

NEWSLETTER

April 2014

The RIIAAA Executive Board would like to thank its members for all its dedication to athletics in the state of Rhode Island. Through your effort, student-athletes are able to attain higher goals and enrich their lives through sport.

We would also like to make you aware of our efforts to find better avenues to communicate with you. Our duty is to represent you and your needs to the best of our ability. Should you have an issue or idea that you feel our membership needs to be aware of please contact one of us? You are also encouraged to attend any Executive Board meeting to voice a concern or just see what we do once a month at the RIIL at RIC.

The following important information, which has come out of discussions from our recent meeting, is to help keep you aware of current issues or concerns in Rhode Island athletics.

1. Athletic Directors serving as either Director or Co-Director of a sport committee are reminded to send meeting report(s) to Ted Quigley, La Salle Academy, tquigley@lasalle-academy.org as soon as possible in order for Jeff Maidment and Mike Traficante to best serve you at meetings of the Principals' Committee on Athletics. As the RIIAAA Vice-President, Ted would need to pass on sport committee resolutions to the Executive Board in advance of the PCOA meetings.
 - a. RIIL Injury Fund Committee meeting, Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at Joe's Italian Kitchen, Cranston 6:00pm.
 - b. Hockey meeting, Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at the RIIL Office.
 - c. Baseball meeting, Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at the RIIL Office.
 - d. Boys' Basketball meeting, Wednesday, May 21, 2014 at the RIIL Office.
 - e. Girls' Basketball meeting, Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at Bay View Academy, 4:00pm.
 - f. RIIAAA Executive Board meets, Friday, June 6, 2014 at the RIIL Office, 8:00am.
2. The RIIAAA Golf Tournament is Tuesday, June 24, 2014, 9:00am shot gun start at Triggs Golf Course, Providence. \$125 per golfer or \$500 per Foursome; Tee signs \$100 or a discount of \$75 if you enter a foursome to golf. Make checks payable to RIIAAA c/o Chris Cobain, East Greenwich HS, 300 Avenger Drive, East Greenwich, RI 02818.
3. Committee Reports:
 - a) **Boys' Basketball** to meet May 21, 2014. Agenda items include the Open Tournament and realignment.
 - b) **Boys' Tennis** welcomes Kevin Ryan, Scituate AD to the sport committee. There is a need for another Athletic Director to sit on this sport committee.
 - c) **Competition Cheer** held their end of season meeting. Topics of concern for the future of Cheer included social media beginning with the coaches and pathway to parents and cheerleaders and UCA providing mats for the State Championship.
 - d) **Golf:** RIIL has initiated a Principals' Cup Challenge providing group competition in addition to the Individual and Team Championships.

- e) **Girls' Basketball** met May 6th at Bay View. A girls' Open Tournament was the driving topic for this meeting.
 - f) **Gymnastics** held their end of season meeting. Schools with multiple individual performers are being encouraged to form Co-Op teams. Invitational events are to be sanctioned by the RIIIL. These events need to be posted on the RIIIL website for both game cap recognition and officials notification.
 - g) **NIAAA Section I** will again host a Hospitality Suite at the December 2014 NIAAA Conference. Kudos to New Jersey for initiating this suite annually. Amendments to the By-Laws were discussed and voted upon. Names and numbers were noted for LTC course offerings.
 - h) **Unified Basketball** is in need of an Athletic Director to sit on the sport committee.
 - i) **Wrestling** twice on alignment. A survey is out to RIIIL member schools on division alignment. There has been consideration by the RIIIL to eliminate hosting the Division II Tournament. A power ranking for the State Tournament will be instituted for individual seeding.
 - j) **Realignment Committee:** 2014 date for fall and winter are available at the RIIIL Office.
 - k) **Swim** welcomes Mike Traficante, The Prout School AD to the sport committee.
4. The last RIIAAA General Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 28, 2014 at Joe's Italian Kitchen, Cranston.
 5. Mark your calendar for next year's RIIAAA Award Banquet, Thursday, April 2, 2015 and NIAAA Section I Meeting hosted by the RIIAAA, Wednesday May 13, 2015. Both events at the Crown Plaza, Warwick, RI.
 6. Well wishes to Ronney McFarland, Lincoln School Athletic Director who is retiring as of June 2014.
 7. Kudos to Chris Cobain, East Greenwich HS Athletics, the coaching staff, and especially the Athletic Trainer for their diligence and professional medical expertise in making use of the school's AED on a student in cardiac arrest. The student is recovering after this life threatening scare. One more reason that legislature be past to mandate that all schools have a full time Athletic Trainer/Medical staff on campus for the student-athletes.
 8. A new professional basketball team is being formed in Rhode Island. The ABA Providence Anchors will be playing games at RI College. The organization is looking to fill over 100 managerial, financial, and sports positions. They can be reached via www.providenceanchors.com or at the Providence Anchors business office at 101 Main Street, Pawtucket, RI.

Any questions or concerns, please contact Beth Penkala at: bethpenkala5@gmail.com