ineligible Athlete) – Wrestling

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously (13-0) voted to sanction Barrington High School for violating Article 6, Section 6A of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Barrington High School is assessed a \$100 fine.

North Kingstown High School: Article 6, Section 7: (Ejection from a Game; Use of an Ineligible Athlete) – Boys Hockey

The Committee reviewed a violation by the North Kingstown HS boys' hockey team. Based on the information provided, two boys hockey players were ejected from a game on Friday, December 29, 2017 and were therefore ineligible to participate in the next scheduled League game which was held on Saturday, December 30, 2017. Based on the information provided, the players were allowed to participate due to an administrative misunderstanding of Article 6, Section 7 (Ejection from Game) of the Rules and Regulations of the RIIL. On a motion and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) voted North Kingstown HS must forfeit any points earned in the Saturday, December 30, 2017 boys' hockey game.

Coventry High School: Article 6, Section 7.B. (Coaches Ejected from a Game) – Boys Hockey

The Committee reviewed an incident involving the Coventry HS head Boys Hockey Coach that took place at a boys' hockey game held in New Hampshire on Wednesday, December 27, 2017. After reviewing the documents and considering the testimony from Coventry Athletic Director C. Quentin Jones, the Committee unanimously (13-0) voted to uphold the ejection by the New Hampshire ice hockey official. Therefore, Coach Bird was ineligible to participate in the League game on Saturday, December 30, 2017 vs North Kingstown HS and must forfeit any points earned for this game in the RIIL ice hockey standings.

FALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the 2017 Football and Girls Volleyball Championships.

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 3:15 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____

RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, March 19, 2018 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
875 Centerville Road, Building #3
Warwick, RI 02886

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Gribbin, Keegan and Ponte; Messrs., Barbieri, Barr, Goho, Habershaw, Kavanagh, Kelly, Sollitto, Solomon, Warner and Whaley.

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

Absent: Messrs: Henderson and Marcello

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

PCOA MINUTES JANUARY 22, 2018

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the January 22, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved (14-0).

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: Special Legislative Study Commission regarding high school start time; ESports - PlayVS; 2018-2020 Fall Sports Alignments and PCOA Hearing.

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

RIIL FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Sean Kelly, Chairman of the RIIL Finance Committee summarized topics from its March 19th meeting. Key points discussed were investment review presented by Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC; review of the 2017-2018 budget and review of the new building expenses.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- NFHS Heart of the Arts Winner - Cecelia Egan, St. Mary Academy Bay View: "The National High School Heart of the Arts Award was created by the NFHS to recognize those individuals who exemplify the ideals of the positive heart of the arts that represent the core mission of education-based activities."
- 2018 RIIL Awards Luncheon, April 5th at Crowne Plaza, Warwick
 - Administrator of the Year: Joseph Goho, Principal, North Providence HS and PCOA Member
 - Athletic Director of the Year: Michael Traficante, The Prout School
 - Male Coach of the Year: Joseph Gilmartin, Football, North Kingstown HS
 - Female Coach of the Year: Meaghan McGonagle, Boys & Girls Volleyball, Cranston East HS
 - Team of the Year: 2017 Central High School Boys Outdoor Track
 - RIIL Spirit of Sport: Maddie Potts, Chariho HS and Gianna Cirella, Toll Gate HS
 - NFHS Heart of the Arts: Cecelia Egan, St. Mary Academy Bay View
 - Student-Athlete of the Month winners (male & female)
 - Student-Athlete of the Year winner (male & female)
 - RIIL Student Advisory Board – Senior Members
 - RI Army National Guard Adjutant General Award
- Special Legislative Study Commission regarding high school start time
- NFHS Coach of the Year Awards
- NFHS Section I meeting in RI – October 2018
- NFHS Provides more than 400 AEDs to High Schools (15 in RI)
- RIIL High School Hall of Fame – induction on a biennial basis
- RIIL Ball Contract
- RIIL Merchandise Contract

ESPORTS – PLAY-VS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved ESports – PlayVS as a sanctioned activity and state championship in the RIIL.

RIIL SPORTS MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The RIIL Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting which was scheduled on March 15th was rescheduled due to inclement weather to May 9.

2018-2020 FALL ALIGNMENTS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved the following fall alignments (as approved by the RIIAAA) for 2018-2020: Football, Girls Volleyball, Boys and Girls Soccer and Girls Tennis.

On a separate motion made and seconded, the Committee discussed and approved (13-1) the 2018-2020 Field Hockey alignment.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved a rule revision of Article 3, Section 9. Boarding Students:

- Article 3, Section 9. A. (Boarding Students) –
"Students boarding in member schools whose parental residence is outside the State of Rhode Island must have their athletic eligibility determined on an individual basis. Until such students are ruled eligible by the Committee, they may not participate in any contest of a member school."

RIIL RULE VIOLATIONS

Moses Brown School: Article 3, Section 11, (Recruiting) – Use of an 8th Grade Student – Boys Hockey

The Committee reviewed the circumstances involving the inadvertent use of an 8th grade student during a Boys Hockey practice on January 29, 2018. On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously (14-0) voted to sanction Moses Brown School for a violation of Article 3, Section 11, Recruiting (use of an 8th grade student) of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Moses Brown School is assessed a \$200 fine.

Hope High School: Article 3, Section 4, (Academic Eligibility) – Girls Basketball

The Committee reviewed the circumstances involving the inadvertent use of an academically ineligible athlete at Hope High School during the Girls' Basketball season. On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously (14-0) voted to sanction Hope High School for a violation of Article 3, Section 4 (Use of Ineligible Athlete) of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Hope High School is assessed a \$200 fine. Since Hope did not win any of its games, the Girls' Basketball team will not need to forfeit any games.

FALL SPORTS

NFHS Soccer Rule Change – Uniforms: High school soccer teams will be reversing their home and visiting uniforms next season. Effective with the 2018-19 season, the HOME team will wear dark jerseys and socks, and the visiting team will wear solid white jerseys and solid white socks.

WINTER SPORTS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mr. Mezzanotte and Mr. Lunney discussed on the recommendation from the RIIAAA Executive Board that the RIIL discontinue sponsoring a Competition Cheer State Championship in favor of the sanction of a Game Day Cheer State Competition. This matter was tabled until the June 18, 2018 Committee Meeting.

Following the winter championships, Mr. Mezzanotte met with the Indoor Track and Wrestling Committees to plan overall improvements to the set-up and administration of the Wrestling and Indoor Track Tournaments.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved the 2018 Boys and Girls Indoor Track, Boys and Girls Swim, Gymnastics, Wrestling, Boys and Girls Basketball and Girls Hockey Winter Championships.

PCOA HEARING

Norman Bouthillier – Toll Gate High School

The Committee met with Mr. Norman Bouthillier, Mr. Robert Littlefield, Ms. Candace Caluori and Mr. Ken Rix to discuss an incident that took place at the RIIL State Indoor Trak Meet on February 17, 2018. During this meeting, Mr. Bouthillier responded to a series of allegations regarding his actions and behaviors toward the Prout Indoor Track Coach and team and in the presence of both the Prout and Toll Gate track athletes. Based on his reflections of this incident and the conclusions raised by the Warwick School Department, the Committee voted unanimously to impose the following sanctions:

- Mr. Bouthillier will have no contact with athletics during the 2018-2019 school year.

Furthermore, before resuming any coaching duties, Mr. Bouthillier must appear before the PCOA to be reinstated.

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 18, 2018 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
875 Centerville Road, Building #3
Warwick, RI 02886**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Keegan and Ponte; Messrs., Barbieri, Barr, Goho, Habershaw, Kavanagh, Kelly, Marcello, Sollitto, Solomon, Warner and Whaley.

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

Absent: Mmes: Gribbin and Messr: Henderson

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

PCOA MINUTES MARCH 19, 2018

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the March 19, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved (13-0).

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: PCOA Chair and Assistant Chair; PCOA Vacancy; 2018-2019 Ice Hockey Proposal and Hope High School Hearing.

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

PCOA CHAIR AND ASSISTANT CHAIR APPOINTMENT

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved to re-appoint Mr. Kevin McNamara as the Chairman and Mr. Sean Kelly as the Assistant Chairman on the PCOA effective June 18, 2018.

PCOA NEW APPOINTMENT

The Committee on Athletics reviewed and discussed several applications of those administrators interested in serving on the PCOA. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously voted (13-0) to approve the appointment of Shani Wallace, Principal of East Providence High School.

RIIL FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Sean Kelly, Chairman of the Finance Committee reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on June 18. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the Finance Committee's recommendation of the preliminary 2018-2019 Budget.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- 2018-2019 Ice Hockey Proposal
- "E" Sports – Play VS – 11 member schools are interested
- School Insurance – information was sent to schools
- Security at After-School Events – National Survey was discussed
- Meeting Dates for 2018-2019
- Study Committee – High School Athletic Issues
- NFHS Section I Meeting in RI in October 2018 will be held at the Atlantic Resort, Middletown, RI

2018-2019 ICE HOCKEY PROPOSAL

After much analysis and discussion over the past few years, on a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved member schools scheduling all regular season home games at the rinks of their choice.

2018-2019 PCOA MEETING DATES

- August 20 and November 12, 2018 and January 14, March 18 and June 17, 2019.

2018-2019 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

- August 20, 2018, March 18 and June 17, 2019.

2018-2020 WINTER ALIGNMENTS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the following winter alignments (as approved by the RIIAAA) for 2018-2020: Boys and Girls Basketball, Boys and Girls Ice Hockey, Boys and Girls Indoor Track, Boys and Girls Swim, Gymnastics and Wrestling.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the following RIIL rule changes:

- **Articles 28 and 29 – Boys and Girls (Winter and Spring) Track**

Section 8.C Spring Track - *"In order to account for the Fully Automatic Timing "FAT" marks, .24 will be added to the provisional standards for state meet qualifying purposes."*

- **Article 6 – Penalties – Section 7.B (2b)**

"The school shall be assessed a \$50.00 fine payable to the RIIL. The coach continues to be disqualified from coaching after the imposed suspension until the fine is paid. In addition, the coach must fill out the Unsportsmanlike Conduct Questionnaire and complete the NFHS "Sportsmanship" and "Teaching and Modeling Behavior" online courses at www.nfhslearn.com before re-establishing eligibility, which must be submitted to the RIIL office prior to his/her reinstatement."

- **Article 5 – Protests – Section 1**

"The RIIL will only recognize/allow protests in accordance with NFHS sport rules. Unless there is a protest procedure listed in the NFHS sport rules, no protest will be allowed."

"A school filing a protest in accordance with NFHS sport rules shall make out the protest in triplicate. One copy will go to the Executive Director/Assistant Executive Director; the second through the Executive Director to the school or schools protested against, and the third copy is to be retained by the protesting school."

In addition, the Committee discussed Article 3, Section 6 – Transfer Rule (pertaining to Vocational and Pathway transfer students). The matter was tabled to the August 20th meeting.

SCHOOL REQUESTS

The Committee discussed a request from Portsmouth High School to add Competitive Sailing. The request was denied.

RIIL RULE VIOLATIONS

Bishop Hendricken High School – Freshman Baseball Coaches Ejections

The Committee reviewed the circumstances involving the ejections of two Bishop Hendricken High School Freshman Baseball Coaches at the RIIL Freshman Baseball State Finals on June 9, 2018.

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously voted to approve the following sanctions:

1. Suspend Head Coach and Assistant Coach for the first four (4) league games in the 2019 baseball season.
2. Coaches must complete the Unsportsmanlike Conduct Questionnaire **and** complete the NFHS "Sportsmanship" and "Teaching and Modeling Behavior" online courses at www.nfhslearn.com before re-establishing eligibility, which must be submitted to the RIIL Office prior to their reinstatement.
3. Bishop Hendricken is assessed a \$100.00 fine (payable to the RIIL).

RIIL RULE VIOLATIONS

Saint Raphael Academy: Article 28, Section 5B, (Championship Meets) – Outdoor Track

The Committee reviewed the circumstances involving St. Raphael Academy violation of Article 28, Section 5B of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) voted to sanction St. Raphael Academy a \$100 fine.

RIIAAA REPORT AND NEW RIIAAA APPOINTMENT – MR. CHRISTOPHER COBAIN, EAST GREENWICH HS

Mr. Marcello, President of the RIIAAA, provided updates as to issues, concerns and recommendations on behalf of the RIIAAA.

In addition, The Committee thanked Mr. Thomas Marcello who served as the RIIAAA representative on the PCOA throughout the past two years. He has served with distinction and dedication. As a result, and on a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the nomination of Mr. Christopher Cobain, athletic director at East Greenwich High School to serve as the RIIAAA representative on the PCOA for a two-year term.

FALL SPORTS

The Committee approved a proposed Joint Practice Football guideline presented by the Football Coaches Association and approved by the RIIAAA to be conducted on Tuesday, August 21, 2018.

SPRING SPORTS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

The RIIL received a letter from Exeter/West Greenwich and Shea High School notifying the League they cannot field a Boys Volleyball team for the 2018 season. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their request without sanctions.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the 2018 Boys and Girls Outdoor Track, Boys and Girls Lacrosse, Boys Tennis, Golf, Baseball, Freshman Baseball, Fast Pitch Softball and Boys Volleyball Spring Championships.

PCOA HEARING

Hope High School – Article 3, Section 4, Academic Eligibility (Boys Basketball)

The Committee reviewed and discussed information presented by Mr. John Hunt, Principal and Mr. Vismark Maria-Gonzalez, Athletic Director of Hope High School regarding violations of Article 3, Section 4, Academic Eligibility (Boys Basketball). The Committee will address these violations and subsequent penalties at its meeting on August 20.

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 4:15 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____