

RMATA, INC.  
SEMI-ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
JUNE 11, 1993  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

1. CALL TO ORDER: Bill called the Semi-Annual Business Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Trainers' Association and NATA District 7 to order.
2. RMATA BOD: Mike Keirns has served his term as the Colorado State President and thus his term as the Colorado Representative to the RMATA Board of Directors comes to an end. Jim Gillen is now the new Colorado State President and will represent Colorado on the RMATA Board of Directors.
3. RMATA STATIONARY: Final plans and preparations have been made to produce official stationary of the RMATA. Beginning in the fall, official correspondence of the RMATA will be carried out on this stationary.
4. RMATA HALL OF FAME: A task force has been created to develop criteria for nomination and induction into the RMATA Hall of Fame. Bruce Kola is the Chair of this task force, other members of this task force at this time are Dale Mildenberger and Scott Linaker. The first individuals to be inducted into the RMATA Hall of Fame will be those six individuals which are NATA Hall of Fame members. RMATA will commission plaques to be made which will become a part of a traveling, as well as a permanent, display within our District. The plaques will be taken each year to the District meeting, and then will be returned to a permanent site, (of which has yet to be determined at this time). Each state President is looking into the possibility of housing these plaques in a prominent place within their state. If anyone has any ideas concerning this more permanent housing of this display, please contact your state President. We envision this being a nice display, beginning with the initial six inductees, and attempting to acquire a permanent home before we have too many more inductees and plaques to deal with. By beginning with this low of a volume we can be more cost efficient, as well as have a much nicer display. We plan on the induction of these initial RMATA Hall of Fame members to take place next March in Cheyenne.
5. SAYERS J. "BUD" MILLER AWARD: The Sayers J. "Bud" Miller award is presented to the NATA Educator of the Year. This years award was presented to our own Larry Willock. Larry is the Head Athletic Trainer at the University of New Mexico. Congratulations Larry!
6. RMATA AND SWEDE-0 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS: In conjunction with Swede-0 Universal, and as announced at the District meeting in Salt City, RMATA is pleased to present scholarship awards in the amount of \$3000 to three deserving students. Each student will receive a \$1000 scholarship to further his education. The students are as follows:

Undergraduate Scholarship presented to:  
William Crowther from Brigham Young University  
Supervising Athletic Trainer: Gaye Merrill

Post Graduate Scholarship presented to:  
Michael Severance from Utah State University  
Supervising Athletic Trainer: Fawn Gleckner

Undergraduate Scholarship presented to:  
Wayne Johnson from the University of Wyoming  
Supervising Athletic Trainer: Bill Lyons

7. NATA AND NATA DISTRICT SEVEN BUSINESS:

A. NATA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS: These meetings are now open to all members to attend in an observational capacity. All are urged to attend and see for yourself what goes on in these meetings. You will get a new appreciation for the amount of preparation involved to conduct these Board meetings. You will have the opportunity to see how your association operates first hand.

B. NATA VICE PRESIDENT: The new NATA Vice President is Pete Carlon. Pete is the District Director from District 6 and replaces Joe Godek who is going off the Board. The VP position will become more active and will have more responsibilities in the future.

C. NATA FINANCES: The NATA sold it's car, which was a hold over from the previous administration.

Continuing efforts are being made in an attempt to lease the lower portion of the national office. It has been vacant for about three months and has been advertised for about three months. The Dallas market is not that strong at this time, but it is hoped that a tenant can be found in four to five months.

D. NATA IDEA CARDS: All members are strongly encouraged to use the Idea Cards which were handed out at the business meeting. Eve and Denny are very serious about the input and concerns which the membership might have. You may not have a concern at this point in time, but later on you may have a concern which you would like make known to the Executive Director or the Board of Directors. If so, send in the idea card or call the appropriate individual on the telephone and voice your concern.

E. DEVELOPMENTAL TASK FORCE: This task force was formed with the mission of bringing together the different fund raising arms of the NATA. These different activities included fund raising dealing with corporate sponsorship, scholarships, and the development foundation. In the past, there has been no uniform guideline for these entities to function by, so this task force will attempt to come up with a working framework. This will allow all fund raising to work under the same guidelines and will also allow each entity to know what the other is doing so as to not double dip from certain donors. This task force will also attempt to develop different levels of sponsorship and funding. What this will mean is a consistency in the amount of funding and what one will get for their money. For example, if a donor wished to sponsor a clinical session it would cost X dollars, and if a sponsor wished to display their banner it would cost Z dollars. Along these same lines, the NATA BOD has approved the practice of allowing sponsorship of clinical sessions at the national meeting. The sponsor will have no control over the content for that session, the content will remain under the control of the convention committee. No value has been established for this practice as of yet, but details will be worked out before any deals are made. Bill Lyons is the Chair of this Developmental Task Force.

F. NATA TRAVEL POLICIES: Policies concerning NATA travel have been approved by the NATA BOD. This is in compliance with the eleven point financial statement developed last year and will allow the office accountants to work within these newly approved guidelines.

G. VOICE MAIL IN THE NATIONAL OFFICE: Voice mail is being installed at the national office. Voice mail is not a very personal means of answering a telephone call, but the number of calls being received by the national office is tremendous and at times overwhelming. The national office receives 2500 calls per month, on an average month, in January and February and April and May, right after dues and right before the national meeting, the number of telephone calls jumps to 6500 calls per month, that averages out to over 300 calls per day. Most of the calls can be answered easily, but there is a fair amount of time going back and forth as far as the switchboard is concerned. The new system will be user friendly, it will efficiently manage all of the telephone calls, and it is less costly than hiring more receptionists to handle all of those telephone calls. You will still be able to get in touch with an operator if you need one, and extension numbers will be published for your convenience.

H. RESTRICTED ADMITTANCE POLICY INTO THE EXHIBIT HALL: This policy allowed Certified Athletic Trainers to enter the Exhibit Hall first, a few hours before student members were allowed to enter. This was very well received by the Exhibitors for two reasons; one, it allowed them to make contacts they needed to make with Certified Athletic trainers, and two, it spread the flow out over the entire day instead of having themselves totally inundated at the very beginning of the exhibits opening. One glitch in this system affected those students who are also certified, but who registered as students, and thus were issued student badges. This problem will be resolved by next years' meeting.

I. OPENING SOCIAL EVENT: The Wednesday night social event was cancelled for this year. Gatorade elected not to sponsor this event because of financial reasons. The Gatorade Party was not a part of their corporate contract, but rather something they sponsored in addition to their corporate sponsorship. Feelers are out in an attempt to gain a sponsor for this event for next year. Some potential sponsors have also contacted NATA and have expressed an interest in sponsoring this event in the future.

J. CONVENTION COMMITTEE: This committee is already well into the planning of the clinical sessions for next years program. Dave Burton is the Chair of this committee. The term for this position has been extended to a two to four year term, at the discretion of the Chair, with an option of serving as the Immediate Past Chair for one additional year.

K. AMERICAN ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION: Litigation against the AATA was settled in court this past year, but they have not gone away. The individual running that organization has issued new brochures and new newsletters which are in direct violation of the court settlement. NATA will contact AATA in the very near future and resolve this situation as soon as possible. If the membership comes in contact with AATA, please contact Bill and let him know the extent of your contact. Bill will then contact NATA Legal Counsel Sarah Teslik with the information.

L. HEALTH CARE REFORM: The NATA BOD has had many, long discussions concerning the NATA's impact in this regard. Health Care Reform will not be completed within the 100 days and it will not be what it was originally though it was going to be. With that in mind, it is believed that the NATA will have ample opportunity to get a strong message to the Health Care Reform Task Force at the federal level. one of the best ways to do this will be through a lobbying effort, first by hiring a lobbyist to directly represent the NATA and second, to

encourage every member to write to their congressman/congresswoman. This will have a tremendous impact, especially if the letter is on an individual and personal level, as opposed to a form letter. Let them know who you are, what your profession is, that you work in the health care field, that you are concerned with the health care cost, that you can provide preventive health care at a very reasonable level. Write and voice your concern. Get involved with your profession. Currently, there is a list of providers in health care reform and people who can get money for health care reform, and they leave Athletic Trainers out. This is something we would like to change, as we will have about a year to a year and a half before much is done concerning this issue.

M. FINANCIAL REPORT: Brooks McIntyre reported a financial turn around in NATA finances over last years finances. This was accomplished through careful management by the NATA BOD and the NATA office and by the implementation of the 11 financial policies which Brooks recommended. This turn around was good from a net loss to a net profit standpoint, but the net profit is not as great as it might appear on the surface because NATA did not hire an Assistant Executive Director, which was budgeted for, and still have not, and there was a period of time when we were without a CEO. This represents a fair portion of the savings.

N. ETHICS COMMITTEE: The ethics document is completed, again. The last time it was done, not too long ago, it cost \$150,000. This version cost significantly less to develop and complete. This new document deals with NATA membership and membership requirements and will be published in an upcoming issue of the NATA NEWS. In addition it will include ethical issues concerning accepted membership standards, eligibility requirements, and membership sanctions and procedure. The NATA deals only with ethics with regard to membership and membership requirements, whereas the NATABOC deals with credentialing (ATC) issues, so there are two separate ethical documents.

O. 1995 NATIONAL CONVENTION MOVES: The 1995 national convention scheduled for Salt Lake City, Utah has been moved. The city of Salt Lake informed the NATA that the new convention center would not be completed until four months after our national meeting in 1995. One of the alternatives, they came up with, was to erect a \$2,000,000.00 temporary tent structure. The second alternative was to negotiate for other dates or other years. The second alternative was acceptable to the NATA. The NATA has tentatively agreed to go to Indianapolis in 1995, pending negotiation, and will renegotiate with Salt Lake City for 1997. 1996 is a done deal for Orlando. For 1998 we are looking to the East and Northeast, possibly the Boston or Baltimore areas.

P. NATABOC REPORT: The report given by Dan Libera is as follows: The new CEU reporting period will begin January 1, 1994 and will include a new system for reporting. Members will receive information concerning this new system of reporting sometime this fall or winter. If you have not received this information by December of 1993, call Jennifer Sutton at the national office. If after receiving and reading this information, you still have questions, call Jennifer or Dan Libera for clarification. Two exams are schedule for June 20, 1993, one in Phoenix and one Denver. Dan gave a special thank you to all those members who have served in the administration of the certification exam during the past year. District Seven administers 7 tests throughout the year, but is looking at the possibility of creating a test site in Salt Lake City. The exam dates for next year will be about the same as this year, but an exam will not be scheduled on Fathers Day. Test Site Administrators are representing District 7 well in the administration of the certification exam. They are also being invited to participate in a Test

Development Workshop to develop test items for the exam. Matt Webber will be representing District 7 in Raleigh, NC this summer to develop test questions. Last summer, District 7 was represented by Bruce Kola and Scott Linaker at a Test Development Workshop in Boston, MA. The NATA BOC and the Test Site Administrators are always looking for individuals who are interested in helping with the certification process. If you are one who would like to get involved with this process contact Dan Libera or a Test Site Administrator in your state for more information. NATABOC information and updates dealing with certification and continuing education will appear in the NATA NEWS, which is published each month. Beginning with the new CEU reporting period (January 1, 1994), current CPR certification will be required. To receive CEU's for CPR certification, you may submit your verification once per year or you may submit your verification once during the three years reporting period. Members required to maintain CEU's will keep a personal record of approved activities. When the eight required CEU's are obtained, a report form will be sent in to the national office for recording. Beginning with this new reporting period, eight (8) CEU's will be required during the three (3) year reporting period. There was an oversight concerning the number of CEU's awarded at the District meeting last March in Salt Lake City. Some members were only awarded .7 CEU's instead of 1.0. Jennifer Sutton has been informed of this situation and it has been corrected. If you fall into this category you may want to call the national office and double check this situation.

**Q. THE JOURNAL OF ATHLETIC TRAINING AND THE STUDENT ATHLETIC TRAINER:** During the Mid-Winter Board meeting in February, the NATA BOD took action to discontinue the subscription to the JOURNAL OF ATHLETIC TRAINING for student members. However, the Board has decided that this action is up for reconsideration. Since this announcement, Bill has received zero phone calls and zero letters concerning this decision. This lack of response, whether pro or con, has also occurred in other districts as well. On the other hand, the financial information used in making this decision was inaccurate and as a savings could be realized, it will not be the savings once thought. Other factors considered in the original decision to discontinue the subscription included the following: certified members who received the JOURNAL could share their copy with their students, and those Board members who are also curriculum directors reported that their students were not using the JOURNAL as a source of reference when writing research papers. There appears to be an opinion from the members in attendance at this meeting that the student subscription should remain a benefit of dues payment.

**R. SPECIAL GUESTS:** NATA Executive Director, Eve Becker-Doyle and NATA President Denny Miller briefly addressed the membership. The Rocky Mountain Athletic Trainers' Association and NATA District 7 welcome Eve and Denny and look forward to a viable, open and honest relationship with the NATA Leadership.

**S. GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE:** The Governance Task Force held an "open forum" where their preliminary report was presented. The task force also received input from the membership during the "open forum". Bases on the information and comments generated at this forum and from the comments from conversations with some individuals of RMATA, Bill presented the following:

- ... one of the biggest problems we see from other areas of the country is a communication problem that lends itself to their concerns about representation
- ... many districts are not set up where the state Presidents have direct input to the Director

and a direct hand in the formulation of policies and procedures for the District, as well as an appropriate system for national information to go up or down

- ... we don't need to reinvent the wheel, but rather fine tune it
- ... what we are seeing is a system that given the two individuals who were just here (Eve and Denny) and a very active Board, are going to run this association, and run it properly
- ... the proposals presented at the "open forum" were just that, proposals, information gathering mechanisms to get the thoughts of the membership
- ... if we went to a house of delegates system and increased governance from that standpoint, for a 10 member board and a 50 member house of delegates, it would cost approximately \$120,000 per day to run a board meeting. Which would mean a dues increase of a minimum of \$100 for every member. Just to do what we do now and just from a financial standpoint.

There appears to be a clear consensus from the members present that the RMATA and NATA District 7 would like to table this for a year or two and look at our present management system and the current leadership, and if it works the way we think it is going to work, why reinvent the wheel. If the new Executive Director and her office staff can do what we think they can, the system works. Let's let the current leadership have a chance to show what they can do and give them a chance to manage this association properly!

T. COLLEGE ATHLETIC TRAINERS' SOCIETY: This group, and the NATA College Athletic Trainers' Task Force are two separate entities. In no way does the College Athletic Trainers' Society represent the NATA. This is a group of college athletic trainers from across the country that have formed their own society to deal with issues they feel are pertinent to college athletics.

U. NATABOC STUDY: A study is currently underway looking at the pass/fail rate of candidates from curriculum programs versus candidates from internship programs.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.