Gloucester Fishermen Athletic Association

P.O. Box 3010, Gloucester, MA 01930-3010 / www.gloucesterathletics.org

GFAA Board of Directors:

December 2013

David R. Amero **GFAA President**

Dear Friends of Gloucester Athletics

Vice President Timothy Philpott

Linda Rogers

We hope you were able to attend the opening celebration of the New Balance Track & Field at Newell Stadium. This project was a huge success because of the close collaboration of Gloucester's citizens, businesses, foundations, and both city and state governments.

Ellen Preston Clerk

Treasurer

Now that we have a beautiful state-of-the-art stadium, the GFAA is refocusing its energy on its core mission: "that all student-athletes of the Gloucester school system Pamela Ashe

should be able to participate in the sport of their choice, regardless of financial circumstances...", and "that the student-athlete should be able to play on safe and

well-maintained facilities."

Roger Corbin

Gerry Hart

Clare MacDonald

Kristin Michel

Robert Parsons

Jay Somers

June Steel

Richard Wilson

Jonathan Pope **President Emeritus**

We are grateful that the athletic participation fee has been reduced from \$380 to \$230 per sport. Nevertheless, the GFAA feels that the fee can be brought down even lower, and wants to ensure that the fee never goes back to its high mark of \$380.

Known for its strong athletic program on the field, court and hockey rink, Gloucester needs to sustain full participation in all sports. With the lower fee starting this past spring, the boys and girls lacrosse numbers increased by 15%. And, this current fall saw a 9% rise in participation in all sports across the board.

We know that athletics plays an important role in a child's life by building confidence through commitment, discipline, responsibility, teamwork and leadership - all of which is carried back to the classroom, as well as forward to future life choices.

We are writing today to ask for your help to continue GFAA's mission in ensuring that all Gloucester student-athletes can participate in the sport of their choice, and that the school fields will be well-maintained.

Thank you from all of us,

David R. Amero President