

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, August 17, 2015 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
Bldg. #6 RI College Campus
600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Abromitis, Crowley, and Gribbin; Messrs., Barr, DiMuccio, Kavanagh, Kelly, Sollitto, Vetelino, and Whaley

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

Absent: Mme., Keegan; Messrs., Brennan, Goho, Littlefield, and Warner

The August meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:50 p.m.

PCOA MINUTES JUNE 15, 2015

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the June 15, 2015 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: Legal Issues; PCOA Vacancies; Arbiter Proposal; RIIL Football Officials; Rule Revisions; RIIL Re-Alignment 2016-2018; Financial Report and Hearings.

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

RIIL FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT - BUDGET 2015-2016

Mr. Sollitto, chairman of the Finance Committee reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on August 17, 2015 and submitted its report regarding the 2015-2016 RIIL budget and the 2014-2015 revenue share with RIIL schools. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee on Athletics unanimously approved (11-0) the RIIL budget for the 2015-2016 school year.

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

The 2014-2015 Annual Report was reviewed and approved. Copies will be distributed to all schools.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- PCOA Vacancy – Due to a vacancy on the PCOA, the Committee requested Mr. Mezzanotte request applications in accordance with Article 1, Section 4.J. The deadline for submission of applications is October 1, 2015.
- Sport Director Vacancy – The RIIL is seeking a sport director in Girls' Lacrosse.
- Waiver Hearing Committee & Vacancy – Two principals were appointed to the Waiver Hearing Committee: Julia Carlson, Central High School and Renee Palazzo, Ponaganset High School.
- NFHS Learning Center – New Courses: Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Captains Course. Both are FREE.
- *Anyone Can Save A Life Program* – The Committee supported the adoption of the *Anyone Can Save a Life Program* as part of establishing school wide Emergency Action Plan.
- Bishop Keough High School Closing – no penalties for the closing of Bishop Keough High School.
- Annual Principals Breakfast: September 25, 2015 @ The Crowne Plaza

ARBITER REF-PAY PROGRAM - UPDATE

Mr. Lunney reported the Arbiter Ref-Pay Program is being implemented during the 2015-2016 school year.

RE-ALIGNMENT 2016-2018

Mr. Mezzanotte provided a time line for the re-alignment of all sports for the 2016-2018 seasons: Deadlines: Fall Sports – February 2016; Winter Sports – May 2016 and Spring Sports – October 2016. The RIIAAA Alignment Committee will forward additional guidelines and will be presented at the November Principals' Committee on Athletics Meeting.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS:

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (11-0) the following RIIL Rules Revisions.
Article 3., Section 2. Alternative Education Athletic Participation: Alternative schools whose enrollment exceeds 300 and have a 12th grade class will be obligated to offer their own athletic program(s).
Article 7., Section 4: Non-League Games: Sanction of non-league games has been omitted.

The Committee discussed adopting a RIIL Drone Policy. This matter was tabled until the November meeting.

RIIAAA REPORT

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

FOREIGN EXCHANGE F-1 VISA WAIVER REQUEST

The Committee received a request for a waiver to allow an F-1 visa foreign exchange student from St. Raphael Academy to participate in Girls Tennis. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (11-0) approved the request.

FALL SPORTS: GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL, Ray DeAngelis, Sport Director – The RIIL received a letter from Masters Regional Academy notifying the League they must withdraw from Girls' Volleyball beginning with the 2015 fall season. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (11-0) approved the request without penalty.

NEW FOOTBALL OFFICIALS ASSIGNER: On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (11-0) approved the recommendation from the Football Sport Committee to appoint Mr. Bruce Guindon as the RIIL Football Official Commissioner for one year (2015).

NFHS TRACK COACH OF THE YEAR – KEN SKELLY, LASALLE ACADEMY

The Committee acknowledged and congratulated Mr. Ken Skelly, LaSalle Academy as the NFHS Track Coach of the Year.

HOCKEY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: The RIIL Hockey Sport Committee reviewed a number of hockey rules changes to begin in the winter of 2015. Beginning December 2015, the Hockey Sport Committee is recommending establishing a system that would penalize/suspend players who exceed a maximum number of penalty minutes during the season/playoffs. More information will be provided. In addition, the Hockey Committee is reviewing realignment for 2015-2016. The Hockey Committee is also discussing the possibility of allowing schools to schedule their own home games. The rule recommendations were tabled until the November Committee Meeting.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL DIVISION 3 CHANGES

Due to Bishop Keough School closing, the Girls' Basketball Division 3 created and unbalanced schedule and has been adjusted.

SPRING SPORTS: BOYS & GIRLS LACROSSE, George Finn, Sport Director – The RIIL received a letter from Rogers High School notifying the League that the Rogers/Tiverton Boys' Lacrosse Co-op was dissolved by mutual agreement. Rogers High School will participate on their own in the spring of 2016.

LASALLE: SUSPENSION OF BOYS' SOCCER COACH - APPEAL

LaSalle Academy appeal of PCOA decision to suspend the head Boys' Soccer Coach from the first two league games of the 2015 fall season. Motion to grant appeal: 1-8-1 (denied)

WAIVER HEARING COMMITTEE APPEAL

Jane Leys – Rogers High School

Waiver of Article 3, Section 5., Transfer Rule. Appealing a decision of Waiver Hearing Committee.
Motion to grant waiver: 5-3-2 (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 August meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 5:55 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Costa, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____