

NEWSLETTER

June 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 Jamey Vetelino to best serve you at Principals' Committee on Athletics meetings. As the RIIAAA Vice-President, Ted would need to pass on sport committee resolutions in advance of the PCOA meetings.
2. The RIIAAA Golf Tournament was Tuesday, June 24, 2014; 9:00am shot gun start at Triggs Golf Course was once again a successful fund raiser for RIIAAA. Chris Cobain, East Greenwich HS reported a \$2500 profit with sponsorship and golfers taking part in a great event.
3. Committee Reports:
 - a) **Baseball** has started on realignment for spring 2015.
 - b) **Boys'/Girls' Basketball** will meet August 19, 2014 to finalize playoff format.
 - c) **Football**. The Interpretation meeting is complete. A reminder that Freshmen Football will play 10 minutes quarters and JV Football will play 12 minute quarters.
 - d) **Hockey**. Will meet August 21, 2014 to finalize the winter schedules.
 - e) **PCOA**. A 99 page proposal is being presented at the June 2014 meeting.
 - f) **Soccer** is in agreement to have one official clock either on the field or on the scoreboard.
 - g) **Softball** will meet August 20 and again on September 24, 2014 to complete realignment for spring 2015
 - h) **PCOA report includes:**
 - a. The RIIL Hall of Fame Awards will be moved to Fall 2015.
 - b. RIPCOA (grades 6-8 Committee) rejected the RIIL proposal to include grades 6-8 as part of the RIIL.
 - c. No action was taken on a request from Mr. Christopher Savastano, Principal of Tolman High School asking the PCOA to reconsider the sanctions imposed on the Tolman HS football program.

- d. Mr. Lunney presented highlights of the RIIL Student Advisory board for the 2013-2014 school years.
- e. Mrs. Tracy Quarella, RIIL Director of Marketing, was given a contract for 2014-2015.
- f. RIIL Rule Revisions have been sent out to member schools. See www.riil.org Rules and Regulations for details.
- g. The following Providence Schools will be linked together to form co-op programs to all sports: Mt. Pleasant HS & Alvarez HS, Hope HS & E3 HS, and Central HS & PCTA.
- h. Cooperative Team Requests include:
 - i. Middletown & Rogers were denied to form a co-op in Boys' and Girls' Cross Country.
 - ii. PCD, Wheeler School, and Juanita Sanchez HS will continue co-op in football for 2014. They have been told that they are in the phase out period.
 - iii. Welcome the Paul Cuffee School to participate in the RIIL league for boys' basketball, baseball, and fast pitch softball beginning 2014-2015.
- i. The PCOA committee thanked Mike Traficante, The Prout School, who served as the RIIAAA representative on the PCOA for the past four years.
- j. Mr. Jim Ashley's (FB Officials Commissioner) contract ends at the conclusion of the 2014 season. The bidding process will begin once the 2014 schedule is complete.
- k. The following winter sports alignments for 2014-2016 have been approved: Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Boys' and Girls' Ice Hockey, Boys' and Girls' Swim, Boys' and Girls' Indoor Track, Wrestling and Gymnastics.
- l. St. Mary – Bay View Academy has notified the PCOA they must drop Girls' Ice Hockey from their sports declaration. The committee approved with no penalty to Bay View.
- m. Bishop Keough has notified the PCOA that they must drop Fastpitch Softball due to lack of players. The committee approved with no penalty to Bishop Keough.
- n. The PCOA heard testimony of the Barrington HS Boys' Basketball head coach regarding his actions during a playoff game held in March. As a result, the PCOA voted to impose the following sanctions:
 - i. A fine of \$100.00 to Barrington HS
 - ii. A suspension of Boys' Basketball head coach for the first two RIIL League games (and all games in between) for the 2014-2015 basketball season.
 - iii. Coach Sullivan must complete the NFHS online Sportsmanship Course prior to the 2014-2015 basketball seasons.
- o. NIAAA Updates include:
 - i. \$1000 will be awarded to each school as part of the NIAAA budget surplus
 - ii. NIAAA Endowment Fund is no longer named after Mildred Jennings
 - iii. The data base for the NIAAA has changed. All members must print their membership cards using user name: (your email) and password: NIAAA.
 - iv. Tim Flaherty has announced his retirement from the NIAAA.
 - v. This year's NIAAA conference is December 13 thru December 16, 2014 at Gaylord National Harbor, Maryland.

- vi. Kudos to Beth Penkala, RIIAAA for being named to the NIAAA Hall of Fame Committee.
4. Mark your calendar for next year's RIIAAA Award Banquet, Thursday, April 2, 2015. NIAAA Section I Meeting hosted by the RIIAAA, Wednesday May 13, 2015. Both events at the Crown Plaza, Warwick, RI.
5. By-Law addition to Section 7 Executive Board **and RII Executive Director or RII Associate Executive Director** will be surveyed to the General Membership.
6. With regret the RIIAAA Executive Board accepted Elaine Botelho's retirement as RIIAAA Executive Director effective January 2015. Elaine will stay on to mentor her replacement thru December 2014. She asked that expenses for the NIAAA 2014 conference and her NIAAA lifetime retirement membership be paid as a parting gift. The board did comply with this request.
7. Alfonso DiGregorio, retired Hope HS and Beth Penkala, retired Mt. Hope HS were names on the table for Elaine's replacement.

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