Meeting Minutes


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

Absent: Messr., Cobain

The November meeting of the Principals’ Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

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: Committee heard from Mr. Alan Tenreiro, President, Mt. St. Charles Academy; Various sportsmanship issues; Hope HS; PCD/Tiverton Boys’ Soccer incident; RIIL Rules Revisions; Requests from Member Schools and Rule Violations.

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

PCOA MINUTES AUGUST 19, 2019
On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the August 19, 2019 meeting was unanimously approved (13-0).

PCOA MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING OCTOBER 11, 2019
On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the August 19, 2019 meeting was unanimously approved (13-0).

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 (13-0) to approve the following appointments: Robert DiMuccio, Central High School, Christopher Coleman, Mt. Pleasant High School and Matthew Buchanan, Hope High School.

RIIL FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT
The Committee reviewed the August – November 15th RIIL Profit and Loss Budget Report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

• Mr. Mezzanotte and Mr. Lunney met with the mayors of Central Falls and Pawtucket to discuss sportsmanship issues.
• The RIIL will be hosting a workshop concerning security, safety and crowd control which is scheduled on November 19th at Toll Gate High School.
• Hope High School - Mr. Mezzanotte and Mr. Lunney met with Mr. Buchanan, Principal and Mr. Gonzalez, Director of Athletics from Hope HS to review and discuss the school’s athletic improvement plan. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) voted to not add additional penalties to the school’s athletic program or its Boys’ Basketball program. The Hope High School athletic program is on continued probation (2019-2022). Hope High School is reminded to maintain compliance with all RIIL rules and regulations.
RIIL RULE REVISIONS
On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the following RIIL rule changes:

1. Boys and Girls Basketball State Tournament:
   - Increase the number of teams to 18 for the State Basketball Tournament.
   - Revise the alignment formula for the State Tournament:
     i. Division 1 = 1pt
     ii. Division 2 = .8
     iii. Division 3 = .5

SCHOOL REQUESTS
- **Burrillville High School** – The Committee reviewed and discussed a request from the Burrillville superintendent and principal to remove Burrillville High School from probation for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted (11-0-2) to deny the request. The Committee commended the superintendent and staff for their swift and strong commitment to the RIIL sportsmanship rules and regulations.

- **Rogers High School** – On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) voted to not penalize Rogers High School for dropping Freshman Boys’ Basketball and inadvertently marked that Rogers would have a Freshman Baseball team for the 2019-2020 school year.

- **Mt. Hope High School** – On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) voted to not penalize Mt. Hope High School for dropping Boys’ Indoor Tack and Golf for the 2019-2020 school year.

- **Juanita Sanchez High School** - On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) voted to not penalize Juanita Sanchez High School for dropping Boys’ Soccer for the 2019-2020 school year.

- **Woonsocket High School** – The Committee received a letter from Woonsocket High School notifying the League they will no longer be part of the Boys Ice Hockey Co-op with Scituate High School.

RIIL RULE VIOLATIONS
**Moses Brown School – Article 6., Penalties, Section 10, Cancellation/Forfeits of Game (Girls Soccer)**
On September 16, 2019, the RIIL was notified by the Moses Brown Athletic Director that the Moses Brown Girls’ Soccer team forfeited the game on September 12, 2019 versus Westerly High School. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) voted to sanction Moses Brown School for violating Article 6, Section 10 of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, the Moses Brown Girls’ Soccer team forfeited the game versus Westerly High School. In addition, due to issues raised by the Moses Brown administration and the fact that Moses Brown coaches and administration fully intended to play the game, the RIIL will waive the year probation.

**Providence Country Day School/Tiverton High School – Article 6., Penalties, Section 7.A.1, Ejection from Game (Boys Soccer)**
On November 18, 2019, the Committee met to discuss an incident that took place on October 15, 2019 between the Providence Country Day School and Tiverton High School Boys Soccer teams. The Committee reviewed the actions during the game by the Tiverton goalie. In accordance with Article 6, Section 7.A.1., of the RIIL Rules and Regulations, the Committee approved (12-1) an additional penalty to be served by the Tiverton goalie: “Any athlete who is ejected from any contest (non-league and/or league game) at any level (freshman, junior varsity, and varsity) shall be ineligible to participate until he/she sits out the next League game including all games in between. If the infraction is judged most severe, the player may incur the additional penalty of ineligibility for a year from the date of the infraction or the remainder of his/her stay in school. (Refer to Article 6, Section 3).” Specifically, this student-athlete is ineligible to participate in the first five (5) games/matches in the next season of the next sport he participates in. The Committee thanked Tiverton High School for their cooperation in this matter.

RIIIAAA REPORT – CHRISS COBAIN
No report given.

FAILL SPORTS
Mr. Mezzanotte expressed concerns over the number of issues relating to Boys’ Soccer. This matter will be discussed with the Boys’ Soccer Sport Committee.
WINTER SPORTS
The RIIL received a request by the Prout School to remain in Division 1. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their request.

SPRING SPORTS
The Committee received a request from Ponaganset High School to move from Division 3 to Division 2 in softball. On a recommendation from the Fastpitch Softball Sport Committee and on motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their request to move to Division 2 and Classical HS will move to Division 3.

WAIVER HEARING COMMITTEE APPEALS
Jason Mandeville – Mt. St. Charles Academy
Waiver of Article 3, Section 6., Transfer Rule. Appealing a decision of Waiver Hearing Committee. Motion to grant waiver: 0-12 (denied)

Anna DeGirolamo – St. Mary Academy Bay View
Waiver of Article 3, Section 6., Transfer Rule. Appealing a decision of Waiver Hearing Committee. Motion to grant waiver: 9-2-1 (approved)

Brian Taylor – East Providence High School
Waiver of Article 3, Section 6., Transfer Rule. Appealing a decision of Waiver Hearing Committee. Motion to grant waiver: 12-0 (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 November meeting of the Principals’ Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

Signed:

___________________________________________                          Date: _______________________
Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary