

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, March 20, 2017 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
Bldg. #6 RI College Campus
600 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mme., Abromitis, Carlson, Crowley and Gribbin; Messrs., Barr, Brennan, Henderson, Kavanagh, Kelly, Goho, 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: None

The March 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 Philip Solomon, Principal of West Warwick High School and Julia Carlson, Principal of Central High School.

PCOA MINUTES NOVEMBER 14, 2016

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the January 23, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved (15-0).

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 vacancies; PCOA sport directors; Finance Committee Members new members for 2017-2018: Kathy Crowley, Dan Warner and Jay Brenna; Finance Committee Report and facilities contracts for Brown University and Cranston Stadium.

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

FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Kelly, chairman of the Finance Committee reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on March 20th and submitted its report regarding the fall tournament report and profit/loss report. In addition, he discussed details of finances regarding purchase of new building at 875 Centerville Road, Warwick, RI.

PCOA NEW APPOINTMENTS

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 (15-0) to approve the appointments of Thomas Barbieri, Principal of Cranston High School West and Gerald Habershaw Pilgrim High School.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- Computer Management System - rSchool Today
- RIIL New Building: Update
- RI General Assembly Bills
- Providence School Dept – New Programs
- Spring Interpretation Meetings
- NFHS Heart of the Arts Section 1 Recipient – Lindsey Daugherty, Barrington High School: “As a standout student, a three-year field hockey participant, and a member of both the school’s debate team and student council, Daugherty is a well-rounded high school student.”

SCHOOL REQUESTS

The Committee received a letter from The Lincoln School to join Girls Varsity and JV Soccer (Division 2) and Girls Cross Country beginning fall of 2017. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved (15-0) Lincoln Schools request.

The Committee received a letter from Exeter/West Greenwich High School and the Prout School requesting a waiver of Article 3, Section 1 J of the rules and regulations to allow EWG/Prout to form a Co-op in Football. The application does not meet the established Article 3, Section 1 J guidelines because EWG High School exceeds the limit of 20 participants. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee denied (4-10) the request.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee denied (15-0) a request submitted by Mr. Rosendo Fontecha to appeal a previous ruling denying his son Nicolas request to participate in Boys' Tennis under the RIIL Alternate Sports Program.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS:

On a motion made and seconded the following RIIL Rules Revisions were unanimously (15-0) approved:

1. Article 11, Section 5 (Media Credential Policy) – “Media journalists and photographers must stand clear of the awards presentation area and are asked to refrain from conducting post-game interviews until after the awards ceremony has been completed.”
2. Article 3., Section 4A (Academic Eligibility) – “At all times the athlete should have secured for the period from the beginning of the quarter or trimester up to the end of the regular marking period which shall not exceed a maximum of 12 weeks and a passing grade **in 60% of the student’s program (credits). A student who is not passing 60% of his/her program (credits) is ineligible to participate in games (league and non-league) until the end of the quarter or trimesters of the next marking period.** This is a minimum standard for academic eligibility. Schools may choose to initiate a higher standard for academic eligibility. In this instance, the higher standard (school policy) will be supported by the RIIL.”

RULES VIOLATIONS

Burrillville High School: Article 3, Section 4: (Academic Eligibility)

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously (14-0) voted to sanction Burrillville High School for violating Article 3, Section 4 of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Burrillville High School is assessed a \$200 fine and placed on probation for a period of one year.

Lincoln High School: Article 3, Section 4: (Academic Eligibility)

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA voted (13-0-1) to sanction Lincoln High School for violating Article 3, Section 4 of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Lincoln High School is assessed a \$300 fine and placed on probation for a period of one year.

Lincoln High School: Article 6, Section 6A: (Use of Ineligible Athlete)

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA voted (13-0-1) to sanction Lincoln High School for violating Article 6, Section 6A of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Lincoln High School is assessed a \$100 fine.

Juanita Sanchez: Article 3, Section 4: (Academic Eligibility)

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously (14-0) voted to sanction Juanita Sanchez Complex for violating Article 3, Section 4 of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Juanita Sanchez Complex is assessed a \$100 fine and placed on probation for a period of one year.

RIIAAA REPORT – THOMAS MARCELLO

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

WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Committee reviewed the 2017 winter sport championship reports.

SPRING SPORTS

Fastpitch Softball – Betty Marquis, Sport Director – On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved a recommendation from the RIIL Softball Committee and endorsed by the RI Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, the following Extra Inning/International Tie Breaker format to be implemented beginning with the 2017 fastpitch softball season: “In the event that a regular season or playoff game is tied at the end of 7 complete innings, up to two additional extra innings will be played. If the score remains tied after the 8th inning is completed, a 9th inning will be played. If the score remains tied after the 9th inning is completed, the International Tie Breaker rule will take effect beginning with the top of the 10th inning. Each team will start with a

runner on 2nd base and zero (0) outs. The runner is the last batter to make an out in the previous inning. At least one full inning is played, allowing each team the same chance to score. If the score remains tied, the same process will be used in each subsequent inning until a victor emerges.”

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 3:23 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____