

**RMATA, INC**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS TELECONFERENCE**  
**DECEMBER 18, 1995**  
**8:30 P.M. MST**

1. ATTENDANCE:

Bill Lyons	President/District Director
Scott Linaker	District Secretary
Matt Webber	Arizona Representative/President
Rich Gerrells	New Mexico Representative/President
David Draper	Utah Representative/President
Bart Peterson	Wyoming Representative/President

ABSENT:

Jim Gillen	Colorado Representative/President
------------	-----------------------------------

2. CALL TO ORDER: Bill called the meeting of the RMATABOD to order.

3. RMATA BUSINESS:

A. 1996 ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE:

- \* contracts have been signed and all meeting rooms have been reserved
- \* students will have a break-out session on Saturday between 10:30 AM and 3:30 PM.  
(coordinated by Michelle Poppen) (see brochure for details)
- \* reserved 200 guest rooms, as March is peak time for rooms in Tucson
- \* meeting room rental based on occupancy of guest rooms according to the following scale:
  - 90+ rooms = no charge
  - 50 - 90 rooms = \$1000 (one time fee)
  - 50 and below = \$1500 (one time fee)
- \* car rental discount rate through Budget Rental Car (I also have some coupons we can use if anyone needs a rental car)
- \* we will follow the same basic time schedule as we have in the past
  - there will be time set aside for the Educational Task Force Open Forum
  - there was some confusion as to whether the program was completed or not
  - there was also some discussion about paying an honorarium for a speaker to come speak if we need to fill an open time slot
  - Matt will check with Scott Farnsworth concerning the final program
- \* waiting on a bulk rate mailing permit to mail out the brochures, this will save us a substantial amount on this mailing
- \* Jon Woolf (UA Head Athletic Trainer) is trying to put together a Saturday evening social event with the financial support of PRO orthopedics
  - Jon will handle the announcement of this event through word of mouth - there was some discussion concerning this practice and how RMATA would be associated with it (no action taken)

## B. SPECIAL REQUEST FOR RMATA FUNDS:

The State Associations of Colorado and Utah have sent written requests to the RMATA President/District Director, requesting funds to aid in their licensure campaigns. It is felt by the RMATA Board of Directors that requests for funds, from state associations, for the specific purpose of seeking licensure will be addressed on an as received basis.

### \* Utah:

- have a committee of 6 which are actively involved in writing a bill
- have hired a University of Utah student to help with the writing
  - this student plans on attending law school, has written bills before, has many contacts in the capital, has been involved in lobbying and is doing most of the ground work
- searching for legislators to sponsor the bill
- Bill Bean (University of Utah) and Shane Schulthies (BYU), both physical therapists, are trying to work with physical therapists
- have patterned the bill after the Missouri bill with a very important change, Utah will not make mention of physical therapist in their bill
- will not have state exam, but any NATABOC athletic trainer in good standing will be able to gain licensure in the state of Utah
- trying to get other prominent and influential people to help with the cause, one being Steve Young
- need funds to get this bill through and is requesting \$7500
  - unused portion of the \$7500 would be returned to RMATA

### \* Colorado:

- is going through a process of new regulatory acts and is requesting \$10,000
- part of this amount would be used to defray costs from previous legislative expenses
- the Colorado Association is under the impression that the NATA will be giving lobbying funds to the RMATA each year, which will then be made available to each state in the district, **THIS IS NOT THE CASE, AT THIS POINT IN TIME, THIS IS A ONE TIME ALLOCATION!**

BOARD discussion focused on the following:

- the amount of this special fund is \$15,000
- using these funds for prior legislative expenses (AZ and NM also have prior legislative expenses)
- identifying a time frame in which the funds could be used
- placing funds in a special interest earning account, with minimum balance to be maintained
- not spending the entire fund amount in the first year, but keeping some reserve for the future
- the only strings attached to this fund is that it must be used for legislative purposes

**MOTION:** To dispense \$6000 each to the Utah Athletic Trainers' Association and the Colorado Athletic Trainers' Association for current lobbying and legislative efforts at the state level, and to leave the remaining \$3000 in the district account for future use in lobbying and legislative efforts.

MOTION: UT (David)

SECOND: WY (Bart)

CARRIED: 5-0 (CO absent)

Bill will contact Jim Porter or Jim Gillen and inform them of this board action. The state Presidents will then be responsible for submitting a written request to the District Secretary before these funds will be issued. Checks will be made out to the Colorado Athletic Trainers' Association and the Utah Athletic Trainers' Association.

#### 4. NATA BUSINESS:

##### A. EDUCATIONAL TASK FORCE:

\* beginning in January, the Chairs of the Educational Task Force, John Schrader and Richard Ray, will be presenting the recommendations from this task force at each district meeting

- Mike Nesbitt and Bill Lyons will also represent this task force at our annual meeting in March

\* these recommendations have been presented to and discussed by the NATABOD and will appear in the February issue of the *NATA NEWS*

\* the recommendations will be presented in an "open forum" format to gain membership input before any final decisions are made concerning the proposed recommendations

\* the recommendations to be presented are as follows:

1. The NATA should work with the NATABOC to institute a requirement, to take effect in 2004, that in order to be eligible -for NATABOC certification, all candidates must possess a baccalaureate degree and have successfully completed a CAAHEP accredited entry level athletic training education program.

- this will eliminate the traditional internship route to certification as we know it

- it does not say an athletic training major, it does not say a degree in athletic training

- JRC-AT and CAAHEP accrediting do not specify to any institution that there has to be a major or that there has to be a minor, it only specifies the guidelines to what needs to be offered to students in an educational process

- if the student complete those and the institution can show that the students are getting exposed to and taught the competencies, then the institution can issue what ever kind of degree or non-degree it wants

- there will be institution that switch over and there will be institutions that are not going to switch over for what ever reasons

- institutions will still be able to find a way to maintain their student athletic trainer programs, they will just have to be creative

2. The NATA should encourage the development of accredited entry level master's degree programs in athletic training and allow entry level master programs to consider an applicant's previous didactic and clinical experience as a partial criterion for admission. The NATA should encourage the development of 2-3, 3-2 and 4-1, and other creative models for entry level education.

- undergraduate intern students will be able to get their hours, experience and course work, and then enter an entry level master program, and have the hours, experience and course work be considered in the entrance requirements

- the problem is that here are no entry level master degree programs in existence at this time

- however, there is one program on the way, and it is hope that more entry level master degree programs will be established

- if an institution meets the CAAHEP criterion, then they will be accredited

3. The NATA should develop and implement a program leading to certificates of added qualifications (CAQ) for athletic training educators. The educational content of these continuing education courses would be developed by the NATA Education Council (see recommendation #8). Certification of competence of the participants and subsequent awarding of the credential should be contracted to the NATABOC.
  - 3.1. The NATA should recommend to the JRC-AT that the CAAHEP Essentials and Guidelines be amended to include a guideline recommending that clinical instructors possess a Clinical Instructor CAQ or its equivalent by the year 2000.
  - 3.2. The NATA should recommend to the JRC-AT that CAAHEP Essentials and Guidelines be amended to include a guideline recommending that a program director possess a Program Director CAQ or its equivalent by the year 2001.
    - not every athletic trainer that gets an ATC is automatically qualified to become an instructor, without some added qualifications in the area of athletic training instruction
    - the intent is to teach the people who are going to teach the students and to add some quality control over the instructors
    - a "grandfather clause" has not been addressed at this time
4. The NATA should recommend to the JRC-AT that the CAAHEP Essentials and Guidelines be modified to reflect formal instruction in pharmacology and pathology.
  - this would not necessarily comprise an entire course, but rather to specify some course content addressing these two topics
5. The NATA should recommend that the NATABOC re-evaluate the minimum number of hours necessary to sit for the certification exam and the present high risk sport requirement be re-evaluated.
  - neither one of these two areas are appropriate, there are high risk sports not included, and may need to change the wording to say high injury sports
  - specific numbers of hours were not discussed, but it is felt that the current hour requirement was more of a minimum and needs to be re-evaluated with the attitude of increasing the requirement
6. The NATA should recommend that the JRC-AT investigate the extent to which the various practice settings, in which athletic trainers are commonly employed, are incorporated into the clinical and didactic component of the education program.
  - investigate the need for further experience beyond the traditional college or university athletic training room
7. The NATA should subcontract accreditation of advanced master's degree programs in athletic training to the JRC-AT.
  - advanced masters degree program as opposed to an entry level masters degree program
  - if these are the people who are going to be certifying our accreditation programs at the undergraduate level, then they should be the people who do the certifying and approval processes for our other programs
8. The NATA should reconfigure the way professional education is organized. The NATA should establish an Education Council to act as the voice for educational policy, development and delivery in our profession. Specific functions of the Education Council should include, but not be limited to the following:

- a. maintain a constant dialogue on accreditation of entry level programs through its association with the JRC-AT
- b. maintain a constant dialogue on accreditation of advanced master's degree programs through its association with the JRC-AT
- c. act as a resource for the development of doctoral programs in athletic training
- d. coordinate the educational content and delivery of all NATA sponsored continuing education and CAQ programs
  - key word is COORDINATE, so there is not as much duplication of effort, better use of resources
  - this does not mean dictate
- e. serve as a resource to district, state and local continuing education program planners
- f. act as the approval agency for certifying continuing education providers
  - should not be under the NATABOC
- g. develop new technologies for the delivery of continuing education programs
- h. The Educational Council should replace the present Professional Education Committee. This recommendation is contingent upon approval of recommendation #7
  - Professional Education Committee has been in a phase out process for the past few years

9. The NATA should cooperate with the NATABOC in its on-going evaluation of the new rules for CEU accumulation and recertification.

10. The NATA should develop and implement a program leading to a certificates of added qualification (CAQ) for the post entry level athletic trainer. The education content of these continuing education courses would be developed by the NATA Education Council.

Certification of competence of the participants and the subsequent awarding of the credential should be contracted with the NATABOC. By the year 2000, an inaugural CAQ program in rehabilitation should be made available.

- the reason a specific program was mentioned was to get the program off the ground, the membership interest in rehabilitation appears to be quite strong

11. The NATA should encourage the development of multi-disciplinary education programs that combine athletic training with nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy or other appropriate baccalaureate level allied health professions.

- current philosophy seems to be that the more inter-disciplinary, the more tools we have, the more skilled we will be - this will not distract from athletic trainers

12. The NATA should encourage new athletic training education programs to consider aligning themselves in colleges of health related professions.

- not trying to change existing programs, but looking to the future with regard to CAAHEP accreditation and third party reimbursement, being aligned with health related colleges, as opposed to physical education colleges, may give athletic training a stronger voice

13. The NATA should strongly encourage athletic training education programs to title their program as "Athletic Training".

14. The NATA should encourage the NATA Research and Education Foundation, the Journal of Athletic Training, and other appropriate entities to continue to recognize and

reward high quality research in those areas of the body of knowledge specific to athletic training.

15. The NATA should encourage and assist in initiating the process of legislative reform, with particular emphasis on standardization of education requirements for state credentialing.

16. The NATA should work to identify and promote positive work models for the high school environment including, but not limited to, the full time athletic trainer and the teacher/athletic trainer.

17. The NATA should encourage and provide assistance to the JRC-AT for the purpose of helping it contract its administrative functions with a professional management firm.

(See also the February 1996 issue of the *NATA NEWS*.)

**B. NATA PRESIDENT ELECT:**

Kent Falb, of the Detroit Lions, has been elected the new NATA President.

**C. EVE SIGNS A NEW CONTRACT WITH NATA:**

Eve's first three year contract expires the first week in January, and there were some speculation that she might not sign another. However, Eve did sign a new 3 year contract with the NATA.

**D. NATA HAS A HOME PAGE:**

The NATA now has it's own home page on the Internet. The address is [HTTP://WWW.NATA.ORG](http://WWW.NATA.ORG) . It does not have graphics yet, but it will have plus other features.

**E. NATA TO CO-SPONSOR THE SAFE KIDS PROGRAM:**

The Safe Kids Program is a private entity, and is designed to promote safety among children. The NATA is lending their name and the opportunity for the Safe Kids Program to utilize NATA members to promote this program. This does not involve any money.

**F. NATA TO CO-SPONSOR THE 1996 PARALYMPICS:**

As with the Safe Kids Program, the sponsorship does not involve money, but rather a name association and the opportunity for NATA members to become involved with this event, which will follow the 1996 Olympics.

**G. NATA CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP:**

This current budget year, 15% of the corporate monies were distributed to each district based on a percentage of membership. This year that percentage was suppose to drop to 10%, anticipating new corporate sponsors. We have had an increase in sponsorship income, but not in the direct sponsorship category. Therefore, the NATABOD voted to keep the 15% distribution to each district for this budget year. Checks should be coming to the districts near the end of January.

**H. NATA TO CO-SPONSOR A JOINT SEMINAR WITH THE SPORTS MEDICINE SECTION OF THE APTA IN 1997:**

The 1995 Joint Seminar was very successful and the NATABOD would like to support this once again.

**I: NATA FINANCES:**

The NATA Finance Committee looks at a 5 years projection and tries to not get caught short by over estimating expenses and under estimate income. This way, trying to anticipate necessary adjustments in the financial budget.

It appears, that after the 1996 fiscal year, there will be a \$5.00 national dues increase. It is best to have small incremental increases as opposed to large increases, therefore there might be a small dues increase every 3 years or so.

5. FUTURE RMATA CONSIDERATIONS:

- A. Mike Nesbitt has been nominated to the RMATA Hall of Fame. Once the formal committee process has been completed, we will conduct a mail ballot for Board approval.
- B. Refund policy for annual meeting and charging a processing fee for refunds.
- C. Advertising in District Newsletter. Will first discuss this with Gerry Detty of PRO Orthopedics, since PRO fully sponsors our newsletter.
- D. Exhibitors who had booth space at the Denver meeting, but did not pay. We need a policy to deal with this type of situation.
- E. Investment opportunities for RMATA. our current savings account does not give us a good return at all, we need to have a better return on our dollar. We need some professional advise.

6. STATE ASSOCIATION REPORTS:

- A. Arizona: no report, other than the district meeting report discussed earlier.
- B. New Mexico: looking a going to administrative privatization with licensure in the next couple of years.
- C. Wyoming: looking into convention site in Wyoming for the 1999 annual meeting. Some potential sites would like to present their pitch to the Board. The sooner, the better.
- D. Utah: had good October meeting, working on national and district meetings to be held in Salt Lake City. David Draper, Bill Bean and Gaye Merrill being considered for Host Athletic Trainer for the national meeting in Salt Lake City.

7. MEETING ADJOURNED:

MOTION: To adjourn this conference call of the RMATA Board of Directors.

MOTION BY: AZ (Matt)

SECOND: NM (Rich)

CARRIED: 5 - 0 (CO absent)