

RMSATA Newsletter



December 2007/January 2008

www.rmata.org/rmsata

Schedule of Events Spring 2008

Jan. 11th - 13th
Manual Therapy Techniques for the Cervicothoracic Spine.
Las Vegas Hilton - NV.
Advanced level
Weekend workshop
being put on by the
NATA Education
Council CEU
Committee.

Feb. 10th
AZATA Winter Meeting. Phoenix, AZ.
7 - 5:30 Annual
Sessions. 8 - 9:45am
Special Sessions for
College Students.

Feb. 24th
Utah Sports Medicine Symposium. Event description with time, location, and other key information. See "The columns" for instructions on creating this sidebar.

March 3rd
UATA Spring Educational Seminar.
Head and Facial
Injuries in Athletic
Populations. IHC
Utah Valley Sports
Medicine Clinic.

May 1st - 4th
RMATA Symposium.
The event will be held in Phoenix, AZ at the Renaissance Phoenix Glendale. More info @

www.rmata.org/symposium

Welcome to the first edition of the RMSATA newsletter. This newsletter is one of many new changes with the RMSATA. We hope to have enough new material to send out a monthly update on events and update you as student members as to what we are doing within the student association. Here you can find information about what is going on in your state and in our region. I hope that we will use this as a new way to communicate as well as use the new tools that are being added to the RMATA Webpage.

New to the RMSATA

There have been many changes this year to the RMSATA and to the community and involvement. We are attempting to receive more input from student members and involvement as a community of students that are preparing to be professional medical team. Among the changes we have made major changes and continue to look for new ideas for improvement to better meet your needs as a student body. Any suggestions please contact Chris Erwin, Nicole Sottnik, or Kim O'Connell-Brock.

The Website

New to the website are links with direct e-mail to the student officer representatives. Any questions you may have for your officers please do not hesitate to ask anytime. We have also added a question/poll from our student body. We need involvement to make improvements on the website and ideas for how to better serve everyone.

New Links

There are new links to each of the schools within the RMATA so we are better able to network and talk with each other and interested prospective students who may want to participate in an accredited program.

BLOG

Finally we have something that may interest everyone. We are working to get a functional BLOG posting on the RMSATA portion of the website. We hope to be able to post new information regarding whatever it is that the student body is interested in talking about and discussing. We hope to get some involvement from the student body in regards to national issues regarding athletic training.

New Constitution

The officers and Certified RMSATA representatives have been working hard to prepare a new constitution for the RMSATA. Currently we do not have an official constitution of policies and procedures. We currently have a rough draft that is ready to be proposed to the Student board and we are hoping to vote it into policy at the 2008 RMATA Symposium during our student meeting. Anyone who would like a copy of the current constitution to look over and make any suggestions please contact Chris Erwin RMSATA President from the RMATA website.

A Call for State Representatives

With the changes in polices and procedures comes a need to fortify our roles in the RMATA community as a strong community of young leaders. We are looking for students who are interested in acting as their state representative to their state and to have a position on the RMSATA board. Anyone who is interested in serving under this capacity should contact Nicole Sottnik RMSATA Secretary from the RMATA website.

RMATA Symposium

As listed on the schedule of events portion of the newsletter the 2008 RMATA Symposium is coming up fast. While many of your are worried about having time to study for your BOC exam as seniors let me remind you that this may actually be a better time for many of us because we will take our BOC exam in April or in June; Plenty of time between to study. Also as a fellow student I am aware that some of you may have finals coming up quickly right after or right before the dates for this years RMATA symposium. This is a great opportunity to network and have a little fun while you do it. I encourage each and every one of you to come and spend some time and have your voice heard by the student body and try to make a difference.

We have posted a link to download the current 2008 presentation proposals at the RMSATA Symposium. We had some good presentations last year and we hope to have great presentations this coming year. More information is located on the webpage.



Athletic Trainer or Athletic Therapist?

There is a debate that is going on unofficially within the athletic training community. The debate is regarding the current name of athletic trainer and the possibility of changing the name of athletic trainer. There are many pros and cons of this topic and the NATA SIT decided that the name of athletic trainer needed to be redefined recently and posted that on the NATA website under one of the BLOG pages. There are many questions about the appropriate name to change it to, but the bigger question is will it make a difference? Currently the problem is that the colloquial name of "trainer" is the only name we have been known by in the general public, and among the coaches and athletes from high school to the professional level. We have recently been attempting to re-educate everyone on the professional title that we hold as an "Athletic Trainer." But this front is fought with little resolve because it is made a mockery of by the athletes and people still do not understand what we truly do. So is the answer to change the name of athletic training all together? What do we then change it to? Athletic Therapist? This is a good question with so many good and bad answers among the medical community. The only thing I can say for sure is that it worked for Massage Therapists; their former title everyone knows as masseuse. This change worked in benefit of recognition as a proper degree and education for the massage therapist, so why do our board members fight so hard against this? So I leave it for you to decide, make a new name or keep fighting for our current one? Here are some links to the NATA SIT comments on the change of name and from a fellow athletic trainer who posted a BLOG on the athletictrainer.com website.

"I admit the NATA is doing it's best to correct and remind the media when athletic trainers are improperly listed or referred to as "trainers," but it seems to be a losing battle."

"In Canada the athletic trainer equivalent is an athletic therapist." "Which connotes more expertise, "trainer" or "therapist?" If someone were to refer to themselves as a

"trainer" what comes to mind? How about a "therapist?" Which, on first reactions, seems to denote more education and training?" Matt Eberhardt ATC, CSCS, EMT

<http://athletictrainer.com/blog/blogpost.cfm?theadid=22694&catid=2404>

"Athletic training is practiced by athletic trainers, health care professionals who collaborate with physicians to optimize activity and participation of patients and clients. Athletic training encompasses the prevention, diagnosis and intervention of emergency, acute and chronic medical conditions involving impairment, functional limitations and disabilities."

(December 07 NATA News)

<http://news.nata.org>

Getting Involved

By Kim Detwiler, MS, ATC, CSCS
Nov 29th, 2007
Young Professionals (NATA Website)

I find it incredibly disturbing that only 20% of members voted in the NATA presidential election. How can we expect to grow as an organization if only 20% of our members take the time to have our voices heard? I wonder how many of those that voted were young professionals.

To those young professionals who didn't vote, is there a specific reason? Did you not receive the information, were you protesting something, or did you not care to take the time? The future is now, and we've got to get involved in it. Why aren't we? Why aren't you? What are your negative perceptions of the NATA regarding your un-involvement? I challenge you to make your voice heard.

We are the future of this organization as young professionals. How can we get involved? How can we motivate ourselves and each other to make a difference? I'm looking for concrete ideas. Let's start making changes, brainstorming, and working together. And let's be honest with each other and ourselves.

In response this BLOG I agree with Kim we need to get involved more we need to have a say in the processes that are impacting the future of athletic training as a student body and truly impact the future of our own careers in stead of taking a backseat to whatever other people think we should do. Make a statement!

Next Issue

Anyone who is interested in commenting on a topic or suggestions on topics for the next newsletter or pictures of your students in action working as athletic training students please send those on to Chris Erwin RMSATA President from the website. Please submit articles, and events!