



# October 2003



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# Rhode Island Interscholastic League

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## FROM THE DESK OF ... THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is that time of the year when Fall sports teams will be involved in playoffs and championships. With that in mind, it is important to remind all principals, athletic directors, and coaches to make a special effort to instill in their student-athletes and the fans the importance of exhibiting good sportsmanship in the upcoming events.

The administration and staff of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League would like to remind everyone involved in interscholastic athletics that it is extremely important to:

- Be mindful that the game is for the participants;
- Respect the opponents and cheer when a good play or performance occurs;
- Refrain from booing or showing disrespect for opposing teams;
- Acknowledge positively the efforts of the other team to win;
- Understand that officiating in all sports is very difficult; and,
- Recognize that officials are necessary in order to ensure that a contest is played fairly and by the rules.

Please join with the League in an all-out effort for a very successful fall playoff season that will be enjoyed by everyone. Let us be ever mindful that we must continually teach proper values, good citizenship and sportsmanship. These traits are on the same level as winning and, without them, a win is less meaningful.

\* \* \* \* \*

## WHAT IS HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ABOUT?

from Michigan High School Activities Association

High school sports are a privilege unique to American Education. Unique in what it does for schools, kids and communities.

However, in our sport-crazed society, some people want what happens in educational activities to be defined by the “edutainment” and entertainment levels of athletics-major collegiate and professional sports.

That’s not the primary focus of high schools sports.

Only in America is this after-school activity so tightly entwined with, but yet secondary to, a school’s mission-educating boys and girls to become productive members of society; tomorrow’s leaders.

It’s in understanding that high school athletics primarily serve to prepare young people for next level of life-not the next level of sports-that defines high school sports as a unique and positive force in the lives of our young people and communities.

The opportunities to play organized athletics beyond high school come to only a select few.

College athletic scholarships are earned by one in a hundred participants, and the stories of people like Tiger Woods and LeBron James are one in a million.

Schools sports are defined by the experiences of thousands of youngsters-the day to day student-athletes. It is their stories and their lives that are more important to the vast majority to school sports administrators.

School sports are defined by community, a community of teachers and students. A community of pep rallies; car caravans behind the yellow school bus to games; classroom teachers coaching their students after school; community newspapers and broadcasters reporting on games; cross-town and cross-country rivalries, where league and city championships are the big deal. That doesn’t happen at non-school youth sporting events.

This sense of community is popular with over 95 percent of high school sports participants, in step with the principles of educational athletics:

- *Voluntary, after-school activities available to those enrolled at the school and meeting its eligibility standards-a privilege, not a property right.*
- *Tools to help reach and motivate students, aiding classroom performance and rallying community support for school programs in general.*
- *Games that are conducted in a classroom requiring the proper atmosphere-good sportsmanship-at all times.*
- *Teaching loyalty to school, community and team over self.*
- *Promoting the ideals of school spirit, teamwork, hard work, discipline, personal sacrifice, leadership and sportsmanship. Helping participants gain a lifetime appreciation for the arts, sports and healthy lifestyles.*
- *Achieving these objectives at the varsity and sub-varsity levels.*
- *Emphasizing participation and academic scholarship in the classroom for the many, not college athletic scholarship for so very few.*
- *Programs where local school administrators make decisions in the best interests of all participants, not the narrow interests of individual parents and non-school groups.*
- *Programs, emphasizing local competition, not statewide and national events.*

In these financially challenging times, where access fees threaten participation opportunities for kids and make school teams look more like non-school travel and elite programs only available to those with the financial ability to pay, we should remember who we are, what we are, when and where we take place, and why we exist:

## WHO?

We’re educational athletics-not big time event promoters.

### WHAT?

We're the builders of tomorrow's community leaders-not farm clubs for college and professional sports.

### WHEN?

We're and after-school activity-not a year-round endeavor. These are programs which should allow kids to be kids.

### WHERE?

Our games should be played locally. There's plenty of healthy competition where kids can learn and grow through athletics in most of our backyards. We don't need national schedules to accomplish our purposes.

### WHY?

Because it's the right way to do it. Schools offer these programs because they enhance the educational experience of the youngsters who participate. If that message gets lost, then so do the programs. We can't afford to have the message of educational athletics get lost in the shuffle.

There is nothing wrong with striving to be the best. School sports programs must strive to develop all the kids who want to participate to be their best-their best as individuals, as students, as teammates, as members of the community-not just their best as athletes.

In school sports, we win if we develop winners. We may very well lose if all we care about winning. This is one of the most exciting experiences of a young person's life-the privilege of participating in high school sports. We hope you maintain the proper perspective in your journey through this educational experience.

\* \* \* \* \*

### TOP TEN LIST FOR MULTI-SPORT PARTICIPATION

10. Meet new people...
9. Benefit from improved time management skills...
8. Develop different muscle groups...
7. Develop lasting relationships...
6. You will be less likely to become involved in drug, tobacco and alcohol abuse...
5. Studies show that participation in a variety of activities as a school's best predictor of an adult's success...
4. You will be recognized as a leader by administrators, teachers and peers...
3. The values of sportsmanship, teamwork, fair play, sacrifice and commitment will serve you well in your daily lives...
2. Athletics helps you to achieve excellence in academics...
1. **To Have Fun; Because You Can!**

*Taken from the Michigan High School Athletic Association Pamphlet*

\* \* \* \* \*

### AND WE QUOTE:

***"Be as polite to the custodian as you are to the Chairman of the Board. I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed."***

- Booker T. Washington

### NTSB ISSUES SAFETY ALERT TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT USE 15-PASSENGER VANS

Following the deaths of a teenager and four senior citizens in two separate crashes involving 15-passenger vans carrying members of two different churches, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is urging all organizations that use of these vans to follow lifesaving practices. In the crashes, that occurred in Texas and Virginia, the left rear tire failed, the drivers lost control of the vehicles, and the vans rolled over several times.

Highway safety experts at the NTSB strongly suggest the following:

1. Keep seat belts and lap belts accessible and make sure passengers use them. They are often forgotten when they are out of sight and wedged between the seat bottom and seat back.
2. Inspect seat belts and lap belts and replace missing buckles, as well as broken and worn belts. The NTSB accident investigation concluded that several of the passengers might not have lost their lives if they had been wearing seat belts or lap belts. They were ejected from the vans when the vehicles rolled over.
3. Regularly check the condition of tires for uneven wear, cracks and damage. Many of these vans are not continuously driven like the family car. Low mileage doesn't mean tires are safe, the NTSB emphasized. Age, sunlight, and just being parked for long periods can lead to deadly tire degradation and dry rot. Unfortunately, dangerously deteriorated tires cannot always be detected by visual inspection alone. It often takes an automotive repair professional.
4. Check the tire pressure often and make sure it conforms to the van and tire manufacturer's standards. Be aware that front and back tires may require different inflation pressures, and these pressures may be higher than the tires on passenger cars. The manufacturer's recommended pressure is usually on driver's door sill or in the tire owner's manual. A major problem with these vans, the NTSB found in its investigations, is that tires are often under-inflated, leading to higher tire temperatures, faster tire deterioration, and diminished driving stability.
5. Make all drivers of these vans aware that the dynamics of vans, especially during an emergency like a tire blow out, are very different from the family car.
6. Get additional training for drivers since these vans handle differently than other vehicles, especially when they are fully loaded.

*"We are urging all organizations, from church groups and schools to non-profit and public interest organizations, to learn that driving and maintaining 15-passengers vans is not the same as the average family car, and that it is critical that seat belts be used," said NTSB Chairman Ellen G. Engleman.*

The NTSB is also trying to spread the word about “lessons learned” from two fatal crashes that the board discussed at a public meeting in Washington, D.C. in July.

*“Our goal is to prevent these crashes by informing the public about the circumstances that led to these deaths,” Engleman said.*

On the morning of May 8, 2001, a 1993 Dodge 15-passenger van was en route from Burkburnett to an outlet mall in Gainesville, Texas. Eleven senior citizens and a driver, all members of the First Assembly of God Church, occupied the van. As it approached Henrietta, Texas, in clear weather and traveling at an estimated speed of 61 to 67 mph, the tread separated from the left rear tire causing a blowout. The van ran off the roadway and rolled over at least two times in the median, ejecting seven passengers. The driver and three of the ejected passengers were killed, and eight passengers were seriously injured.

On the afternoon of July 1, 2001, a 1989 Dodge Ram 15-passenger van was northbound in the left lane on U.S. Route 220, near Randleman, North Carolina, en route from Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, to Roanoke, Virginia. The van, owned by Virginia Heights Baptist Church of Roanoke, Virginia, was occupied by the driver and 13 passengers, ages 13 to 19. As the van approached an exit in clear weather, at witness-estimated speed of 65 mph, the tread separated from the left rear tire and it experienced a blowout. The van swung back and forth between two lanes and overturned; four teenage passengers were ejected. One died and three were seriously injured. The driver and the other nine passengers sustained injuries ranging from none to serious.

The Safety Board determined that the probable cause of these accidents was tire failure, the drivers’ response to that failure and the drivers’ inability to maintain control of their vans in an emergency. It also said that contributing to the accidents was the deterioration of tires, which was caused by the lack of tire maintenance, and the failure to check tire conditions for cracking and dry rot. The tires on these vans had become rotten from ultraviolet damage, age, limited use, and being operated in under-inflated conditions.

The Safety Board also concluded that the safe operation of 15-passenger vans requires a knowledge and skill level different and above that for passenger cars, particularly when the vans are fully loaded or drivers experience an emergency situation.

In addition to alerting organizations to potential hazards, the Safety Board issued a series of recommendations to federal highway safety regulators, state driver licensing agencies, and van manufacturers. The recommendations ask for upgrade licensing requirements and training for drivers of 15-passenger vans; improved roof and structural strength standards; seat belts in all seats; and revised federal vehicle classification so safety standards mandated for these vans are equal to those for other passenger vehicles.

Information on the Texas and Virginia crashes and several NTSB safety studies focusing on 15-passenger vans are available on the NTSB web site: [www.nts.gov](http://www.nts.gov).

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*“Take pleasure not in the score, but in the game.”*

- Bobby Jones

### CATASTROPHIC INJURY REPORT RELEASED FOR 2001-02

*from NFHS News*

The National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury Research was established in 1982 to track the incidence of injuries occurring in high school athletics. One of its primary services has been to conduct its annual catastrophic injury report.

The injury report can trace its roots back to 1931, when the American Football Coaches Association initiated the First Annual Survey of Football Fatalities. The research for this report has been conducted at the University of North Carolina since 1965. Due to the success of the football project, the research was expanded to all sports for both men and women.

Since 1987, the research has been conducted by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons’ sports medicine section. Fred O. Mueller, Ph.D., of the University of North Carolina and Robert Cantu, M.D., from Emerson Hospital in Concord, Massachusetts, are the co-authors of this report.

A catastrophic injury can be defined as *“any severe injury incurred during participation in a school- or college-sponsored sport.”* In the report, catastrophic injuries are divided into three categories: fatal, non-fatal (permanent, severe functional disability), and serious (no permanent functional disability, but with a severe injury). Injuries are then divided between direct and indirect. A direct injury is any injury that is directly related to participation in the actual skills of the sport.

*“An example of a direct injury would be a pole vault participant clearing the bar and landing off of the landing pit onto a concrete surface or a football player receiving a severe head injury while tackling the ball carrier,”* Mueller said.

According to Mueller, an indirect injury is an injury that happened on the athletic field, but that could have happened while walking down the street or playing in the backyard. An indirect injury has some type of body systemic failure.

Mueller said that an example of an indirect injury would be an athlete collapsing on the field and dying from a heart attack related to an undiagnosed problem, or an athlete suffering a heatstroke during participation and later dying.

The data for the 20<sup>th</sup> annual report of sports injury research, which reports on injuries during the 2001-002 school year, is a compilation of data from coaches, athletic directors, executive officers of state and national athletic organizations, a national newspaper clipping service and professional associates of the researchers.

NFHS Assistant Director Jerry Diehl believes that the injury report is a positive factor in the reduction of injuries.

*“The gathering of injury data helps our rules committees look at possible rules changes that would hopefully result in a decrease for a given injury in a given situation,” Diehl said. “We ask our rules committees to review those reports to see the trends that may be there to help make rules decisions.”*

## FALL SPORTS

The total number of direct catastrophic injuries during fall 2001 is 24, which has stayed the same since the previous school year. For the past two years, the majority of the injuries have occurred in football. This year’s 24 injuries included eight fatalities, which grew by five from last season. The additional injuries stemmed from eight non-fatal injuries and eight serious injuries – all in football.

In addition, there were 15 indirect fatalities during the 2001-02 school year – ten in football, two in cross country and three in soccer. There have been two fatalities in cross country since the 1992-93 school year. Six of the indirect fatalities were heart-related, one was heat-related, and the cause of three was unknown.

Since 1980, when the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) implemented a football helmet standard on the high school level, improvements in football safety have been made, including improved medical care of injured athletes, as well as an emphasis on the importance of having high school athletic trainers.

Over the past 20 years (1982-2001), football has accounted for the greatest number of direct catastrophic injuries for the fall sports, but is also has the greatest number of participants. Because the number of football participants is so great, the injury rate is lessened. All three classifications of catastrophic football injuries have an injury rate of less than one per 100,000 participants.

## WINTER SPORTS

High school winter sports were associated with seven direct catastrophic injuries in the 2001-02 school year, which is up from two during the 2000-01 school year. There was one injury each in swimming and ice hockey, while two occurred in basketball and three in wrestling. Winter sports accounted for eight indirect injuries, six of which were fatalities associated with basketball and one with wrestling. This figure is up five from the previous year. Four of the fatalities were heart-related, one was a brain aneurysm, one was a female with a cerebral hemorrhage, one was unknown, and one recovered from a heart-related incident with the use of an AED.

Between 1983 and 2002, wrestling had the greatest number of winter sport direct injuries, but the injury rate per 100,000 participants was less than one for all three injury categories. Ice hockey and gymnastics were associated with higher injury rates than wrestling because they annually average fewer participants. A high percentage of ice hockey injuries involve a player being hit by an opposing player usually from behind, and striking the skate rink boards with the top of his or her head.

## SPRING SPORTS

The spring 2002 sports season brought nine direct catastrophic injuries, including one in baseball and one in lacrosse. The other seven belonged to track where two of the five were fatalities. Track accounted for the only indirect catastrophic injury that was a fatality.

The spring 2002 sport season ended in higher numbers than in spring 2001 for both direct and indirect catastrophic injuries; however, they may not be truly representative due to lack of input from all high schools from across the nation. *“There are no incentives in reporting fatalities or injuries,”* said Jerry Diehl, assistant director of the NFHS and liaison to the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. *“We’re continually monitoring the reporting for these issues and we hope the rules committees can have a better background for rules changed to reduce risk that is inherent in many of our sports.”*

In response to recent injuries in baseball and softball, Diehl said a major area of concern lies within these two high schools sports.

*“The composition of baseball and softball bats along with balls for both sports must be analyzed,”* Diehl said. *“If these changes were to occur, they could have an impact on reducing injuries caused by hard-hit balls, which are dangerous to infielders.”*

## INJURY PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

Unfortunately, catastrophic injuries will never be eliminated, but progress can be made through awareness from coaches, parents and athletes.

*“Our rules committees and our schools’ coaches and officials don’t want to have anybody injured, and that’s why we have the rules that we have,”* Diehl said. *“We ask coaches to adhere to the rules that we have. Yes, we would like every sport to be injury-free, but you’re doing things that can create a situation for you to get hurt. In every sport there is an assumption of risk.”*

In the report, the National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury Research issued the following recommendations for reducing catastrophic injuries:

1. Mandatory medical examinations and a medical history taken before allowing an athlete to participate.
2. All personnel concerned with trained the athletes should emphasize proper, gradual and complete physical conditioning in order to provide the athlete with optimal readiness for the rigors of the sport.
3. Every school should strive to have a team trainer who is a regular member of the faculty and is adequately prepared and qualified. There should be a written emergency procedure plan to deal with the possibility of catastrophic injuries.
4. There should be an emphasis on employing well-trained athletic personnel, providing excellent facilities and securing the safest and best equipment available.

5. There should be strict enforcement of game rules and administrative regulations should be enforced to protect the health of the athlete. Coaches and school officials must support the game officials in their conduct of the athletic contests.
6. Coaches should know and have the ability to teach the proper fundamental skills of the sport. This recommendation includes all sports, not only football. The proper fundamentals of blocking and tackling should be emphasized to help reduce head and neck injuries in football. Keep the head out of the blocking and tackling.
7. There should be continued safety research in athletics (rules, facilities and equipment).
8. Strict enforcement of the rules of the game by both coaches and game officials will help reduce serious injuries.
9. When an athlete has experienced or shown signs of head trauma (loss of consciousness, visual disturbance, headache, inability to walk correctly, obvious disorientation or memory loss), he or she should receive immediate medical attention and should not be allowed to return to practice or game without permission from the proper medical authorities. It is important for a physician to observe the head-injured athlete for several days following the injury. Coaches should encourage athletes to let them know if they have any of the above-mentioned symptoms (that can't be seen by others, such as headaches) and why it is important.
10. Athletes and their parents should be warned of the risks of injuries.
11. Coaches should not be hired if they do not have the training and experience needed to teach the skills of the sport and to properly train and develop the athletes for competition.
12. Weight loss in wrestling to make weight for a match can be dangerous and can cause serious injury or death. Coaches should be aware of safety precautions and rules associated with this practice.

*"The way to develop the best that is in a man is by appreciation and encouragement."  
- Charles Schwab*

<b>2001-02 Direct Catastrophic Injuries</b>					
	<b>Fatalities</b>	<b>Nonfatal</b>	<b>Serious</b>	<b>Total 2001-02</b>	<b>Total Direct 1983-2002</b>
<b>Fall Sports</b>					
Cross Country	0	0	0	0	1
Football	8	8	8	24	508
Soccer	0	0	0	0	14
Field Hockey	0	0	0	0	*3
<b>Total</b>					<b>526</b>
<b>Winter Sports</b>					
Basketball	0	1	1	2	15
Gymnastics	0	0	0	0	13
Ice Hockey	0	0	1	1	16
Swimming	0	0	1	1	10
Wrestling	0	2	1	3	46
Volleyball	0	0	0	0	**1
<b>Total</b>					<b>101</b>
<b>Spring Sports</b>					
Baseball	0	1	0	1	39
Lacrosse	0	1	0	1	6
Track	2	3	2	7	54
Tennis	0	0	0	0	0
Softball	0	0	0	0	***3
<b>Total</b>					<b>101</b>
* first reported in 1996-97					
** first reported in 1994-95					
*** first reported in 1993-94					

<b>2001-02 Indirect Catastrophic Injuries</b>					
	<b>Fatalities</b>	<b>Nonfatal</b>	<b>Serious</b>	<b>Total 2001-02</b>	<b>Total Direct 1983-2002</b>
<b>Fall Sports</b>					
Cross Country	2	0	0	2	12
Football	10	0	0	10	123
Soccer	3	0	0	3	22
Water Polo	0	0	0	0	*4
<b>Total</b>					<b>161</b>
<b>Winter Sports</b>					
Basketball	2	0	0	2	81
Gymnastics	0	0	0	0	0
Ice Hockey	0	0	0	0	3
Swimming	1	0	0	1	7
Wrestling	0	0	0	0	13
Volleyball	0	0	0	0	**1
<b>Total</b>					<b>105</b>
<b>Spring Sports</b>					
Baseball	0	0	0	0	9
Lacrosse	0	0	0	0	3
Track	3	0	0	3	26
Tennis	1	0	0	1	3
Softball	0	0	0	0	**0
<b>Total</b>					<b>41</b>
* first reported in 1992-93					
** first reported in 1993-94					

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*“There’s no such thing as business ethics;  
there’s just ethics.  
And ethics makes no concessions  
for the real or imagined  
necessities of making a profit.”*

Michael S. Josephson  
Founder and CEO, Josephson Institute of Ethics

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**SUMMARY OF MEETING**

The following is a summary of the September 15, 2003 meeting of the Principals’ Committee on Athletics:

*The September meeting of the Principals’ Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:40 pm.*

John Gray, Assistant Chairperson of the RIIL Principals’ Committee on Athletics, opened the meeting by introducing and welcoming Dr. Elizabeth Mantelli, Principal, Johnston High School as Assistant Director of Girls Fastpitch Softball.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

The Executive Director’s Report from the August 25, 2003 meeting was approved.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer’s Report was approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Lynch referred to several letters, memoranda and publications that were placed in each member’s folder or filed in the League office.

**RESIGNATION**

Mr. Lynch reported on a letter submitted by Dan Sheehan, in which he rendered his resignation as Director of Ice Hockey.

On a motion made and seconded, the Principals’ Committee on Athletics accepted Mr. Sheehan’s resignation with regret.

**REPLACEMENT ON RIIL ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE**

John Craig, Assistant Principal, Mt. Pleasant High School and Director of Boys’ Soccer, was appointed to the RIIL Athletic Hall of Fame Committee. Mr. Craig replaces James Murano, who has retired.

**SCHOOL VIOLATION OF PRACTICE LIMITATION RULE – NORTH KINGSTOWN H.S.**

According to Article 7, Section 3, Limitation of Seasons – Practice Limitation Rule of the RIIL Rules and Regulations Book, North Kingstown High School was in violation of this rule when they played a non-league game on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of practice.

On a motion made and seconded, the Principals’ Committee on Athletics unanimously voted to send a letter of reprimand to North Kingstown High School for violating the practice limitation rule. In accordance with this rule, competition cannot occur until the 6<sup>th</sup> day after authorized practice has begun.

**WAIVER HEARING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Magarian referred to the Waiver Hearing Committee memorandum, which outlined the 2003-04 meeting dates and assignments. Bob Cooney volunteered for the spring meetings.

**INCOME/EXPENSES – NON REVENUE SPORTS**

Mr. Magarian reviewed a sport playoff/championship chart outlining costs for 2002-2003 with expenses for all sports. This chart did not include money received from sponsors. The RIIL is becoming more dependent on corporate sponsorship money to balance the budget. The committee requested that all income (including sponsors) be added to the chart for the next meeting. The committee also requested that the staff develop recommendations on increasing income for the committee to consider at the October meeting.

**FALL SPORTS ISSUES**

Mr. Lynch reported that Mt. Pleasant High School was forced to withdraw from boys volleyball due to Providence school department budget constraints. In a memorandum to Mr. Lynch, the principal of Mt. Pleasant asked if a senior student could play at another Providence school.

On a motion made and seconded, the Principals’ Committee on Athletics voted unanimously to deny the request.

Also, Mr. Lynch referred to a letter he received from West Warwick High School regarding freshman football. West Warwick High School is considering withdrawing from the freshman football league, but is requesting permission to compete against the (scheduled) teams as non-league games. It was noted that this is not a violation of the RIIL rules and regulations. However, in accordance with Article 6, Section 11, Penalties, “In the event that a school withdraws from any sport, the Committee may exclude said school for a period of two (2) years or multiple thereof from that sport.”

The committee requested that Mr. Lynch contact the school to inform them of any possible sanctions.

**WINTER SPORTS ISSUES**

Mr. Lynch received a letter from Woonsocket High School requesting to be moved from Division A to Division B for girls gymnastics.

On a motion made and seconded, the Principals’ Committee on Athletics voted unanimously to deny the request.

**ELIGIBILITY LISTS**

Mr. Lynch spoke to the committee regarding schools not submitting eligibility lists on time. The committee confirmed

that they previously set a \$200.00 fine for each sports eligibility list that is submitted late.

#### **REPORT OF ALIGNMENT COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Crowley reported that Keith Kenyon and Betty Marquis will present a PowerPoint program outlining the RIL Alignment Committee's proposal on Wednesday, September 24, 2003 at the Principals/Athletic Director's Workshop. A survey will be given to all member schools to determine if they want the alignment committee to continue developing the alignment proposal for the schools' consideration.

#### **SPORTS COMMITTEE**

There were no Sports Committee issues reported and/or discussed at this meeting.

#### **HOCKEY FINANCIAL REPORT 2002 – 2003**

Mr. Lynch submitted the 2002-03 hockey financial report for the Committee's review and consideration.

On a motion made and seconded, the Principals' Committee on Athletics unanimously approved the 2002-03 hockey financial report.

***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 September meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 4:50 pm.***

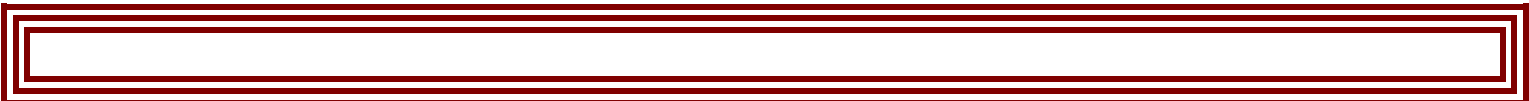
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***“Don't let your wins go to your head...  
Don't let your losses go to your heart.”***

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*The RITL is Proud to Recognize  
its Corporate Sponsors*

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Spalding

United States Air Force

United States Army

United States Marine Corp

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League  
Is to provide educational opportunities  
For students through interscholastic athletics  
And to provide governance and leadership  
For its member schools  
In the implementation of athletic programs.

## NATIONAL AFFILIATION

The Rhode Island Interscholastic League is a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations, which consists of the state high school associations of all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Guam, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and all provinces of Canada are affiliate members.

The objectives of the National Federation of State High School Associations are to:

- serve, protect, and enhance the interstate activity interests of the high schools belonging to the state associations;
- assist in those activities of the state associations which can best be operated on a nationwide scale;
- sponsor meetings, publications, and activities which will permit each state association to profit by the experience of all other member associations;
- coordinate the work so duplication will be minimized;
- formulate, copyright, and publish rules of play or event conduct pertaining to interscholastic activities;
- preserve interscholastic athletic records, and the tradition and heritage of interscholastic sports;
- provide programs, services, material and assistance to state associations, high schools and individual professionals involved in the conduct and administration of interscholastic activities;
- study in general all phases of interscholastic activities and serve as a national resource for information pertaining thereto;
- identify needs and problems related to interscholastic activities and where practical provide solutions thereto; and
- promote the educational values of interscholastic activities to the nation's public.



*a monthly publication  
of the  
Rhode Island Interscholastic League*