

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, November 14, 2016 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
Bldg. #6 RI College Campus
600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mme., Abromitis; Messrs., Barr, Kavanagh, Kelly, Goho and Marcello

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

Absent: Mme., Crowley and Gribbin; Messrs., Brennan, Henderson, Warner and Whaley

The November meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

PCOA MINUTES AUGUST 16, 2016

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the August 16, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved (7-0).

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 Revision of Article 2., Section 1. – Membership; The Wheeler School request; Smithfield HS Rule Violations (Article 3., Section 4., Academic Eligibility; 2016-2017 Budget and Finance Committee Meeting.

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

RIIL BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte presented the RIIL Audit of the Financial Statement for 2015. In addition, the Committee reviewed the September/October RIIL Profit and Loss Budget Report.

PCOA RESIGNATION AND VACANCY

The Committee received a letter of resignation from Mr. Robert Littlefield., a long-time member of the Principals' Committee on Athletics. On a motion made and seconded, the Principals' Committee on Athletics unanimously accepted (7-0), with regret, Mr. Littlefield's resignation. Also, the Committee tabled the selection of new PCOA members to its January meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- Computer Management System - rSchool Today
- RIIL New Building: Update
- Coaches Certification: Update
- 2017 NFHS Summer Conference – Providence, RI
- Huddle Digital Ticketing Partner
- NFHS National Campaign – “My Reason Why”
- RIIL Fall “Battle of the Fans”
- NFHS School Broadcast Program – La Salle Academy

SCHOOL REQUESTS

The RIIL received a request from North Smithfield and Scituate High School to join the League in Boys and Girls Indoor Track beginning with the 2016-2017 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (7-0) North Smithfield and Scituate High school's request.

SPRING SPORTS ALIGNMENT 2017 AND 2018

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (7-0) approved the following spring sports alignments for 2017 and 2018: Baseball, Softball, Boys and Girls Lacrosse, Boys' Volleyball, Boys' and Girls' Outdoor Track Boys' Tennis and Golf.

RIIL RULE VIOLATIONS:

The Committee heard testimony from Mr. Dan Kelley, Principal of Smithfield High School regarding violations of Article 3, Section 4., Academic Eligibility. As a result of Smithfield high school's investigation and self-reporting of eleven (11) violations of Article 3., Section 4., the Committee voted unanimously (11-0) to approve the following sanctions:

1. The Smithfield HS Athletic Program is placed on probation for a period of three (3) years (2016-17, 2017-18 & 2018-19)
2. Smithfield HS will be fined a sum of \$1,100.
3. Smithfield HS fully implements all aspects of the Athletic Program Improvement Plan.

In addition, Mr. Kelley submitted and Athletic Program Improvement Plan. It was noted that **all** athletes in violation of Article 3., Section 4., had no impact on state championships. The Committee commends Mr. Kelley and the Smithfield high school's administration for their integrity and professionalism in handling this matter.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS:

The Committee discussed Article 2., Section 1., Membership.

RIIAAA REPORT – THOMAS MARCELLO

Mr. Marcello presented a request RIIAAA Executive Board regarding the Boys' and Girls' Division Swim Meets format. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee referred the matter to Swim Sport Committee.

FALL SPORTS

Football – Sean Kelly and Scott Barr, Co-Sport Directors – On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (7-0) approved revisions to Article 19, Football. The revisions will be posted online and sent to all schools.

WINTER SPORTS

Ice Hockey – George Egan and Terry Lynch, Co-Sport Directors – On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (7-0) approved a revision to Article 22, Hockey, Section 1.F:

F. Beginning in December 2016 – RIIL Rule Change

1. Establishment of a system that would penalize and suspend players who have exceeded the maximum number of penalty minutes during the regular league season and playoffs.
 - Any player who has accumulated 50 or more penalty minutes during the regular season will be suspended for two (2) league games and any games in between (including playoffs). At the conclusion of the regular season, the first level of penalty minutes will be raised from 50 or more penalty minutes to 60 or more penalty minutes for the playoffs. Any player who accumulates 60 or more penalty minutes (regular season and playoffs combined) will be suspended for the next (2) playoff games.
 - In addition, any player who accumulates a total of 70 or more penalty minutes will be suspended for the remainder of the hockey season (including playoffs).
 - If the player accumulates the 50/60/70 penalty minutes level during the last game of the season, he/she will sit out the first two (2) league ice hockey games in the next year or if a senior, two (2) league games in the next sport season.

SPRING SPORTS

Baseball – Terry Lynch and Mike Whaley, Co-Sport Directors – On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (7-0) approved a revision to Article 14, Baseball, Section 1.B:

B. The RIIL Pitching Limitations Rule is as follows:

Max Pitches 1 Day – 110

Days' Rest	76+	3 Days
	51-75	2 Days
	26-50	1 Day
	25 or Less	0 Days

Baseball revision continued...

Player reaching a max count can finish the batter.

If a pitcher reaches a day rest limit in the middle of an at bat and is removed from game after that batter, his official pitch count number will revert back to what it was at the start of the at bat.

Example: If 25 or less pitches in a game doesn't require any rest for next day. Pitcher starts a batter with 23 pitches already thrown. Pitcher throws 5 pitches and ends up with 28. Pitcher is then removed from game. His official pitch count reverts back to 23 and is eligible to pitch the next day.

Home Book (Official Book)

-In between innings both coaches should meet to confer what they had for a pitch count.

*Coaches need to post the pitch count after every game on the RIIL website within 4 hours. If the coach does not post the pitch count within 24 hours they will be suspended for one game for the next game on their schedule, no fine.

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 5:00 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____