

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ATHLETIC TRAINERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 20, 2003

1. Call to Order: (audio file: 0303bod01.msv)
 - A. By: Scott Linaker
 - B. Time: 8:39 A.M.

2. Attendance:
 - A. President: Scott Linaker
 - B. Secretary: Matt Webber
 - C. Treasurer: Ben Davidson
 - D. Arizona Representative: Jack Baynes
 - E. New Mexico Representative: Rob Evers
 - F. Utah Representative: Lisa Walker
 - G. Wyoming Representative: Wayne Johnson
 - H. Business Consultant: Rick Ball

3. Welcome & Introductory Remarks
 - A. Scott Linaker welcomed Jack Baynes (AZ) & Lisa Walker (UT) as new members of the Board.
 - B. Scott Linaker thanked George Goodridge (AZ) & George Curtis (UT) for their service to the RMATA.

4. Hotel Room Numbers/Leadership Directory/Board Directory
 - A. Scott Linaker reviewed the Leadership Directory and Board Directory and changes were made as appropriate (see attached)

5. Appointments/Renewals/Resignations (audio file: 0303bod02.msv)
 - A. Board members were instructed to return the ballots for appointments and renewals to the Secretary. The results are as follows:
 1. Renewals:
 1. Ben Davidson - Treasurer Approved
 2. Rick Ball - Business Consultant Approved
 3. Tom Furrier - Financial Consultant Approved
 4. Bart Peterson - Newsletter Editor Approved
 5. Chris Mathewson - Web Site Coordinator Approved
 6. Bill Lyons - Site Selection Coordinator* Not Approved
 7. Gregg Sheehan - Exhibit Coordinator Approved
 2. Resignations:
 - a. Bart Peterson - Educator Recognition Subcommittee Approved

- * Scott Linaker pointed out that we have not been using the Site Selection Coordinator as intended. This is not caused by the fault of any individual but the process we have been using.

6. Board Duties (audio file: 0303bod03.msv)
 - A. Scott Linaker went over basic procedures and Board duties and responsibilities.

7. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:
 - A. Minutes of the November 2003 meeting of the Board were approved without objection.

8. Membership Report (audio file: 0303bod04.msv)
 - A. Matt Webber gave the membership report (see attached)

9. Finance Report (audio file: 0303bod05.msv)
 - A. Ben Davidson gave the Board new Expense Report Forms. The mileage on the form should be changed to 34.5 cents per mile.
 - B. Ben Davidson presented the Financial Report (see attached).
 1. Discussion was held on the Certificate of Deposit held by the Board.
 - a. Motion to authorize Treasurer to move CD account money to high yield account when the CD matures with the discretion to move money from the high yield to the CD with the advice of the investment advisor.
Motion by: Rob Evers (NM)
Second by: Wayne Johnson (WY)
Approved 5-0 (CO absent)
 - C. Discussion was held on the distribution of state dues from the Treasurer. There was consensus to remain with a quarterly transfer of funds.
 - D. Scott Linaker directed Ben Davidson to check into on-line banking services and report to the Board in the June Meeting.
10. RMATA Public Relations Committee (audio file: 0303bod06.msv)
 - A. The issue of creating an RMATA Public Relations Committee and state public relations committees was discussed (See attached memo). Rick Ball stated that athletic trainers usually do a poor job of self promotion and need to make people aware of who they are and what they do. The state representatives shared information on their public relations committees and committee members. Responsibilities of RMATA committee members and the District 7 member on the NATA PR committee member were discussed. The District 7 member needs to be available to attend the NATA meeting and one off-site meeting.
 - B. Motion:
To add to the Policies and Procedures the following:
The purpose and objectives of the Public Relations Committee shall be:
 - A. Communication between state public relations committees.
 - B. Ascertain available public relation resources.
 - C. Implementing meaningful, viable public relations activities.
 - D. Submitting items to national, regional and state athletic training publications.
 - E. Advising the President and Board on matters pertaining to public relations.Motion by: Wayne Johnson (WY)
Second by: Lisa Walker (UT)
Approved 5-0 (Colorado absent)
 - C. Motion to give the PR committee \$275 for conference calls.
Motion by Lisa Walker (UT)
Second by: Rob Evers (NM)
Approved 5-0 (Colorado absent)
 - D. The appointment process to the NATA PR committee was discussed.
11. Web Site (audio file: 0303bod07.msv)
 - A. Members need to be reminded to check the national, district and state web sites.
 - B. Links to all accredited and candidacy athletic training education programs in District 7 are being sought for placement on the web site.
 - C. Chris Mathewson is running for Colorado President and if elected he will resign as RMATA Web Site Coordinator. Possible replacements for Chris were discussed.
12. Governance CD (audio file: 0303bod08.msv)
 - A. Matt Webber handed out the new governance CD and explained the updates.
 - B. There are two CD's, one is the traditional governance CD and the other is the athletic training web sites. We have to use two because the web sites are becoming so much larger with their multimedia files.

- C. State graphics are on the file, including some icons that can be used on computers.
 - D. We will be going to DVD's as people's computers allow.
 - E. Since we are now digitally recording our meetings the recordings will be included with future minutes and each topic on the minutes will be linked to the audio for that portion.
13. Awards Committee Report (audio file: 0303bod09.msv)
- A. Awards Luncheon will be emceed by Bob Toth. Jim Saladin is handling the Hall of Fame awards.
 - B. Jim Saladin will get the Hall of Fame exhibit to the national meeting. The Board had no objections to continuing sending the Hall of Fame exhibit to the national meeting. There is a vacancy on the Hall of Fame Subcommittee from Arizona.
 - C. Scholarship Subcommittee had no report. The RMATA receives its applications from those submitted for NATA scholarships but do not receive one. The process of evaluating applications for scholarships was discussed. There are vacancies from Utah and Wyoming. A letter of intent and a resume should be sent to Scott Linaker by anyone interested in these vacancies.
 - D. Educator Recognition Subcommittee
 - 1. Board e-mail vote had approved Dr. Gary Delforge as the Educator of the Year Award.
 - 2. Dr. Delforge cannot attend the awards ceremony.
 - 3. There are vacancies from Arizona and Wyoming.
 - E. The edited guidelines for Special Recognition awards were discussed (see attached). Changes were made to the application guidelines and limits on awards (see attached) on the consensus of the Board.
 - 1. Approval of Wayne Barger for the Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award and Steve Scales for the Athletic Trainer Service Award.
Motion by: Wayne Johnson (WY)
Second by: Jack Baynes (AZ)
Approved 5-0 (Colorado absent)
 - 2. Award design for these awards has not been completed. The Awards and Scholarship Committee is responsible for this task. Mary Ann Erickson has been directed to complete this task.
 - 3. The Board decided to have award recipients recognized on a permanent plaque to be displayed along with the Hall of Fame.
 - 4. Changes to the method of discovering which member is to receive what pin for years of service was discussed. It was decided that the Secretary will establish a list by asking members to apply for recognition.
 - 5. There are vacancies on the Special Recognition Subcommittee from Arizona, New Mexico and Wyoming.
 - F. Motion to strike sentence XXI (2)(c)(3) in the Policies and Procedures dealing with Hall of Fame Committee members remaining anonymous.
Motion Ut
Second WY
Approved 5-0 (Colorado absent)
 - G. All applications for awards except Hall of Fame are sent to the Honors and Awards Committee Chair. It was decided to wait for the input of Jim Saladin before making any changes to the Hall of Fame process.
14. Board Action Proposal (audio file: 0303bod10.msv)
- A. A proposal titled: "Policies and Procedures amendment; Nominations for Office" (see attached) was presented and discussed. Changes were suggested based on late nominations that were received and problems that may occur when the Secretary leaves for the District Meeting and then a nomination arrives.
 - B. Motion to amend the Policies and Procedures of the Association by adding to Section IX (A):

"Written nominations shall be sent to the Secretary, who shall verify the identity of the

member making the nomination and that the member making the nomination is a voting member in good standing of the Association.”

AND

“Nominations may be submitted via electronic mail. The Secretary shall confirm the identification of the nominating member”

AND

“Written nominations that are mailed must be postmarked ten (10) days prior to the close of nominations at the annual meeting. Nominations sent by electronic mail must be received by the Secretary seven (7) days prior to the close of nominations at the annual meeting.”

Motion by: Rob Evers (NM)
Second by: Jack Baynes (AZ)
Approved 5-0 (Colorado absent)

15. Board Action Proposal (audio file: 0303bod11.msv)
 - A. A proposal titled: “Policies and Procedures amendment; Membership Meeting Notification” (see attached) was presented and discussed.
 - B. Motion to add to Section XIII (A) of the Policies and Procedures the following:

“Membership meeting notices may be e-mailed to those who provide e-mail addresses to the Association provided that those who do not provide an e-mail address will receive the notice via U.S. Mail.”

Before implementing this change the Secretary shall notify the membership in writing of this change.

Motion by: Wayne Johnson (WY)
Second by Lisa Walker (UT)
Approved 5-0 (Colorado absent)

16. Board Action Proposal (audio file: 0303bod12.msv)
 - A. A proposal titled: “Allocation of Soft Money” (see attached) was presented and discussed.
 - B. The reasoning was to remove non-dues money from the regular budget process and to give the RMATA some guidance in planning. The IRS requires that the RMATA have a plan for the use of funds. We cannot just accumulate funds without a plan and keep our tax exempt status. There was concern that the proposal would tie the hands of future Boards.
 - B. The proposal was tabled without objection.
 - C. The Finance Committee and Rob Evers will work on updating financial policies and procedures and the finance manual.

17. RMATA Archive Project (audio file: 0303bod13.msv)
 - A. A proposal to begin archiving RMATA and District 7 papers and other items was presented by Matt Webber(see attached).
 - B. Discussion was held on the particulars of establishing such a project. Matt Webber asked that the Board make a commitment if they wished him to proceed on this item. It was decided to look at item 18 below and then return to decide whether to fund htis project at this time.
 - C. Upon the conclusion of discussion on item 18 below, a motion was made.
 - D. Motion: Allocate \$275 for archival project and add a line item to next year’s budget for the archival project.

Motion by: Rob Evers (NM)
Second by: Wayne Johnson (WY)
Approved 5-0 (Colorado absent)

18. The Board decided not to fund the NATA REF Jacob Schechter Scholarship at this time. More information will be requested and the item may be added to the 2004 budget.
19. The National Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity (NCPA) (audio file: 0303bod14.msv)
 - A. The NCPA requests the RMATA to formally support the Physical Activity for Youth (PAY) by sending a letter of support. The NATA has sent a letter of support to the NCPA. Questions were raised as to whether this activity is related to the purpose and objectives of our Association. These people may be back to ask for more in the future. There was a feeling expressed that a support letter from this Association would be a no cost method to give support and give us some name recognition.
 - B. See attached letter.
 - C. Motion to approve sending a letter of support to the NCPA.
Motion by: Wayne Johnson (WY)
Second by: Lisa Walker (UT)
Approval 3-1(NM)-1(AZ) (Colorado absent)
20. Annual Meeting (audio file: 0303bod15.msv)
 - A. The refund policy was discussed. Cases that come in after the deadline have been handled on a case by case basis. This will continue in the future.
 - B. The Board decided to add an option for e-mail confirmation when registering for the meeting.
 - C. The symposium schedule was discussed. The Convention Program Committee is given leeway to set the schedule for the meeting. We would like to stay around 18 CEU's. There will have to be coordination with the site that is hosting the meeting. A preliminary schedule needs to be posted on the web site in December. The Board would like to see the schedule done much sooner than it has been done in the past.
 - D. Ken Knight's resignation as chair of the Convention Program Committee was discussed. Suggestions for a replacement for Dr. Knight was also discussed.
 - E. Post card and e-mail notifications are used for symposium. We are now using NetPost Services through the U.S. Postal Service (see attached). This has saved us both time and money.
 - F. 2002 Albuquerque Symposium
 1. Rob Evers suggested that if a new president is coming on line in a state the old president should continue to handle the symposium duties. Scott Linaker said it was preferable to have someone besides the state president as the local convention committee chair.
 2. The financial report for the 2002 Symposium was presented and adjusted to remove the costs related to the Board of Directors and Business Consultant. This is due to the need to have a Board meeting regardless of whether we had the symposium or not. The revised report is attached.
 - G. 2004 Budget
 1. The 2004 Symposium Budget was discussed (see attached). Given an attendance of 300 we would be subsidizing non-student members at the current fees.
 2. Motion to raise the Student Non-Member registration fees to \$90.
Motion by: Lisa Walker (UT)
Second by: Wayne Johnson (WY)
Approved 5-0 (Colorado absent)
 3. Motion to accept the budget for the 2004 symposium
Motion by: Wayne Johnson (WY)
Second by: Rob Evers (NM)
Approved 5-0 (Colorado absent)

21. Nominations and Elections (audio file: 0303bod16.msv)
 - A. Nominations that have been received:
 - District Director - Matt Webber
 - President - George Curtis, Kelli Sheehan, Bart Peterson
 - Secretary - Bart Peterson, Cindy Seminoff, Rob Evers (declined)
 - B. Election procedures were discussed. The process is outlined in the Policies and Procedures Manual and has been provided to the members.
 - C. Next year we will have to budget for elected officers to attend the meeting.
 - D. The process of the change over of offices was discussed. The president-elect will take over at the next RMATA annual meeting and the district director-elect will take over at the NATA Annual Meeting in June of 2004. Both Scott Linaker and Matt Webber are preparing materials to be passed down to the newly elected officers to aid their transition into their new offices.
 - E. Election Committee
 1. An election committee needs to be formed. It is a standing committee but has been treated as an as hoc committee because our only use of the committee is during a mail election. Traditionally a Board member has chaired the committee and they have been from the same geographic region.
 2. The possibilities of using the Internet for the election was discussed. It is too close to this election to make any adjustments. This issue should be checked out prior to the next election.
 3. The president recommended that the following people be appointed to the Election Committee:
 - Wayne Johnson, Chair
 - Gregg Boughton
 - Jolene WhitelyApproved 5-0 (Colorado absent)
20. Combined District Meeting (audio file: 0303bod17.msv)
 - A. The NATA Annual Clinical Symposium will only be coming to the West once every 9 years for the national meeting. This is due to smaller revenue gained from meeting in the West.
 - B. A Western Mini-Meeting was investigated by the NATA and it was not viable for them to put on such a meeting.
 - C. The District Directors from District 7, 8 and 10 brought up the possibility of a joint meeting.
 - D. The idea of combining the meetings of Districts 7, 8 and 10 was discussed. Many items would have to worked out. We might look at forming another group to put this on like the EATA. We would probably need at least two years to set this up. It would replace our RMATA Symposium those years it was held. I might be held annually or just once every few years. The meeting may be held at the same site every year or rotate between sites.
 - E. The Board was comfortable in pursuing this possibility.
21. Committee on Reimbursement (audio file: 0303bod18.msv)
 - A. David Johnston, the District 7 representative on the NATA Committee on Reimbursement, gave a presentation to the Board. E-mail: dxjohns@ihc.com.
 - B. The committee is looking for state representation. The purpose of the state representatives would be as a conduit for information both to and from the states.
 - C. Arizona does not have a reimbursement committee. Arizona does not have a state law requiring reimbursement and given the political climate it will not have one in any time in the future. New Mexico has a licensure board but does not have any specific reimbursement interest. Licensure boards do not deal with reimbursement but it is between the insurance company and the insurance company.
 - D. The RMATA currently has no room in the budget to add a committee this year.
 - E. See attached e-mail.
22. State Reports (audio file: 0303bod19.msv)
 - A. Arizona is dealing with the issue of cleaning water coolers. The Maricopa County Health

Department has raised the issue after one golfer died and many got sick due contaminated water in a water cooler. The Department of Health threatened to shut down some athletic training rooms because they were not complying with the health codes. They do not know how this will be resolved.

- B. New Mexico will have elections after their May meeting. They are also preparing for sunset in 2005.
 - C. Utah does not look good for licensure the next few years. They did get Athletic Training Month recognized.
 - D. Wyoming is going to have elections. Wayne Johnson is ineligible for another term. In February they had an exemption bill passed by the Wyoming Legislature and signed by the Governor.
23. Convention Program Committee (audio file: 0303bod20.msv)
- A. Problems with changing state presidents immediately before the meeting was discussed. It is best to have a separate local convention chair. Outgoing state presidents need to inform the incoming president on duties relating to the symposium. The Secretary needs to check to make sure this has happened.
 - B. Poster presentations on research may be included in future meetings. This is done at the national meeting. The Convention Program Committee has the discretion to add poster presentations.
 - C. Dr. Ken Knight reiterated his resignation as chair of the committee. He had resigned last year but agreed to continue for the meeting in Utah.
 - D. Scott Linaker extended the RMATA's appreciation for Dr. Knight's work.
 - E. The state presidents need to help find people to sit on this committee.
 - F. This year's program was discussed. There is an RMATA sponsored student function on Friday night and Weber State is sponsoring a student function Saturday night. We will have a town hall meeting on Saturday night.
24. Research and Education Foundation (audio file: 0303bod21.msv)
- A. Jenny Allen from the NATA-REF Board of Directors presented a report from the NATA-REF (see attached).
 - B. Eric Sauers was given a \$40,000 research grant.
 - C. Six District 7 students received scholarships.
 - D. Donations are currently being accepted to fund a scholarship to honor Dr. Gary Delforge.
 - E. State representatives are needed from New Mexico and Wyoming.
25. NATA Business (audio file: 0303bod22.msv)
- A. District Secretary/Treasurer Committee Report
 - 1. Membership information will be presented during the Membership Report at the membership meeting.
 - 2. February 15 is the date that members must pay their dues by to not lose services.
 - B. Committee vacancies are posted on the web site. The leadership directory has the terms for committee members. For NATA committees, both the District Director and committee chair must recommend the person then it goes to the NATA Board for a vote.
 - C. Governmental Affairs
 - 1. NATA fiscal year ends March 31. The NATA Board has changed the dates so states must request funds by March 31. April 1 starts the new year for the grant program and states may apply again after that date.
 - 2. First \$3800 spent on governmental activities is eligible for reimbursement. After that the states may get up to \$2000 in matching funds or apply for emergency funds.
 - D. They will be changing the format of the annual meeting. They will be starting sessions each morning with a 45 minute session on NATA issues/business and some awards.
 - E. NATA News
 - 1. Trying to cut down on expenses and increase advertising revenue.
 - 2. Hopefully our new PR committee can get us into the NATA News each year.
 - 3. We can get a half page ad each year to promote something in our district.

- F. Corporate Sponsorship
 - 1. States are not bound by the sponsorship agreement.
 - G. Cost savings measures
 - 1. The NATA continues to try to implement cost savings measures.
 - 2. Fax on demand is going away.
 - H. E-blast
 - 1. New e-mail program to communicate with members.
 - 2. It will usually be once a month, but it will be more often in March.
 - I. Honors and Awards Recipients
 - 1. Record number of people nominated
 - 2. Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Recipients:
 - Ed Ryan
 - Sue Hillman
 - 3. Hall of Fame Recipients:
 - Bob Beeton
 - Jack Baynes
 - J. NATA Report (see attached)
26. Clinical/Industrial/Corporate Committee (audio file: 0303bod23.msv)
- A. Handout from Mike Rich (see attached)
 - B. Encouraged each state to have a representative.
27. NATA Board Reception (audio file: 0303bod24.msv)
- A. Denver
 - B. May 3, 2003 from 6 pm to 7:30 pm.
 - C. Warrick Hotel
28. RMATA Board Meeting (audio file: 0303bod25.msv)
- A. June 25, 2003
 - B. 9 am - 11 am
 - C. Renaissance Grand Hotel, St. Louis
29. RMATA Semi-Annual Membership Meeting
- A. June 26, 2003
 - B. 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 - C. St. Louis, MO (check the meeting program for which room)
30. Officer travel to other District Meetings
- A. Scott Linaker will be traveling to District 3 in May.
 - B. Matt Webber may attend the District 6 meeting in the summer.
32. RMATA Membership Meeting
- A. Saturday night
 - B. Scott Linaker went over the meeting agenda.
33. Meeting Adjourned
- A. The meeting was adjourned without objection.
 - B. 12:11 am

NATA REPORT - OGDEN, UT

NATA Future Annual Meetings:

June 25 - 28, 2003	St. Louis, Missouri
June 16 - 19, 2004	Baltimore, Maryland
June 15 - 18, 2005	Indianapolis, Indiana
June 29 - July 1, 2006	New Orleans, Louisiana
June 26 - 30, 2007	Anaheim, California
June 17 - 21, 2008	Minneapolis, Minnesota
June 17 - 21, 2009	San Antonio, Texas

Continual Communication:

The NATA strives to keep members informed with regard to association business, and continued positive communication is very important to the advancement of the Association. To that end, all members are encouraged to keep informed of association business by reading each issue of the *NATA NEWS*, by visiting the NATA web site at www.nata.org, and by talking with Association leaders.

Introducing E-BLAST from NATA! The first issue of E-BLAST was sent to members in early March. The purpose of this form of communication is to provide members with time-sensitive action items that will benefit the athletic trainer in their daily work and increase the credibility and awareness of the entire athletic training profession. Another benefit will be the ability to combine many of the single topic e-mails into one comprehensive e-mail which will refer members to the *NATA NEWS* or the NATA web site for more information. During the month of March, National Athletic Training Month, E-BLAST will be sent out once a week and will encourage grass roots member activity, after which monthly issue will be the norm. If you have suggestions for E-BLAST contact Larry Commons, NATA Internal Marketing Manager, or Public Relations Committee members Rob Lawton, District 1 or Erica MacDonald, District 8.

E-BLAST is a quick and easy communication tool by which information is sent to all members who have their current e-mail address in the NATA database. Therefore it is important to keep your contact information up-to-date.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact your District Director, Scott Linaker, with your concerns and thoughts.

On-Line Member Service:

The NATA continually attempts to add convenience and efficiency by which members can conduct business with the national office. Much of this convenience and efficiency depends on the Internet and at this time involves, but is not limited to, on-line dues payment, on-line up-date of contact information (address, telephone, e-mail, etc), on-line membership statistics, on-line versions of the *Journal of Athletic Training* and the *NATA NEWS*, on-line leadership, membership and office staff directories, and an extensive list of downloadable documents. It is important for each member to have their respective contact information up-to-date, as this will help ensure you receive pertinent association information. The NATA ensures information security and strongly encourages each of you to utilize this technology.

The NATA web site has become the main source of information and communication between NATA, NATA committees and the membership. Visit often and take advantage of the wealth of helpful information.

Fax-On-Demand:

Beginning July 1, 2003 the NATA Fax-On-Demand members service will cease to exist. This is due to low member use, extensive staff time to maintain and the fact that all services and documents offered on Fax-On-Demand are now available through the NATA web site.

Membership Renewal:

On-line membership renewal is becoming a popular and easy means of paying one's dues and is being used by about 60% of the membership. Once on-line payment is posted and registered, typically within 24 - 48 hours, members can access and print a new membership card. Membership cards are no longer sent to members each year as a cost saving measure, but if a new card is desired members can request one be sent to them or go on-line and print one themselves. The NATA has added incentives to renew membership on-line by offering those who pay dues in full before February 15, to be entered in a drawing for complimentary airfare, registration and lodging to the national meeting.

The policy governing dues payment is as follows. Membership renewals are mailed annually on November 1 for the upcoming calendar year. Dues are payable on January 1 for the calendar year. Individuals not paying dues (renewals) by February 15 are suspended and will no longer receive the *NATA NEWS*, *JAT* or have access to the members-only section of the NATA web site. Members who do not renew their membership by September 30 are removed from NATA membership records. National dues for new applicants are prorated based on their join date. District dues are not prorated.

Renew your membership on time and take advantage of the member benefits as outlined in the members-only section at www.nata.org.

Committees:

Keep in mind that committee vacancies occur from time to time due to term limits and resignations. District 7 members who have a desire to serve on any of the NATA Committees or Liaison positions, those with or without district representation, please contact District Director Scott Linaker. Committee and Liaison vacancies will be posted on the RMATA Web Site

I would like to thank all of you who are currently volunteering your time to better serve the membership.

A heart felt thank you to Dr. Earlene Durrant as she has completed her term as Chair of the Graduate Review Committee. Most recently, Earlene was instrumental in finalizing the self study instructions for the Graduate Athletic Training Education Program Standards and Guidelines document, which is available on the NATA web site.

The Board recently approved a new procedure that affects off-convention committee meetings. To use resources in the most efficient and cost effective manner and to take advantage of volume discounts, NATA will designate six off-convention meeting sites (East, Midwest, West) and utilize one or two hotel chains and a specific list of restaurants to maximize savings and staff time

Education Reform:

As the NATA approaches the January 1, 2004 implementation of the single track to certification, there are growing concerns with the procedures of the Joint Review Committee on Athletic Training (JRC-AT). To assist in addressing concerns an education reform an up-date appeared in the July 2002 issue of the *NATA NEWS* and on the NATA web site. Members with concerns about education reform issues, should contact Education Council Chair Chad Starkey directly, via e-mail or telephone. JRC-AT concerns may be directed to JRC-AT Chair, Pete Koehneke, and Board of Certification issues may be directed to Denise Fandel or Jeff Ryan.

Education Council:

The EC has made it a priority to have information available in a number of venues and formats. Members are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunities presented to stay abreast of educational reform issues. While there certainly are some concerns, the EC has received encouragement from members regarding the direction and progress of education reform. The EC welcomes feedback from members.

Standards and Guidelines are reviewed every five years. The processes and systems are in place to ensure no member can unduly influence decisions.

Sponsorship:

As sponsorship dollars become harder and harder to procure, national office staff continues to seek out new sponsors and work to retain current sponsors. Sponsorship funds are important to the financial status of the NATA and every effort is made to maintain the sponsorship level. On the positive side, the Board recently approved *Tylenol* as a sponsor, with details of product category, fees and terms of agreement to be negotiated. *Tylenol* is a sister product of *Motrin*. The Board also approved pursuing a sponsorship relationship with Medtronic.

GlaxoSmithKline has agreed to continue its sponsorship with NATA for another year. GlaxoSmithKline will have event sponsorship rights to the general session on the last day of the NATA Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposia.

GlaxoSmithKline has asked NATA to participate in the Asthma Acton America program to increase public awareness of asthma and effective asthma management. NATA's involvement will begin as soon as the sponsorship contract with GlaxoSmithKline is signed.

The sponsorship agreement with EMPI has been approved by the Board and the details of the contract are being finalized. Under the category name "EMPI is the Official Electrotherapy Supplier for Muscle Conditioning & Iontophoresis Devices of NATA", this agreement covers the Dupel Delivery Device and the 300PV.

Financial Status:

Despite the slow down and on some occasion the down turn in the economy, the Finance Committee reports that NATA continues to experience a stable financial base, in part due to the cost savings measure recently instituted. The Finance Committee will continue to diligently study the financial position of the NATA and look at projected income and expenses in an effort to maintain financial stability. All aspects of budgets, revenues and expenses will be included and appropriate adjustments will be made.

West Mini-Meeting:

Over a year ago the Board voted to hold the annual convention in the West every nine rather than six years, but it may be necessary to consider not going West at all. While NATA wants to take the annual convention to all areas of the country, fiscal prudence is vital. In years when NATA has had an annual convention in a West location, net convention revenue has been dramatically less than usual. At the request of the Finance Committee, NATA staff investigated the feasibility of a West Mini-Meeting. The idea being the meeting would be held in the West and would accommodate Districts 7, District 8 and District 10 members.

Information compiled by the staff about previous District 7, 8 and 10 meetings indicate NATA can not financially or logistically make an abbreviated West meeting work.

District Directors from Districts 7, 8, and 10 will continue to discuss holding a cooperative district meeting among the three districts.

Inter-Association Task Force to address Exertional Heat Illness:

The Board has approved a proposal to convene an inter-association task force for the purpose of establishing guidelines to reduce the risk of exertional heat illness. Potential benefits would include: increased name recognition for ATC's and the NATA; extensive national media coverage; confirmation of the NATA as a leader in the allied health care community; the opportunity to provide life-saving information to athletic programs that might not have access to a complete health care team; the promotion of positive working relationships among sports medicine organizations. This venture is important in order to get a consensus (with other highly regarded and recognized organizations) on the proper guidelines necessary to prevent exertional heat illness. While the NATA has a position statement regarding this issue, other organizations do not endorse NATA position statements and the positions statements have very strict criteria which make it difficult for other organizations to approve.

Pronouncements Committee:

Please be reminded that NATA position statements are reviewed every three to five years to accommodate new information/recommendations/research/et cetera.

The Riddell Revolution Helmet:

There has been much discussion lately concerning the new Riddell Revolution football helmet and especially the face mask. As you have heard there is deep concern in the athletic training community regarding the difficulty in removing the face mask. NATA has sent a very direct letter to Riddell voicing the concerns with face mask removal, which fails to meet the standards established in the Inter-Association Spine Task Force recommendations.

An article addressing this issue can be found in the December 2002 issue of the *NATA NEWS*.

NATA NEWS:

The *NATA NEWS* has received two APEX Awards of Excellence. The first award was an Award of Excellence for Most Improved Magazine, and the second was an Award of Excellence for Feature Writing (specifically the April 2001 cover story).

The APEX Competition is an annual contest sponsored by Communications Concepts. The competition is for mar-com and PR professionals in profit and non-profit sectors. There were 5,900 APEX entries.

The *NATA NEWS* is now available on-line. Check out the new *NATA NEWS* Web pages in the Members Only Section of the NATA site at www.nata.org. You'll find all the current articles, along with editorial deadlines, article submission procedures, contact names, telephone numbers and other helpful information. Keep checking the site each month for updates to the magazine. Best of all, stay tuned for an upcoming on-line archive that will feature every article published in the *NATA NEWS* since it was established in 1988.

In an attempt to make more space available for feature articles, news and to sell more ads, the NATA web site will be utilized for order forms, registration forms, RFPs, lists, etc.. These items as well as others, formerly appeared in the *NATA NEWS*.

Honors & Awards Committee:

The Board voted to remove the limit on the number of athletic trainer service award nominees per state. Previously, a limit of five nominees per state was allowed, with the maximum number of awards per state set at three. The change will allow for more members to be duly recognized for their service to the NATA.

Governmental Affairs Committee:

Under the current legislative fund allocation system each state association is eligible for one share of the legislative funds (~\$4000) upon submission of receipts for such legislative activities. Each state is also eligible for 10% of the emergency funds and then a further 10% of the remaining funds at the end of the program year (April 1 - March 31).

Additionally, the NATA will offer a matching fund incentive up to a maximum of \$2000 per year to encourage state associations to raise money for their legislative activities. State associations would be eligible for matching funds after they have received their \$4000 share of the legislative fund that year and when they have raised the money.

GAC has developed a recognition award to honor NATA members who have played a significant role in (1) activity which leads to new legislation or revision of existing legislation and (2) legislative promotional activities which happen between legislative sessions. The award does not include any monetary compensation, but the honoree will be announced in the *NATA NEWS*, at the national convention and at the GAC session.

Committee on Reimbursement:

The Board approved a name change from Reimbursement Advisory Group (RAG) to Committee on Reimbursement (COR) in light of the group moving to district based representation.

College & University Athletic Training Students' Committee:

At the recommendation of the CUSATC, the Board approved a name change to College & University Athletic Training Students' Committee.

Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee:

In light of the National Federation of State High Schools' wrestling Rules Committee enactment of a new policy that requires every member high school to acquire and implement a weight control program by 2004, the SSATC will set up a web-based weight control program for to help ATC's execute a weight management program in secondary schools. The program will help determine a wrestler's body fat percentage, lowest advisable weight class and time schedule of weight loss to reach a target weight. The program is based on the Lohman-Brozek equation, used by the National Wrestling Coaches Association, and is in the form of an Excel spreadsheet. It will be accompanied by a Power Point presentation to help ATC's take measurements in a standard manner. This web-based program will be password protected for NATA members only and available free of charge via the SSATC web site. A disclaimer will have to be accepted before the user can access the program.

54th Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposia June 2003 in St. Louis:

The NATA Convention Committee and NATA staff have come up with some exciting format changes for the national convention in St. Louis. These changes are designed to increase member involvement in general sessions and association business; increase opportunities for sponsorship involvement and to reduce the number of awards given and the length of the awards Luncheon by interspersing appropriate awards with member business at general sessions. For more detail see the December 2002 issue of the *NATA NEWS*.

For updates on the NATA 54th Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposia, refer to the February 2003 and March 2003 issues of the *NATA NEWS*.

Journal of Athletic Training:

Following implementation of NATA's cost-saving measures to discontinue providing a printed copy of *JAT* to non-certified students, feedback has been received from members suggesting NATA offer a discounted subscription rate for student members. Therefore the Board has voted to offer non-certified students members a discounted *JAT* subscription rate of \$20.00 per year.

A reminder that unless specifically request for, the *JAT* is no longer being mailed to members. Those members who wish to continue to receive a hard copy of *JAT* can notify the national office via on-line membership renewal, on the annual due invoice or by telephone. *JAT* is currently published on-line in the NATA Members Only Section, under "Journal of Athletic Training Articles."

The Journal Committee confirms that the *Journal of Athletic Training* is eligible to re-submit to Index Medicus. Four issues will be submitted: the special issues on concussions and ankle instability and two other regular issues.

The *Journal* is close to being accepted by PubMed Central, an on-line resource with good international exposure. The Journal Committee believes acceptance by PubMed Central will strengthen NATA's submission to Index Medicus.

The next issue of *JAT* will be another special issue focusing on athletic training education.

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA):

The NATA has been contacted by the National Federation of State High School Associations to participate in the Task Force for Protecting Confidential Student Health Information. The task force will review HIPAA guidelines in secondary school settings. The meeting was held in February in Washington DC.

In October 2002, NATA contacted Health and Human Services of the federal government to express NATA's concerns regarding HIPAA. A December 2002 meeting was arranged between NATA leaders, representatives from the Office of Civil Rights and the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. Check out the February 2003 issue of the *NATA NEWS* for the results of that meeting.

Additional information, latest news and governmental web site links clarifying the law can be found at www.nata.org/committees/gac/hipaa/hipaa.htm.

NATA Receives Awards:

Over the past few years the NATA has received numerous honors and recognitions within the association arena. This has been through the diligence of the national office staff to continue to strive for excellence. The national office staff has done it again! The NATA has won three awards in the 2002 *Association Trends* Publications Contest. The competition bills itself as "the most prestigious contest of its kind in the association industry... brings together the best of the best association publications for more than two decades."

The *Journal of Athletic Training* won runner-up in the category of scholarly/technical/scientific journal.

The NATA 2002-2003 Media Guide won an honorable mention in the category of press media kit.

The 2002 NATA Annual Meeting Final Program won an honorable mention in the category of convention program.

Assistant Executive Director:

Teresa Foster Welch has become the third NATA Certified Association Executive (CAE), joining Eve Becker-Doyle, Executive Director, and Foundation Executive Director John Oliver. This represents a significant accomplishment for Teresa. Certified Association Executive is the association version of the ATC credential. To qualify, an association professional has to have five years of association management experience. The individual must show involvement in the profession, leadership positions in association executive groups, continuing education, speaking and so on. The candidate then must participate in a study group and learn the body of knowledge covering all areas of association management. The final step is to take an extensive exam which Teresa conquered successfully.

Trademark Infringement:

In December 2002, NATA became aware of the National Trainers' Association (NTA) and some of its marketing efforts for personal trainers. NATA legal counsel Paul Genender immediately sent a letter to NTA asking the association to cease and desist from infringing NATA's trademark. No response was received despite a follow-up letter. The Board instructed Paul to file a complaint against the National Trainers' Association for infringement of NATA's Trademark in the federal court in Dallas. Filing a defensive lawsuit will protect NATA's intellectual property rights.

National Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity (NCPA):

The Board approved a request from NCPA to formally support the Physical Activity for Youth (PAY) policy initiative. The PAY initiative specifies recommendations in four categories: after school programs, community design, community programs and school programs. The goal of the support letter is to advance NCPA recommendations in these four categories among physical activity advocates, federal, state and local policymakers and the media. The NATA is a lead organization and permanent board member of NCPA.

CBS Personal Trainer Story:

On December 2, 2002, the CBS Evening News ran a story about personal trainers, criticizing personal trainers for dispensing advice and injuring people. One of the persons interviewed cited NATA as a certifying agency. NATA staff responded promptly, sending a letter to the reporter and show producers, describing the role and function of NATA and explaining why NATA should not have been referenced in the story. CBS has since apologized and put a correction on its web site. CBS is willing to work with NATA on a new story about NATA although as yet nothing specific has been arranged.

NCAA Wrestling Rules Committee:

The NCAA Wrestling Rules Committee has approved adding a Certified Athletic Trainer (Jim Thornton of Clarion University of PA) to the Wrestling Rules Committee.

World Federation of Athletic Training Task Force:

Several years ago the NATA International Committee changed its name to the World Federation of Athletic Training Task Force to investigate the need for a separate organization devoted to serving international organizations that focus on athletic training and sports medicine. The work of the task force is complete with the establishment of the World Federation of Athletic Training and Therapy, which has its own Board. Thus, the WFATTF will return to its original name, the International Committee, which will serve current and future NATA international members. This name change will also make it clear that the International Committee and the WFATT, though having similar roles, are separate. Through the establishment and leadership of WFATT, the NATA international membership is expected to continue to grow.

NATA Legal Counsel:

Per policy, key service providers, including legal counsel, are bid every three years. This past fall, President Julie Max convened an Attorney Selection Review Group with the charge of selecting NATA legal counsel for the next three years. Along with President Max, the group consisted of District Directors Marje Albohm, Rod Walters and Scott Linaker. Nine bids were submitted, with five making the first cut. During a very in-depth and informative conference call, two firms were invited to Nashville for a personal interview at their own expense along with then current legal counsel, Sarah Teslik. After a very intense interview process, the Attorney Selection Review Group made their recommendation to the Board. By a unanimous vote the Board voted to retain the services of Hughes & Luce, LLP with Paul Genender as General Counsel, effective Monday, December 15, 2002.

Graduate Review Committee:

The GRC presented four separate proposals to bring its fees more in line with those of the JRC-AT. The Board approved each proposal which will be instituted in the next academic year to allow for budget planning, since these fees are paid by the institution. The fee structure is as follows:

1. Increase annual fees for post certification graduate education programs from \$250 a year to \$500 per year.
2. To increase the initial accreditation fee for post certification graduate education programs from \$350 to \$500.
3. To initiate a late fee for all invoices not paid on a net 30 basis.
4. To initiate a site-visitor honorarium of \$250 to be assessed to the institution as part of the site-visitation fees during the accreditation visit.