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 7.8 (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.

RIIIAA 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: _______________________________ Date: ____________________

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary