



Article 1: THE ORGANIZATION

Section 1: NAME

- A. For the purpose of competition, the schools under the jurisdiction of the Principals' Committee on Athletics shall be known as the RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE; a voluntary association of Principals who pledge their schools and participants to follow the Rules and Regulations of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League as enacted by the Principals' Committee on Athletics.

Section 2: PURPOSE AND FUNDAMENTAL PHILOSOPHY

- A. The **RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE** d/b/a the Principals' Committee on Athletics will within its jurisdiction supervise and control the athletic programs, contests, and schedules and matters relating thereto, in participating secondary schools (grades 9-12) of the State of Rhode Island, whose principals are members of the Rhode Island Association of School Principals, to maintain, improve and raise the athletic standards in the participating schools of the State of Rhode Island, and in general carry on any other lawful activity which is calculated, directly or indirectly to promote and enhance the goals of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League.
- B. The **RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE** is a voluntary, incorporated, non-profit association of Principals organized to coordinate the efforts of its members toward the ultimate objectives of interscholastic activities. The purposes of this Association are to:
- 1) emphasize varied seasonal activities with broad participation under the direction and supervision of the school;
 - 2) maintain interscholastic activities in proper perspective and not to overemphasize them to the detriment of the academic program of the schools;
 - 3) formulate minimum uniform and equitable standards of eligibility that must be met by students to attain the privilege of representing their schools in interscholastic activities;
 - 4) provide a fundamentally fair and equitable framework in which interscholastic athletic competition in an educational setting can take place;
 - 5) promote an interscholastic athletics program providing educational experiences not otherwise provided in the curriculum, which will develop areas of knowledge, skills and emotional patterns and will contribute to the development of well-rounded individuals and better citizens;
 - 6) create and maintain a harmonious relationship between all schools within the **RIIL**, public, private and parochial;
 - 7) foster a cooperative spirit, good sportsmanship, and school spirit on the part of school representatives, school patrons, and students;
 - 8) prevent professionalism and undue pressure on students from parents, coaches and peers;
 - 9) promote even competition and maximum participation in **RIIL** activities by minimizing the impact of individual wealth upon equal athletic opportunity; and

10) be sure that non-school activities do not interfere with the academic and interscholastic programs, are sponsored primarily for the benefit of the participants and do not result in exploitation of high school youth.

Section 3: DEFINITION OF TERMS

- A. Board - the Rhode Island Board of Officials for the respective sports
- B. Chair - unless otherwise defined, shall refer to the Chairperson of the Principals' Committee on Athletics.
- C. Committee - unless otherwise defined, shall refer to the Principals' Committee on Athletics.
- D. Director(s) - unless otherwise defined, shall refer to the director of the particular sport(s) in question.
- E. Executive Committee - unless otherwise defined, shall refer to the Chair, the Executive Director, and the President of the Rhode Island Association of School Principals or his/her designee.
- F. Executive Director - the Executive Director of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League
- G. Assistant Director - the Assistant Director of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League
- H. Field - unless otherwise defined, shall refer to the area upon which a game is played.
- I. Game - to be regarded as interchangeable with the terms meet, match, or contest. The sports involved are Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Golf, Gymnastics, Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Winter and Spring Track, Volleyball and Wrestling. (See Article 7, Section 2.)
- J. IEP - Individual Educational Plan
- K. Non-League Games - any game which falls within the maximum number of games outlined in Article 7 and which is not part of the adopted RIIL schedule, playoffs or Round Robin games.
- L. Principal - the chief operating officer of the member school who is eligible for membership
- M. RIASP - the Rhode Island Association of School Principals
- N. RIIL - the Rhode Island Interscholastic League d/b/a the Committee
- O. Round Robin - a sanctioned athletic contest played for the Rhode Island Interscholastic Injury Fund - also known as the Injury Fund Game.
- P. Rules - the Rules and Regulations of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League or other rules as referred to herein.
- Q. School - unless otherwise defined, shall refer to a member school whose grade levels are certified by the Rhode Island Department of Education. Competition on behalf of the school shall be limited to students enrolled in Grades 9-12 in those schools certified as four-year high schools and Grades 10-12 in certified three-year high schools. All grade levels in the school shall be under the academic control and supervision of the Principal.
- R. Scrimmage - shall be defined as a controlled practice supervised by coaches which does not meet any of the requirements for a game. (See Article 7, Section 2.)
- S. Semester(s) - said period(s) shall be computed without reference to the athlete's physical presence in the school, all semesters being consecutive school calendar semesters and not individual athlete attendance semesters.