

- c. The alternative school Principal (CEO) will submit an absentee/tardy/early dismissal list of any and all students to the Principal of the feeder school.
- d. A copy of the student-athletes report card must be submitted to the Principal of the feeder school.

### C. Program/Enrollment

- 1) Alternative schools whose enrollment exceeds **350** and have a 12<sup>th</sup> grade class will be obligated to offer their own athletic program(s).
- 2) Alternative school Principals (CEO) may seek a waiver to combine smaller enrollment schools to offer an athletic program.
  - a. Combined enrollment – not to exceed 1000 students
  - b. Must share the same building
  - c. Seek waiver to combine every two (2) years
  - d. Principal (Director) must possess a Principal Certificate
- 3) The Supervisor/Director/Principal of each alternative school must become a member of the RIASP
- 4) The combined alternative school(s) Principal(s) (CEO) must become a member of the RIIL and pay all applicable dues and fees.
- 5) Student-athletes will adhere to all RIIL Rules and Regulations and any/all more stringent requirements of the combined schools.

### Section 3. FEMALE COMPETITION

A. Competition in the RIIL for Girls is limited to female competitors in Basketball, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Gymnastics, Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Fast Pitch Softball, Tennis, Winter and Spring Track and Volleyball.

- 1) A female athlete who drops out of school because of pregnancy shall not be subject to the 50 percent rule provided she returns to the same school.
- 2) All female athletes are subject to the provisions of Article 3, except for any special rules listed in the RIIL Rules and Regulations book or subsequent RIIL Bulletins from the RIIL Office.

### B. GENDER IDENTITY

- 1) The RIIL recognizes the value of participation in interscholastic sports for all member school student athletes. The RIIL is committed to providing all student-athletes with equal opportunities to participate in RIIL athletic programs consistent with their gender identity. This policy addresses eligibility determinations for students who have a gender identity that is different from the gender listed on their official birth certificates.

The RIIL has concluded that it would be fundamentally unjust and contrary to applicable state and federal laws, to preclude a student from participation on a gender specific sports team that is consistent with the public gender identity of that student for all other purposes. Therefore, for purposes of sports participation, the RIIL shall defer to the determination of the student and his or her local school regarding gender identification. In this regard, the RIIL member school shall determine a student's eligibility to participate in a RIIL gender specific sports team based on the gender identification of that student in current school records and daily life activities in the

school and community at the time that sports eligibility is determined for a particular season. Accordingly, when a member school submits a roster to the RIIL, it is verifying that it has determined that the students listed on the gender specific sports team are entitled to participate on that team due to their gender identity and the member school has determined that the expression of the student's gender identity is bona fide and not for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage in competitive athletics.

Students who wish to participate on a RIIL gender specific sports team that is different from the gender identity listed on the student's current school records are advised to address the gender identification issue with the local school and/or district well in advance of the deadline for athletic eligibility determinations for a current sports season. Students should not be permitted to participate in practices or try out for gender specific sports teams that are different from their publicly identified gender identity.

Nothing in this policy shall be read to entitle a student to selection to any particular team or to permit a student to transfer from one gender specific team to a team of a different gender during a sports season. In addition, the RIIL shall expect that, as a general matter, after the issue of gender identity has been addressed by the student and the member school, the determination shall remain consistent for the remainder of the student's high school sports eligibility. The RIIL has concluded that this policy is sufficient to preclude the likelihood that a student will claim a particular gender identity for the purpose of gaining a perceived advantage in athletic competition.

2) Procedure:

- a. The student or the parent(s)/guardian shall notify the Principal (or designee) that the student would like the opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics consistent with the gender that the student identifies as.
- b. The student's home school will determine the eligibility of a student seeking to participate in interscholastic athletics in a manner consistent with their gender identity where the student's gender identity does not correspond to the student's sex assigned at birth.
- c. The Principal (or designee) will confirm the gender identity asserted for purposes of trying out for an interscholastic sports team through documentation from the parent, guardian, guidance counselor, or from a doctor, psychologist or other medical professional.
- d. On a seasonal basis the school will provide approval of eligibility to try out for an interscholastic sports team or teams which corresponds to the student's gender identity.

#### Section 4. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- A. The athlete must be taking at least four subjects, each involving at least four periods of work or an aggregate of fifteen periods of work per week.
- B. At all times the athlete should have secured for the period from the beginning of the quarter or trimester up to the end of the regular marking period which shall not exceed a maximum of 12 weeks and a passing grade in 60% of the student's program (credits). **A student who is not passing 60% of his/her program (credits) is ineligible to participate in games (league and non-league) until the end of the quarter or trimesters of the next marking period.** This is a minimum standard for academic eligibility. Schools may choose to initiate a higher standard for academic eligibility. In this instance, the higher standard (school policy) will be supported by the RIIL.