



December 2020



Notes from the District Director

Diane Sartanowicz, MS, LAT, ATC

Dear District One Membership,

This Special Edition of the District One Notes contains important news and information from our State Presidents and Committee Chairs. I am grateful for their hard work and effort that they give on behalf of the membership. Please take this opportunity to read about all of their recent activities and future directions. I want to take this opportunity to thank Sandy Snow for her leadership as she finishes her term as NHATA President. She has been a valuable member of the District One Executive Council. I'd like to welcome Christine Reyes to the Executive Council and look forward to working with you at our upcoming meeting during V-EATA. I also want to recognize John Ryan and his re-election as MATA President. I am happy to continue to work with you on the District One Executive Council.

I hope everyone is staying safe and is able to take some time to spend with family and loved ones during the upcoming holiday season. Please don't hesitate to reach out to the district should you have any questions or if we can be of support or assistance.

Take care and I look forward to seeing everyone at virtual EATA!

Diane

Diane Sartanowicz, MS, LAT, ATC
District One Director

Happy Holidays
from all of us at





From the District Secretary

Jennifer Brodeur, MS, LAT, ATC

Thank you for your continued support and involvement as a member of the NATA, District One, and your State Association. It has been a trying year for many but in true athletic trainer fashion we have grown stronger and rallied together to help each other and those around us. We have contributed in ways that we may have never imagined would be necessary but we did it without a hint of hesitation and our profession is better as a result. In addition to celebrating our successes let's continue to speak up and advocate for positive changes in the year ahead. I am truly proud to be an athletic trainer because of all of you.

Best wishes to all of you this holiday season, and Happy New Year! I hope to "see you" all at V-EATA January 7-10th.

District One At a Glance (as of 12/07/20)

	Member Type	CT	MA	ME	NH	RI	VT	Total
Member	Associate	8	10	3	3	0	2	26
	Certified Professional	499	833	227	236	123	134	2052
	Certified Retired	19	47	13	12	6	6	103
	Certified Student	23	27	3	10	3	2	68
	Deceased	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Honorary	0	4	1	1	1	0	7
	Student	62	131	22	69	10	23	317
	Subtotal	611	1052	269	331	144	167	2574
Non-Member	Lapsed	99	216	49	50	21	36	471
	Total	710	1268	318	381	165	203	3045

District One At a Glance (Gender) (as of 12/07/20)

	Member Type	Female	Male	Non-binary/third gender	Prefer not to say	Total
Member	Associate	17	9	0	0	26
	Certified Professional	1235	815	0	2	2052
	Certified Retired	38	65	0	0	103
	Certified Student	49	18	1	0	68
	Deceased	1	0	0	0	1
	Honorary	0	6	0	1	7
	Student	203	113	0	1	317
	Subtotal	1543	1026	1	4	2574
Non-Member	Lapsed	275	196	0	0	471
	Total	1818	1222	1	4	3045

Keep In Touch!



Director
Diane Sartanowicz



Secretary
Jennifer Brodeur



Treasurer
Julie Alexander



From the District Treasurer

Julie Alexander, MEd, ATC

I am pleased to announce that District One continues to be financially sound with no liabilities. Director Sartanowicz and I are in constant communication with our financial adviser. He recommends no changes to the current management of our portfolio. He regularly evaluates our management strategy with regards to the current market and intermittent market volatility. The current financial strategy has been and continues to be consistent with the mission of NATA District One.

We have committed continued support of District One Safe Sport School Grants as well as our existing scholarship commitments. I would like to remind all members to contact me directly if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to providing you with a detailed financial report at our business meeting during the virtual EATA Convention in January 2021. I wish you and your families wellness and warmth during the 2020 holiday season.

Upcoming Events 2021

V-EATA January 7-10, 2021

NATA 2021 June 29-July 2, 2021 | Orlando, Florida

Renew Now!

It's time to renew your NATA membership! Are you taking advantage of everything your NATA membership has to offer? In order to maintain your member status and retain all your NATA member benefits, payment in full is due no later than December 31, 2020.

Options for Members Experiencing Economic Hardship

What can you expect from an NATA membership in 2021? We know 2020 has been a difficult year for many of our members who are facing challenges from unemployment to uncertainty. NATA has options available to members who are experiencing economic hardship. The first step is to contact Member Services and let us share how we can help. Our commitment has been – and will always be – advancing and uplifting athletic trainers and the athletic training profession. Contact Member Services at membership@nata.org or 972-532-8897.

Open Now

ICSM Award nominations

NATA membership renewal

[NATA Foundation D1 BOD Position](#)

NATA Foundation Scholarship submissions

NATA Foundation Masters/Doctoral Research Grant applications

Deadlines to Remember!

NATA Foundation D1 Board of Directors Representative applications due January 8, 2021

NATA Foundation Scholarship applications due January 15, 2021

NATA Foundation Masters/Doctoral Research Grant applications due January 15, 2021

ICSM Award nominations due January 31, 2021

NATA Foundation Student Writing Contest submissions due February 1, 2021

Stay Connected with District One



District One Membership Meeting

January 10, 2021
10:20 AM - 11:20 AM

Please join us to hear from Director Sartanowicz, members of the executive board and committee chairs on latest news and information from the District. You will also have to opportunity to participate in a vote of affirmation for Director Sartanowicz's second term leading our organization.



The 2021 EATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium is Going Virtual!

The conference will take place Friday, January 8 through Monday, January 11. Advanced registration for the 2021 V-EATA runs through December 28, 2020 and is \$49 for the NATA Member Certified Professional and NATA Member Associate categories.

VIEW EATA AGENDA [HERE](#)

Fee Structure:

Status	Pre-Registration (9/1/20-11/1/20)	Advanced Registration (11/2/20-12/28/20)	Late Registration (1/8/21-2/10/21)
NATA Member Certified Professional:	\$39.00	\$49.00	\$69.00
BOC Certified/Non-NATA Member:	\$264.00	\$274.00	\$294.00
NATA Member Associate:	\$39.00	\$49.00	\$69.00
Certified Retired/NATA HOF/49 Club:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NATA Certified Student:	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$35.00
Student NATA Member:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Student Non-NATA Member:	\$65.00	\$75.00	\$95.00

Updates from The Foundation



Interested in serving on our Board of Directors?

Special Open Call December 1st - January 8th

Due to current board members transitioning to different board positions in June, the Foundation is seeking to fill the positions of **Vice President of Operations** and **District One Director**. Terms for both will begin in June 2021. [Position descriptions, requirements and application process can be found here.](#)

Scholarship Program

APPLY TODAY! The application window is now open for 2021 scholarships.

Deadline to apply and submit all supporting documents is **January 15, 2021**.

Through this program, the NATA Foundation awards Undergraduate, Master's and Doctoral scholarships. \$2,300 is awarded to approximately 50 to 75 students each year. Applications are completed [online](#) and more information on eligibility requirements and how to apply can be found on the [Scholarship page](#) of the NATA Foundation website.

This holiday season, please consider making a gift that demonstrates your gratitude for the health care that athletic trainers provide. Every dollar donated to the NATA Research & Education Foundation's Health for the Holidays campaign will be put to work to advance the athletic training profession through research, education and professional development.

You have the opportunity to send a personalized e-card to honor friends, family, colleagues and mentors when you make a gift in their name. This is especially convenient when trying to find a gift for someone who "already has everything they need".

You can also make a gift as a memorial honoring someone who has passed. Provide a recipient email address, and we will send a memorial e-card to a family member or close friend, letting them know of your thoughtfulness.

E-cards can be purchased through December 31, 2020 [here](#).



President

Brett Winston, PhD, LAT, ATC

Season's Greetings from the Athletic Trainers of Massachusetts!

I hope you are well and able to unwind a bit as we enter the holiday season and the end of a challenging 2020. While the pandemic has remained ever present in our day to day lives, ATOM has remained

focused on moving the organization & profession forward. We've chosen to tackle the things we can control through a complete review of the by-laws, reestablishing committee presence, and as always remaining diligent in our efforts to move our legislative agenda forward. We are currently finalizing our scholarship and award winners, and will be announcing this year's recipients at our **Virtual State Meeting on January 7th at 7:00pm**.

Elections for ATOM President-Elect were held in November and Matthew Whalen, Director of Sports Medicine at Tufts University ran unopposed for the position. A vote of affirmation will be held at our state meeting in January. If you are looking for ways to get involved with the organization please reach out at secretary.atom@gmail.com. Our committees are rebuilding and actively looking to engage with the membership. The Young Professionals Committee has remained a strong and active group, recently hosting a virtual symposium on October 25th. The Secondary Schools Committee has continued to build as current Chair, Jonathan Reidy, has expanded representation across the commonwealth. They have been charged with increasing communications with our secondary school constituents while improving our ATLAS participation statewide.

Chrissy Landreth has recently been appointed as the Chair of the Awards and Scholarships Committee as we look to modernize our application process, update our records of previous winners on the website, and increase the recognition of the great work being done by the membership



through greater communication of nomination windows and deadlines.

Please be sure to visit the [ATOM webpage](#) to learn more about the great work being done by our Committees.

Despite a very promising and aggressive kick off to the legislative session in 2019 with at least one hundred formal and informal meetings regarding bills filed on behalf of the profession, our efforts to move the bills were stonewalled yet again. Below is a brief update on each bill filed by the Governmental Affairs Committee on behalf of ATOM this legislative session:

S.329/H.408 An Act Relative to Student Safety in Interscholastic Athletic Activities. This bill was sent to study by the Joint Committee on Education. Even though we had Senate support, this bill died in committee.

S.1338/H.3483 An Act Relative to Athletic Training. Despite being assured our bill would receive an extension by the Senate chair of the Public Health Committee, at the last minute the bill was voted to be sent to study which killed this bill as well. We tried to attach this bill language to two larger bills as amendments in the past two months, but both had to be withdrawn.

S.562/H.1100 An Act Relative to Consumer Choice in Health Care. This bill was sent to study by the Senate. On the House side the bill was referred for analysis by the Center for Health Information Analysis (CHIA). CHIA must review all insurance "mandate" bills that come through the legislature. The analysis results will determine the bill's next steps. A favorable report from CHIA will allow us to continue work on this bill this legislative session. Due to COVID the CHIA study was never started.

The last two legislative sessions have been two of the most unique in history. Please know we are focused on bringing our profession out of 1983 and into 2020 with practice act language updates. We have not stopped working behind the scenes to continue to build on our existing relationships and increase the profession's visibility on Beacon Hill and in the community. We are already planning and working on our re-files for all three bills in January, 2021.

In closing, we would like to congratulate Erika Whipple and Wilbraham & Monson Academy for being awarded the Safe School Sports 2nd Team recognition through August of 2023! We hope to see you at our virtual state meeting in January.





President

Perry M. Siegel, MS, ATC, CSCS

The Connecticut Athletic Trainers' Association has been busy with several initiatives for our membership and for the profession since our Virtual CATA Symposium in May. At that meeting we transitioned the office of Presidency to Perry Siegel, and paid thanks for all the hard work our outgoing President, Gary

Morin has done for the organization and the profession during his two-year term.

With COVID suspending the legislative session in 2020, movement on two bills we were actively supporting; An Act requirement for Emergency Action Plan at Schools sponsoring Interscholastic Athletics and An Act requiring Exertional Health Illness Education Training for Coaches of Interscholastic Sports were stalled. We will be re-introducing these two bills for the 2021 legislative session. Our collaborative efforts with the Corey Stringer Institute to help educate the key stakeholders, thru involvement with the Team Up for Sports Safety program occurred in early 2020 and will occur again in December of 2020 again helping to support and move both these bills forward. We do not anticipate any opposition with these two bills moving forward. Also, through an executive order by the governor of CT, athletic trainers were included as a healthcare professional to administer telehealth services.

Continuing our efforts with secondary schools, our committee chair, Jessica Testani led a Zoom presentation for our membership on Return to Athletics during the pandemic. With the success of that zoom presentation, we are in development to establish a monthly Thursday Zoom series for members and non-member on various athletic training topics affecting our profession. In October, we held our first Thursday evening series; "Best Practices for the Per-Diem Athletic Trainer- What You Need to Know. Our intent for this series is to engage members, but also encourage non-member to consider joining based on the support and resources the NATA/CATA has to offer. We are offering a complimentary 1 Category

A – CEU for attendance. Our Secondary School Committee is also finalizing production of a "Thank You" video montage to deliver to our secondary school athletic trainers for their efforts, commitment, and perseverance during COVID. Also, supporting our continued collaboration with the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC), the CATA is helping to deliver over 60 Cold Water Immersion Tubs to area high schools generously purchased by the CIAC to support heat illness education.

In effort to engage future athletic trainers, the CATA has developed a monthly roundtable with the student athletic trainers from each of the 5 university programs in the state. In November we hosted Quinnipiac University students, December we will be hosting the University of Connecticut, January- Central Connecticut State University, February- Southern Connecticut State University, and ending in March with Sacred Heart University. We are utilizing our student ambassadors from each institution to lead and organize their colleagues to participate.

Our long-term strategic goal for the state of Connecticut is to seek third party reimbursement for licensed athletic trainers. We have formed at TPRI Task force led by Rebecca Petersen from our COPA committee. We are aligning ourselves with the NATA initiative, and participated in the Third Party Reimbursement Advocacy "Boot Camp" on December 9, 2020 led by Joe Greene. We will be holding monthly TPRI Task force meetings to further our advancement in this initiative.

We are currently collaborating with the Connecticut State Medical Society's Sports Medicine Committee to navigate policies and protocols as it relates to the COVID 19 pandemic and Return to Play criteria based on evidence based practice and latest research information.

We have also initiated discussion around promotional and marketing ideas for 2021 NATA Month in March, as well as ideas for our annual CT Lobbying Hit the Hill Day, and our Annual CATA Symposium in May.

The CATA has also increased our bench strength of the organization by adding an EDAC Representative, LGBTQ+ Representative, Emerging Settings Representative, and a new YPC Chair.

We are appreciative of all the support and resources our membership, District, and NATA provides us through grants and advocacy to pursue our efforts. We are energized by the direction of our initiatives and look forward to 2021.





President

John Ryan, EdD, LAT, ATC

Since our last report back in May, the MATA continues to be busy. In late June, with Barb Balckstone, MS, LAT, ATC serving as Facilitator, the Executive Board engaged 30 of our members via Zoom in a strategic planning exercise. The results of that exercise have allowed us to develop a framework for a more indepth examination of the future direction of the MATA in the coming weeks and months, with the goal of having a document to present to our members at our 2020 Spring Meeting.

Several of our Secondary School ATs have been working alongside the Maine Principals Association and its Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, various state government agencies and with the Pandemic Project looking at the issues around COVID-19 and interscholastic athletics. We have actively worked with all of those groups to develop and implement fall and now winter season sport guidelines, and will continue to work on developing and implementing guidelines for the spring.

It is with sadness, that we learned back in late October of the sudden passing of University of Maine at Presque Isle's Head Athletic Trainer, Patrick Baker. We continue to send our thoughts and prayers to Patrick's family, friends, colleagues and the greater University of Maine Presque Isle Community.

On November 13, we hosted the very first VMATA Fall Meeting. 100 of our colleagues registered, with 86 attending the live portion of the meeting. NATA President, Tory Lindley, MA, ATC kicked the meeting off by providing a State of the NATA report and Disttict 1 Driector, Diane Sartanowicz, MS, LAT, ATC followed a little later in the morning with her State of the District report. 6 CEUs (3 live presentations and 3 videotaped presentations) were available on topics ranging from Myocarditis and the Influence of COVID-19 to Joint Dislocations to Tissue Structure and Function and their Clinical Applications to Athletic Training to PBRN to Telemedicine to Subconcussive Head Impacts and Helmet Technology. During the Business Meeting, John Ryan, EdD, LAT, ATC and Paul Culina, MEd, LAT, ATC, through a membership vote of affirmation, became MATA President and Vice President. Brief Committee reports were given, a formal recognition of our Honors and Awards recipients and our Student Leaders was provided. Additionally, reminders to renew NATA Membership, VEATA 2021.

The Executive Board along with the Executive Boards of the NHATA and the VAAT are collaborating on the 2021 Northern New England Athletic Trainers Conference, with the NHATA serving as the host. Work is under way to identify programming as well as sponsors. The Conference will be held June 18-20 at the Executive Court Banquet Facility in Manchester, NH.

Planning is also underway for the 2021 MATA Spirng Meeting and Honors and Awards Luncheon to be held in early June. The hope is that we will have taken a turn in the Pandemic and be able to host an in-person meeting. Planning is also underway with Rebecca Stearns, PhD, ATC at the Korey Stringer Insitute to host a Team Up For Sports Safety meeting at a date and place yet to be determined.

In these challenging times, I want to personally thank all of my colleagues for all they have done on behalf of the profession and on behalf of their patients. Together we will get through this.

Stay safe and be well.





President

Sandy Snow, MS, N.H.LAT, ATC



President-Elect

Christine Reyes

We hope this finds everyone safe and healthy and enjoying the Holiday Season!

The NHATA remained busy for the second half of 2020. We continue to hold monthly Officer meetings that are open to NHATA members. We also finalized bylaw revisions, which will be made available for members to review for several weeks before voting on the revisions. NHATA Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages have been consistently delivering information to the membership since June, so be sure to follow us on all three platforms! The NHATA also applied for an NATA Governmental Affairs grant, held a mask fundraiser, accepted nominations for awards, collaborated with the Korey Stringer Institute and our lobbying firm to draft legislation for 2021, and ran an election for the Secretary and President Elect positions. We are excited to welcome the next cohort of NHATA officers!

We would also like to thank Ali Bower for serving the membership as NHATA Secretary. Her term concludes 12/31/2020. She has been instrumental in rebranding the NHATA on social media, onboarding the new Social Media Committee, and assisted with writing the social media policies and procedures. Ali re-established consistent record-keeping with a commitment to transparency and procedure. She also attended a significant number of meetings with State, District, and National officials on behalf of NHATA members and the Association. Ali is currently onboarding incoming Secretary, Alison O'Connor-Sullivan and we are confident that Alison will continue the upward trend of record-keeping, and member and Association representation locally, regionally, and nationally.

My term also concludes on 12/31/2020, and it has been an absolute privilege serving for and with you. Christine Reyes will

commence her term as President on 1/1/2021. She is no stranger to the NHATA, having served as Treasurer for nearly two years (2018-2019) before being elected as President Elect in a special election last fall. Her experience and the framework NHATA Officers established will facilitate her success. Leonard Angelli will serve as the newly elected President Elect (2021-2022). He is eager to start working for the members and he has started his onboarding with Christine.

I'd like to also announce that the following members have volunteered to serve the membership since June: Kelly Griffin-Brown (GAC), Derek Lauteri (GAC), Natalie Pollet (Social Media Committee Chair), Katherine Van Wert (Social Media), and Jaclyn Penson (YPC). We are also excited to announce that Sara-Lynn Horne has been appointed as the NHATA liaison to the NATA Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee and has been busy compiling information and creating resources. On behalf of the NHATA members, thank you! Check out NHATA.org for additional information on current committee chairs and members for other NHATA committees.

Legislative Activity: We monitored several Bills in 2020 and testified twice (return to learn legislation and license reciprocity legislation). Please contact the GAC (gac@nhata.org) for details on specific legislation we monitored in 2020. We continue to work closely with our Lobbyist and receive frequent updates regarding Emergency Orders from the Governor, legislative updates, and any legislative issues that may be of interest to our members.

This year was an election year and the legislature flipped to republican following the election. A portion of these representatives are considered liberty republicans, so we are closely monitoring for *any* threats of de-regulation. **The NHATA also filed a youth Athlete's Bill of Rights for 2021.** We will need engagement from all members to support this legislation and educate the public. Contact the GAC (gac@nhata.org) for details on the Athlete's BOR and how you can help.

Continuing Education: The NHATA Virtual Fall State Meeting is scheduled for 12/19/20. Visit NHATA.org for details. NHATA Officers are also working with Maine and Vermont to organize the Northern New England Athletic Training Conference for *June 19-20, 2021*, in Manchester, NH. We are looking for a couple members who are interested in helping with the planning process. Please email president@nhata.org if you have interest in helping.

We look forward to continuing to serve on your behalf and hope you can make the upcoming CEU event! Please let us know how we can help.



President

Jeff Nadeau, MS, ATC

Happy Holidays ATs!

I hope this letter finds you healthy and well. Since June, our little state has been staying busy with several items that put our profession and you first. Following our

fantastic webinar series and entering the summer, the RIATA had some turnover.

First off, a thank you goes out to Amanda Thoreaux from Westfield State University. Over the last couple of years, Amanda has represented RI as an EATA student delegate. She has graduated from her program and was pursuing her licensure. Before graduating, Amanda was able to introduce me to Kaylee Contreras, a student from Lasell College. Kaylee is involved with her school's AT program and also gives back to her community in Pawtucket. Although early in her AT career, she is motivated and engaged to make a difference on her path to becoming a professional. The RIATA welcomes Kaylee as our student delegate representative.

Karli Collins, our College/University Chair, stepped down to pursue a position in Texas. We were lucky enough to appoint Rachel O'Brien (pictured left) from Brown University to fill the position.

She recently held a successful meeting with the collegiate head athletic trainers. They discussed their school's current COVID practices, the spring season's outlook, and ideas for the spring conference.



The RIATA also added a committee chair to oversee our efforts for Third-Party Reimbursement. TJ Potenza willingly accepted the position. As an independent athletic trainer, TJ has experience writing and working on grants, which will be vital as we move forward with TPR. TJ recently was able to secure and host a meeting with representatives from the NATA to discuss the strategy for progressing forward from our current position.



Lastly, the Executive Council approved the appointment of Kristina Keddie (pictured right) from Roger Williams University to the position of President-Elect.

Kristina will be promoted to President in July. Before her role change, Kristina did an excellent job as the RIATAs Meeting's Chair. She worked closely with the presenters and

the Executive Council to exhibit exceptional conferences over the past few years. We are excited about having her take the helm! Kristina leaves behind the role of Annual Meetings Chair and we would like to fill this position soon. This person would initially work closely with Kristina and RIATA Secretary Michelle Levreault to secure speakers for our annual meeting. If you are interested please send a letter of inquiry and resume to riatapresident@gmail.com.

The Governmental Affairs Committee also has been busy since our last update. They submitted materials for the GAC Grant but like everything else, COVID altered our plans. We are still waiting to hear if the NATA is awarding grants. Nevertheless, until then, we ask all of you to keep your ears to the ground and let us know if you hear any rumblings of potential issues that may arise within the profession, such as licensure cuts or potential harm to our practice act. The GAC Committee has been working closely with the NATA to keep an eye on these topics and want to make progress moving forward with bills/legislation for the Athletic Trainers in Rhode Island. Once we can work with our lobbyist again, the GAC is hoping to create smaller bills to work together with other healthcare professionals in RI to get passed. These bills would be stepping stones to help us reach our end goal of mandating ATCs in secondary school settings, a bill we have been working on for several years.) The GAC is hoping to create bills similar to our neighboring states within the district and is looking to the board and committee positions to assist with ideas and see what other states are working on legislatively. If you have something that interests you or is interested in working on the GAC or TPRI committees, please reach out to Shawn at riatagac@gmail.com.

The RIATA Secondary School Committee has been a constant presence within the RI Interscholastic League SMAC. The SSAT co-chairs also worked alongside the Brain Injury Association of RI to produce the REAP concussion document for schools, counselors, and parents. If you would like more information, it can be found [HERE](#). Also if anyone is interested in learning more about the REAP document or RIIL SMAC happenings, please reach out to Art and Jen at aentwistle@rockyhill.org or jgallant@performanceptri.com.

Finally, the RIATA has started discussing the Spring Annual Meeting. We plan to have a similar format to last year's event and offer three to four CEUs. A month has not been set but we are looking to the end of May. If you have a specific topic you would like to present on or know a speaker who would be interested; please reach out to Michelle at riatasecretary@gmail.com. Similarly, it is never too early to start thinking about award season. We offer a few awards and need your help to nominate your co-workers. A list of awards can be [FOUND HERE](#). And as always we want pictures of you in action for the RIATA social media pages. Please send your pics to Kate at kfischer@universityorthopedics.com.

The RIATA Executive Council and committees want to wish everyone a safe and healthy holiday season. We are hopeful to see you again soon.



President

Gregory Jancaitis, DAT, ATC, CSCS

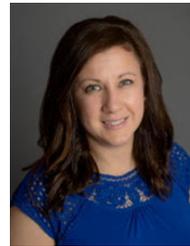
The Vermont Association of Athletic Trainers has been making the best of a most unusual year and has been putting in a lot of work getting the state organized so we can hit the ground running in 2021. We are excited to once again have Approved Provider status with the BOC and we look

forward to serving our members by providing quality programming in whatever formant meets our members needs.

We held our Fall Education and Business Meeting on Friday November 6th. Over 40 attendees joined us virtually for a review on foot and ankle injuries before we held our business meeting. In lieu of a required registration fee, we asked for 'what you can afford' donations, and thanks to the attendees generosity we were able to raise \$275 for our *John Feenick VAAT Student Scholarship* award.

The business meeting served as the formal transition as Tim Tourville transitioned to the role of Immediate-Past President and Greg Jancaitis started his 2-year term as President. In the business meeting the membership voted to approve numerous pieces of language clarifying the state association's bylaws. We also formally opened the call for nominations for the positions of Secretary and President Elect. Nominations can be sent to our elections committee chair at treasurerVAAT@gmail.com. While not member-elected positions, the VAAT is also seeking individuals interested in serving as the Member-at-Large Representative and on the Young Professionals and Honors and Awards committees.

A working group has been created to take on future educational and business meeting programming tasks, and we look forward to having our next official membership meeting at a time in March TBD. We once again extend our congratulations to Anne Guarino of the Stratton Mountain School for joining the list of Safe Sports School Award winners through 2023. We wish to extend our thanks to all of the members who have reached out and stayed engaged over the past year as well as those who have stepped up to serve the membership in a more formal role. We hope to see everyone in 2021!



Council on Practice Advancement

Jennifer Tirillo, MS, ATC, CSCS
District One Chair

The Council on Practice Advancement welcomes Andrea Matthes Berg in her new role as Armed Forces Committee Chair, following years of leadership by Michael Hooper. Thank you to Andrea and Michael for their willingness to serve the membership. Numerous resources in response to COVID-19 have been crafted by various committees within COPA; these documents can be accessed [HERE](#). In most recent news, the Public Safety Value Model is now available to members and can be viewed on the NATA website. This comprehensive document is the product of collaboration and dedication of the public safety committee members. Finally, the Private Practice and Emerging Settings Committee recently participated in a three-day series in conjunction with the NATA. Featuring topics relating to entrepreneurship, recordings of NATA Talks will be made available to the membership. I wish you all a safe and healthy holiday season!

Are you an AT looking for more information on various practice settings? The Council consists of 10 committees and can be reached via email at COPACommunications@gmail.com.

- Physician Practice
- Performing Arts
- Health Care Administration
- Occupational
- Armed Forces
- Public Safety
- Rehabilitation Clinic
- Community Outreach
- Private and Emerging Setting
- Analytics and Outcomes

Get connected!

- Receive the quarterly e-blasts for the Emerging Settings – subscribe [HERE](#)
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- Like our page on Facebook [@NATACOPA](https://www.facebook.com/NATACOPA)
- We're now in Instagram [@natacopa](https://www.instagram.com/natacopa)





NATA GAC Update

Jim Murdock, MEd, ATC
District One Chair

As many of us are aware, and living through, the 2020 year has been a radical change in how the GAC has had to function. Besides the inability for us to meet in person in June, the most significant change this year was the inability to award any financial grant monies to any state association. The NATA Board of Directors has put a hold on all grant money awards at the beginning of the pandemic and we are still in a holding pattern. We are not sure if any financial awards will be offered anytime soon. This BOD decision was based on the unsure financial environment in the country and with the number of NATA members with loss of jobs or decreased incomes due to furloughs or less hours.

The GAC has encouraged all states to continue with their applications for grants and we have processed the applications in preparation for awards to be released when monies do come from the BOD.

The GAC has undertaken more online and outreach efforts to the membership to assist with education, advocacy, and fundraising efforts.

Starting in October, when awards were to be sent out, the GAC has put together monthly webinars.

October 14---Hiring and Employing a Lobbyist
November 11—Virtual Advocacy
December 9—Fundraising for Legislative Advocacy Efforts

Additionally Deanna Kuykendall, the GAC NATA liaison in Governmental Affairs, has been holding monthly Zoom calls which she calls “Legislative Libations”. This effort is to hold open Zoom meetings for all the states GAC and leadership to network with other states, to ask questions and to share info about their legislative efforts and challenges. This has been welcomed quite broadly.

Dates for these calls were:

October 15
November 19
December 17

Finally the NATA Governmental Affairs Group in conjunction with the GAC has been offering Legislative Boot Camps. These virtual camps are delivered over two days and are designed for states to have their legislative efforts evaluated and given a blueprint on how to advance their legislative efforts.

Here is an outline of the Bootcamps:

- Evaluating current efforts
- Legislative Priorities
- GAC S.W.O.T. Analysis
- Advocacy Toolbox (includes hiring/employing a lobbyist, coalition building, AT mobilization, research, growing member involvement, and legislator leave behinds)

- Communicating with Legislators (includes messaging, virtual/in-person meetings, advocacy campaigns,
- AT delegation capitol visits, and in-district advocacy)
- Social Media for Legislative Advocacy
- Fundraising for Legislative Advocacy

The GAC is now prepping for the January working meeting to prepare for the upcoming year.

I am thankful and feel very privileged to work on the committee and proud of the work we do for the NATA membership.



NATAPAC Update

Kelsey M. Rynkiewicz, MS, MSHA, ATC, NREMT
District One Chair

I would like to sincerely thank all of our members who generously contributed to the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Political Action Committee (NATAPAC) over the last year. It has been a challenging year for many of us to say the least, and we greatly appreciate your support during this time. Due to the virtual nature of the upcoming EATA meeting, we will not be hosting the NATAPAC glass fundraiser as in years past. Instead, stay tuned for new events we are planning for 2021! More information will be shared as the details are finalized.

The NATAPAC helps to make a positive difference in the future of athletic training and allows the profession to build relationships by helping us gain increased access to decision-makers. If you are looking for ways to contribute to the NATAPAC, please consider signing up for a recurring monthly gift. Visit <https://www.natapac.org> for more information about the PAC and to make a donation. Please feel free to contact me at kelsey.rynkiewicz@uconn.edu with any questions, comments, concerns, or ideas for future NATAPAC fundraisers.





ICSM Update

Brant Berkstreser, MS, LAT, ATC
District One Chair (Ivy League)

As an advocate for collegiate athletes and athletic trainers, the Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine works to create resources for those practicing in this setting. The ICSM would like to thank all the athletic trainers who have worked extremely hard developing protocols for the safe return of athletic activity and/or competitive sport. This pandemic has created immense challenges but has also highlighted the professionalism and abilities for us to be leaders in our respective areas. It's a great time to be an athletic trainer!

There is no question we have many collegiate athletic trainers who deserve to be honored for their exemplary work and leadership over the past year. The ICSM encourages you to nominate deserving colleagues for the following awards: Head Athletic Trainer, Staff Athletic Trainer, Above and Beyond Award, or New Horizon Award. The deadline for nominations is January 31, 2021. Additional information on the awards and the nomination process can be accessed [HERE](#).

We also like to remind you of the numerous resources available from the ICSM. View Resources Here. A few highlighted areas are below:

- COVID 19 Projects
 - ICSM Return to Campus Recommendations
 - Facility Document Introduction from the ICSM
 - Essential Nature of the Athletic Trainer
- NATA/ICSM Mental Health Toolkit
- Best Practices in the Implementation and Structure of Medical Care for College Athletes
- Collegiate Billing and Reimbursement Best Practice Considerations

The ICSM is working on other initiatives such as an infectious disease document that outlines facility standards, prevention of infectious disease, care of the patient/athlete and facility cleaning and disinfecting for the athletic trainer. In addition, the committee continues to work with strength and conditioning associations in the development of a best practices within strength and conditioning document.

As the landscape of college athletics and the athletic training profession continues to evolve, ICSM will strive to bring relevant information to the membership. If there are any issues or concerns you feel strongly about, please reach out to one of your District 1 representatives; Jennifer Brodeur (University of Massachusetts-Amherst), Rick Burr (Babson College), or Brant Berkstreser (Harvard University)



Young Professionals Committee

Dominique Ross, PhD, ATC
District One Chair

Hello Young Professionals!

As I reflect on 2020 I can't help but think of all the incredible things YPs have been doing throughout our District. You've served your patients, communities and our profession despite adversity and uncertainty. As a committee, we've continued to look ahead as we maintain our ongoing efforts to serve you. We are planning an educational session on Emotional Intelligence and a Career Skills Workshop for the 2021 NATA Convention in Orlando. Locally, your state YP Representatives and Presidents have been hard at work and are seeking folks that would like to get involved. There is something for everyone, let's connect.



PRC Update

Kelsey M. Rynkiewicz, MS, MSHA, ATC, NREMT
District One Chair

Athletic trainers have truly adapted to the emerging challenges and needs of the COVID-19 pandemic. With many athletic trainers taking on new roles and responsibilities, there is an opportunity to showcase the value of athletic trainers as members of the healthcare community. We want to recognize those individuals who have made an impact during this unique time therefore we are asking if you have any stories highlighting our District One members, please forward them to us so that we may share them on our social media platforms. Additionally, if you ever have a positive story or accomplishment to share about an athletic trainer in our District, please pass that along as well.

We are working to increase connectivity among the public relations and social media leaders within the individual states. Our goal is to promote our profession and District as best we can by recognizing the accomplishments of our members and disbursing information through our numerous social media channels. If I can be of any help for your public relations efforts, please reach out to me at kelsey.rynkiewicz@uconn.edu. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook (NATA District 1), Instagram (@NATA_District1), and Twitter (@NATA_District1)!