

NEWSLETTER

November 2015

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) The RIIAAA will begin discussing the creation of a strategic plan. This will be on the agenda of the next RIIAAA executive board meeting.
- 2) Committee Reports:
 - Wrestling**
 - 8 mats for state tournament are being rented (EZ Mats)
 - EZ Mats will be looking to sell them to schools after tournament
 - Not much change is anticipated in realignment.
 - Golf**
 - No decision has been made on moving the golf season to the fall.
 - A number of drawbacks to the move have been brought up.
 - More study will be done on the effects of a move.
 - Lacrosse**
 - Westerly will be moving up to Division 2 in the upcoming realignment.
 - Football**
 - Playoffs moving along.
- 3) RIIL News:
 - Hall of Fame induction ceremony was very successful.
 - Penalty minutes' proposal in hockey was voted in by the PCOA.
 - Coaches certification will be monitored by the RIIL beginning in the fall of 2016. RIDE will no longer issue certificates.
 - Technology Committee will be meeting with more vendors for the website.
 - Looking to move the interpretation meeting to a day other than Saturdays.

4) Ice Hockey

-Concerns were raised over the cost to the schools that will result from the RIIL proposal to no longer have the league run ice hockey.

5) Coaches Associations

-PCOA was made aware of the RIIAAA's concerns about coaches' associations.

6) Later Start/Dismissal Times

-Barrington is looking into later start times.

-Research shows that high school students shouldn't be in school before 8:30.

-If other high schools begin to explore the same option, the effect of this on high school athletics, especially fall sports, will need to be looked at.

Any questions or concerns, please contact Greg Kortick at gkortick@westwarwickpublicschools.com

