

**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.

**RIIL 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.

**RIIL 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.

**RIIL 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:

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Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: \_\_\_\_\_