

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE  
Principals' Committee on Athletics  
Monday, January 27, 2025 @ 1:30 pm  
RIIL Office  
875 Centerville Road, Building #3  
Warwick, RI 02886**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Chairman Warner; Mmes., Caluori and Ward; Messrs., Barr, Costa, Crowley, Fontaine, Gibbons, Green, McGair, Richard and Sollitto.

**Also Present:** Michael Lunney, Executive Director; Thomas Marcello, Assistant Executive Director; Susana Borges, Administrative Assistant, Carolyn Thornton, Dir. of Communications & Student Services, Ted Quigley, Middle School Coordinator and Brendan McGair, *Pawtucket Times*

**Absent:** Mmes., Aull and Craven and Messrs., Barbieri, DeCiccio and McCarthy

*The January 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: Membership; Middle School; Rules & Regulations and Website/Technology.

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

**PCOA MINUTES NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the November 18, 2024 meeting were unanimously (12-0) approved.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Lunney reported on the following:

- Even Field – Effort and Attitude Awards night being held on May 22, 2025 at URI, Memorial Union.
- NFHS Participation Survey – there has been a drop in Girls' Basketball participation. Not only in Rhode Island, but across the nation. We will be working with the RIIAAA to identify the cause and potential ways to increase participation numbers in the future.
- Student-Athlete of the Year Nominations are due to the RIIL Office by February 3, 2025.
- Trivia Challenge – Navigant Credit Union – February 1 thru March 17, 2025.
- School Resources:
  1. Eligibility Support
  2. Scheduling Support
  3. NFHS/RIIL Branded PSA's
  4. Sportsmanship Toolkit – Bench Bad Behavior Campaign
  5. Event Security & Safety
  6. Coaches Certification
  7. Transfers Online Tracking System
- Technology Update (website/rSchool/Arbiter) – FusionPoint platform - due to rSchool today being purchased by Arbiter Sports, we are exploring the impact that this will have on our technology platform currently being used by our member schools and athletic directors. A change in technology platforms including the assignment and payment of official's platform is necessary for the start of the 2025-2026 school year.
- Meetings and Planning:
  1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual RIIL/Kyle Cares – Mental Health Summit held on January 10, 2025 at RI College – nearly 270 Rhode Island high school students and chaperones attended.
  2. AD's Spring Workshop – March 14, 2025
  3. Coaches Spring Interpretation Meetings – March 11, 2025 virtually

**MIDDLE SCHOOLS – TED QUIGLEY**

Mr. Quigley, RIIL Middle School Coordinator gave an update on the winter sports planning. The middle school JV wrestling futures tournament held on January 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at Coventry High School was a success. Also, the middle school round of 16 Boys' & Girls' Basketball tournament is underway with the championship games on February 13, 2025 at West Warwick High School. Also, spring sports schedules were sent to all member schools.

**RIIL RULE REVISIONS**

**Article 15, Section 1. A. Basketball**

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (12-0) approved to remove the current language to Article 15, Section 1. A., basketball.

**RIIL SPORTS MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SMAC)**

None.

**REQUESTS FROM SCHOOLS**

The PCOA discussed a draft letter sent from the Pawtucket School Department regarding their desire to potentially create a single athletic program in the city of Pawtucket at some point prior to the completion of the new Pawtucket high school. The PCOA will invite members of the Pawtucket School Department to its March meeting to present their plan.

**RULE VIOLATIONS**

**UCAP Middle School – Article 6, Section 6, Use of Ineligible Athlete (MS Boys' Basketball)**

UCAP Middle School self-reported a rules violation of Article 6, Section 6, use of ineligible athlete in middle school boys' basketball. As a result, UCAP middle school forfeited the games the student-athlete participated in. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (12-0) voted to not take any further action and penalties and commended the principal Mr. Alex Desjarin for upholding and supporting the rules and regulations of the RIIL.

**RIIAAA REPORT – MARTY CROWLEY**

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

**OFFICIALS**

Mr. Lunney reported that Michael Stephens, RIIL basketball playoffs assignor conducted a clinic for tournament officials on 3-person mechanics on Sunday, January 26, 2025 at the Iglozzi Recreation Center in Providence. Over 60 basketball officials attended in preparation for the upcoming Boys' and Girls' Basketball Tournament.

**FALL SPORTS**

None.

**WINTER SPORTS**

Mr. Lunney reported the RIIL is working with our sport committees on winter tournament planning. The RIIL Competition Cheerleading State Championship has been moved to the Ryan Center (URI) as part of our Boys' and Girls' Basketball Championship weekend.

**SPRING SPORTS**

None.

*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 January meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 4:10 P.M.*

Signed:

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Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: \_\_\_\_\_