

August 2006

A PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION

Since 1974, the NCATA has served to support athletic trainers, to promote and advance the profession of athletic training in North Carolina. The NCATA is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Trainers' Association (District 3) and the National Athletic Trainers' Association.

NC Board of Athletic Training Examiners

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Change of Address or Email?

To those members who have moved, we need your help! Your corrected contact information is requested. Please go to the NATA website "Members Only" section www.nata.org/members1/members.cfm to update. Please be assured your information is secure. It will only be used for NATA membership communication.

INSIDE Update

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President's Update

North Carolina Athletic Trainers'

A little more than a year ago, the NCATA Board of Directors has discussed the possibility of pursuing state legislation that would place a Licensed Athletic Trainer in every high school in the state. Since February, members of the board and our General Counsel have had two meetings with individuals at the Department of Public Instruction. The last meeting with the Chair of the State School Board, Mr. Howard Lee, we presented the lack of quality athletic health care that a large majority of high schools in North Carolina are assuming. The NCATA wanted to get his support in this initiative. We also discussed other avenues currently available to high schools needing Licensed Athletic Trainers.



Mark White, LAT, ATC

Two main issues came out of our meeting. He felt that we (Athletic Trainers') had a PR problem. He thought that name recognition and the services we provide would not have impact enough to secure funding with the legislature. The second was the price tag that would go with implementation. The estimated cost would be around twenty million dollars. This funding would have to be appropriated by the State. Currently North Carolina is spending millions on educational needs and this funding for athletic activities would probably not move to the top of the priority list for funding. He suggested trying and keeping education and Athletic Training together with the idea those graduating Athletic Training students would also be willing to enter the teaching field. We communicated to him that was not happening and high schools were not able to hire a Licensed Athletic Trainer even if they wanted one because of the restrictions that the state has and the degree that they currently receive.

In this issue, Jim Bazluki has done some research and has provided links for anyone that is trying to get an LAT a job in the high school setting. He will elaborate more in his message. Links will be on the NCATA website.

At the last board meeting in July, the NCATA worked on revising the Policy & Procedure's of our Association. With the approval of the new By-Laws by the membership at the annual meeting, we had to revise the document. The revised version should be complete and online after the October board meeting. In other board actions, three new positions were created on the Board of Representatives in accordance with the new By-Laws. At-Large Representatives from the College/University, Clinical and High School setting were approved by the board. Dr. Katie Walsh, LAT, Mr. Bill Griffin, LAT and Mrs. Jerri Sigmon, LAT were installed on those positions respectively. Dr. Walsh is the curriculum director at East Carolina University. Mr. Griffin is employed at Greensboro Orthopedics and is primarily responsible for industrial services. Mrs. Sigmon is the Head Athletic Trainer and Physical Education Instructor at Bandys High School in Newton-Conover. Each will serve a 2-year term as an At-Large Representative in the NCATA.

Take care and have a safe fall season,
Mark

Message from the Vice-President

Jim Bazluki, LAT, ATC

As time ticks by, we all wonder what do we have to show for it. Will tomorrow be better than today. Do I make a difference? While I think of this from a personal perspective, I often wonder the same of people in leadership positions. Therefore, I want to share information about some activity the NCATA has undertaken recently and where we go from here.

With guidance from our legal council, we were granted a meeting with Dr. Howard Lee, the chair of the state board of education. We asked him for advice and direction in obtaining our goal of having a licensed athletic trainer in every high school in NC. While he was supportive of the idea, a hard reality of the price tag will work against us. Dr. Lee wants athletic trainers to stay in the classroom and was willing to help.

Through earlier efforts of several NCATA members, the wording describing who is qualified to teach in the area of health occupations was changed. This allows licensed healthcare workers (LATs) to apply for a provisional license. The problem in doing this has always been in county and school personnel not being aware of this change and thus not hiring athletic trainers in health occupation positions. The NCATA is setting up a special section on the website to link important documents and references to assist athletic trainers in obtaining these positions and having the resources at their disposal to assist them. We will also undertake a PR campaign within the schools targeted at administrators and human resource personnel about these changes and options available to them.

Another challenge Dr. Lee pointed out was that we had a PR problem in that not enough people know what athletic trainers are or do. This is a message we have heard over and over and is not only a local problem, but a national one as well. To this, I will be working with the board and PR committee to re-allocate resources to help address this issue. It takes time to address this, but we have not put enough resources and materials into this area. We need to create the need for athletic trainers with local administrators, PTAs, booster clubs, etc. I relate this to someone not knowing what he or she is missing. You can't fix something you don't know is wrong.

We are making progress on some big issues and hope that we are making tomorrow better than today – for all of us.

What's New at the NATA?

The NATA Blog is here

Stay up to date! The brand-new NATA Blog has the latest news about athletic training — and it's written in a succinct, easy-to-read style that won't take too much of your valuable time. [Go here to see it](#)

Call for Abstracts:

Technology Pre-Conference Workshop

NATA's Educational Multimedia Committee is issuing a call for abstracts for the Technology Pre-Conference Workshop at the Athletic Training Educators' Conference in Jan. 2007.

[Click here for information and the submission form](#)

Open letter to Institute of Medicine

To support NATA's efforts on hydration and fluid replacement, [please read NATA's open letter to IOM.](#)

[Click here to link to the NATA](#)

2006 NCATA

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BE ACTIVE - GET INVOLVED Committee on Revenue (COR) Update

Let's make a difference as Certified Athletic Trainers in North Carolina. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has established a new identification number to be used for standard electronic health care transactions and many billing procedures. This is known as the National Provider Identifier or NPI. This is a component of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 and must be used by all HIPAA-covered entities such as health care plans and health care providers. Implementation of the NPI began in May 2005 and is supposed to be accepted by Medicare/Medicaid and private insurance issuers by May 23, 2007 and smaller healthcare plans by May 23, 2008.

Whether you are billing or planning on billing for services or not, the NATA COR and the NCATA COR strongly urge all athletic trainers to apply for an NPI as soon as possible. This will absolutely benefit all athletic trainers and the growth of our profession in many ways. Athletic trainers work in many diverse settings but we are strength in numbers. No matter your work setting, BE ACTIVE and GET INVOLVED, apply for YOUR UNIQUE NPI number today.

A healthcare provider only needs to apply once in his/her career for an NPI; the number remains yours even if you change jobs and it will eventually be used for all health plans. Safeguard your unique NPI, as it will always be traced to you. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid have issued athletic trainers a category for applying for an NPI as healthcare providers. It is up to you to take the steps and apply today.

There are three ways to get an NPI.

1. Apply online at the CMS Web site dedicated to NPI, at <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov>.
2. Download a paper application from the Web site or obtain one by calling (800) 465-3203.
3. Apply through an organization such as a professional association or employer.

Applicants will be asked to provide a taxonomy number; for athletic trainers, this number is 2255A2300X. The profession falls under "Respiratory, Rehabilitative & Restorative Service Providers" and is subcategorized in the "Specialists/Technologists" section. This only takes about ten minutes to complete.

The NATA is sponsoring a contest to see which state can get the most members registered. After you receive your NPI number, send an e-mail to bgriffin@gsoortho.com or danduffyatc@aol.com to confirm that you received your NPI number. Please include your six digit NATA membership with your e-mail. Subject: NPI

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the NCATA COR.

Clinical/Industrial/Corporate Update

In 2005, the NCATA Board of Directors appointed an ad hoc Committee to represent CIC athletic trainers in NC. In March of 2006, 2 actions were taken to strengthen the representation of CIC Athletic Trainers. First, the ad hoc CIC Committee was made a permanent, standing committee. Secondly, in addition to 2 other At-Large Representatives (High School & College/University), there is now a CIC athletic trainer on the Board with full voting privileges. Andrew Graham, of Greensboro, is the chair of the CIC Committee and Bill Griffin is the CIC At-Large Representative. The CIC Committee still has some openings. Please contact Andrew to sign-up. If you have a question, comment, suggestion or concern regarding the Clinical/Industrial/Corporate work setting and what the NCATA can do for you, please contact either Andrew or Bill.

Bill Griffin CIC At-Large Rep. bgriffin@gsoortho.com	Andrew Graham CIC Committee Chair andrewgraham@sosbonedocs.com
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Site Selection Committee

The NCATA Site Selection Committee has chosen the following dates and locations for future NCATA Annual Meetings. More information about these meetings will be available in future newsletters and on the NCATA Web site.

March 2-4, 2007

**Radisson Hotel- Research Triangle Park
Raleigh**

March 7-9, 2008

**Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort
Wrightsville Beach**

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Key Facts:

- ✓ Over 800 ATAs and Students Receive Each Issue.
- ✓ Four Issues Annually.
- ✓ Posted on the NCATA Web Site.

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NCATA Sports Medicine Symposium for Students

Randy Pridgen MS, LAT, ATC

The NCATA Sports Medicine Symposium for Students was held July 17-20 at Greensboro College. This summer's symposium was another success! We had 101 students from five different states attend this summer. Students attended from North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, Tennessee and Ohio.

We started our symposium with the second annual college fair during registration. Thirteen schools participated in this year's event including Barton College, Catawba College, Gardner-Webb University, Greensboro College, Guilford College, Lees-McRae College, Lenoir Rhyne College, Mars Hill College, Methodist College, NC Central University, UNC-Pembroke, Western Carolina University and Wingate University. Representatives from each school displayed admissions material during registration and were able to visit with students and parents attending the symposium.

Our teaching staff included **Greg Calone** (Elon University), **Mary Jones** (Campbell University), **Hugh Harling** (Methodist College), **Joe Ferraro** (Duke University), **Kim Keeley** (Gardner-Webb University), **Robin Kennel** (Mars Hill College), **Rob Dingle** (Catawba College) and **Heather Hartsell** (Barton College). Guest instructors included **Doug Black** (Duke University Sports Medicine), **Bob Casmus** (Catawba College), **Michelle Lesperance** and **B.C. Liscombe** (Greensboro College). Our guest speaker this year was **Mary Broos** from Guilford College.

Our counselors included **Jayne Beacham**, **Heather Byrd**, **Sara Fleming** (Barton College), **Jeff Smith**, **Mario Zaldivar** (Catawba College), **Ashley Carson**, **Aaron Johnson** (Lees McRae College) and **Amanda Upchurch** (East Carolina University).

Our administrative staff included **Katie Hanes** of Greensboro College and a long-time friend of the Sports Medicine Symposium for Students, **Zack McNeil** of Scotland High School.

At the conclusion of our symposium, we presented our annual awards to four very deserving students. The winner of the Bob Jamieson Student Assistant in Athletic Training Award was **Adam Wall** from Southeast Raleigh High School. The Al Proctor Student Assistant in Athletic Training Award was presented to **Ashley Badger** of Cary High School. The Shrine Bowl selections were **Ali Burcham** of North Davidson High School and **Brandon Dixon** of Green Hope High School.

Our symposium could not function without the staff, counselors and generous support from our sponsors. Sponsors who provided monetary contributions to our symposium included Murphy-Wainer Orthopedics (Division of Southeastern Orthopedics, Greensboro), Southeastern Orthopedics (Dr. Kevin Speer, Raleigh)

North Carolina Coaches Association, Orthopedics East (Greenville), Raleigh Orthopedics and Rehab Specialist, Sports and More Physical Therapy (Flo Moses, Raleigh) and Dr. Robert Satterfield (Wilson Orthopedics Surgery and Neurology Center). Each of these sponsors generously provided monetary gifts ranging from \$200-\$2500.

Our sponsors who helped us with supplies for the symposium this year included Medco Supply (Matt Deeringer), Andover Products, School Health (John Miller), CFA Medical (Will Partin), Gatorade, Powerade, BioFreeze, Creative Custom Products, Performance Health Incorporated, Tape-O, Parker Laboratories, Kendall, Mueller, DonJoy, Board of Certification, Tylenol, Diversa Products, Amerisport, SAM Medical, Ambra Le Roy Medical Products, Bushwalker Bags and BSN-Medical. Please thank these vendors for helping make our symposium a huge success.

On behalf of the NCATA Sports Medicine Symposium for Students and the NCATA, I want to extend a very special thank you to all sponsors for their generosity and support. I would like to extend a very special thank you as well to Greensboro College for allowing us to come to their beautiful campus.



Next summer's symposium is tentatively scheduled for July 16-19, 2007 at Greensboro College so mark those calendars! We had an exciting time and it was great to see our numbers increase this year from the previous years. We would like to continue to see our numbers increase, so please promote our symposium to your students! If you have comments or suggestions regarding the symposium, please address those to Randy Pridgen at Barton College or contact your District Director. Please make your students aware of this worthwhile event and help us help you!

To view additional
Student Symposium pictures,
[Click Here](#), then scroll to the
bottom of the web page.