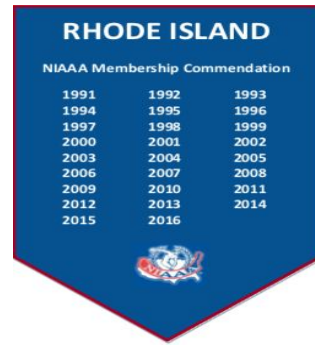




RIIAAA Newsletter

December 2017-February 2018



Greetings from the RIIAAA Executive Board

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 can 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 meetings, is to help keep you aware of current issues or concerns in Rhode Island athletics

Sports Committee News

Fall: The fall sports committees completed the realignment process. Realignment proposals are going to be reviewed by the RIIAAA Executive Board at the March meeting before heading to the Principals' Committee on Athletics for approval.

Winter: There has been a great deal of discussion on gymnastics. The concern that has been brought forward is that only 10 schools were able to field gymnastics teams this year. A number of talented gymnasts are not competing at the high school level because the schedule conflicts with their club gymnastics seasons.

Concerns have also been discussed regarding boys' and girls' swimming and the sports committee's decision to have a school's boys and girls teams split for divisional championships. The swimming sports committee is continuing to look at these issues.

Spring: The outdoor track sports committee is evaluating the divisional alignment in outdoor track. The lack of tracks makes keeping 4

divisions difficult with new schools participating in the sport and the lack of schools that have tracks. The committee is working on trying to even out the divisions based upon geography and other logistical considerations.

Several changes were made in softball alignment for the 2018 season. New schools participating in softball for the first time in the RIIL made the new alignments necessary.

RIIL News

The RIIL has had several discussions regarding eligibility of student-athletes being home schooled or alternative schools.

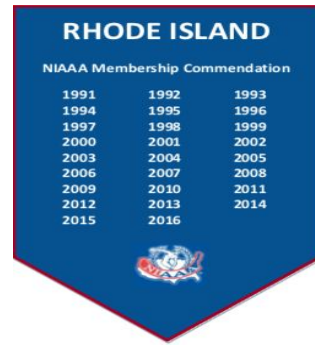
The importance of communication among athletic directors when rescheduling games on *rSchool Today* was again discussed. Athletic directors should not be making changes without communicating with the opposing school's athletic director and the assignors/officials for that contest.

A committee of principals, superintendents, athletic directors, and RIIL officials is being created to examine a



RIIAAA Newsletter

December 2017-February 2018



number of issues affecting interscholastic athletics. Some of these issues include later school start times, length of practices, early release times for athletes, scheduling times, weekend scheduling, among others.

The spring athletic directors workshop will be held on Friday, November 16 at CCRI, Warwick.

RIIAAA News

The Holiday Appreciation breakfast was held on Monday, December 4 at the Crowne Plaza

The RIIAAA awards committee met in January and released its ballot for the awards that will be given out at the RIIAAA Awards Banquet held on Monday, April 2. Voting for these awards took place in January. Congratulations to the following award winners:

School of the Year: Barrington High School

Administrator of the Year: Craig McKenzie-Chariho Regional High School

Sr. Charlene Tedeschi: Michael J. Kirby-Chariho Regional High School

Media Award: Ken Bell-WJAR TV 6

NIAAA Award of Merit: Karen Massaro, CAA-Middletown High School

Male Coach of the Year: Thomas Centore-Cranston East High School

Female Coach of the Year: Meaghan McGonagle-Cranston East High School

Athletic Director of the Year: Mike Shiels-Chariho Regional High School

Hall of Fame Inductees: Richard Adham-Narragansett High School, Frank Geisman-Cumberland High School, George Nasuti-Woonsocket High School (posthumously)

At the banquet, several current athletic directors will also be recognized for their years of service:

Thomas Marcello-Ponaganset (10 Years)

Terrence Lynch-South Kingstown (10 Years)

Robert Riebe-LaSalle Academy (10 Years)

The CAA exam was administered on January 3, 2018.

The RIIAAA state conference will be held from March 27-March 29 in conjunction with the MSSADA conference at the Resort and Conference Center at Hyannis, 35 Scudder Avenue, Hyannis, MA. The RIIAAA general dinner meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 28 at 5:00 pm at Mulligan's. Thanks to R.A.D. Sports for sponsoring the dinner meeting.

Members are encouraged to send pictures of events they would like to see included in the newsletter to gkortick@ww-ps.com

Membership Update

-100% paid membership.

Executive Board Meetings

The RIIAAA executive board will be meeting on the following dates. Please contact an executive board member (riiaaa.org) with any issues that you would like discussed.

Friday, March 2, 2018

Friday, March 16, 2018

Friday, April 13, 2018

Friday, May 18, 2018