

RMATA, INC.  
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
MARCH 18, 1994  
CHEYENNE, WYOMING

1. SPECIAL THANK YOU: Bart Peterson, Wyoming State President and Local Convention Chair presented awards to the following individuals for their involvement in the success of this meeting: John Noffsinger, Ann Rupert, Wayne Barger, John Schroeder, Nancy Goldsmith, Kirk Isabel, and the RMATA Board of Directors.
2. WYOMING ATHLETIC TRAINERS DAY: The Governor of Wyoming, Mike Sullivan, has declared March 19, 1994 as Wyoming Athletic Trainers Day.
3. THANK YOU: Bill thanked the local Convention Committee and all those who helped organize this meeting.
4. INTRODUCTION OF THE RMATA BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Bill introduced the following members of the RMATA Board of Directors:  
Bart Peterson, Wyoming State President  
Pam Cox, New Mexico State President  
Scott Linaker, RMATA Secretary  
Matt Webber, Arizona State President  
Kevin Morris, Utah State Vice President sitting in for Joel Bass  
Dan Libera, RMATA Parliamentarian and sitting in for Colorado State President, Jim Gillen
5. RMATA HALL OF FAME: The following RMATA members were inducted into the Rocky Mountain Athletic Trainers' Association Hall of Fame:  
Troy Young, Arizona State University  
Jack Aggers, University of Wyoming  
Jim Conboy, United States Air Force Academy  
Gary Delforge, Tow Diehm and Rod Kimball will be formally inducted into the RMATA Hall of Fame in Dallas at our District Meeting.
6. CALL TO ORDER: Bill Lyons call the Annual Business Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Trainers' Association to order.
7. FINANCIAL REPORT: Scott Linaker gave the financial report as of 03-16-94. It is as follows:

Total Income:	\$28,699.88
Total Expenditure:	\$16,928.61
Net Balances:	
Checking:	\$34,560.57
Savings:	\$17,176.63
Total:	\$51,737.20

The RMATA fiscal year ends on March 31, 1994, therefore the year end financial statement will be forthcoming.

8. MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Scott Linaker gave the following membership report as of 02-28-94:

Associate:	59 (5.7%)
Certified:	704 (67.8%)
Student:	275 (26.5%)
Supplier:	1 (0.1%)
Total Members:	1039

New Members (from 03-01-93 to 02-28-94): 107

9. 1995 RMATA ANNUAL CLINICAL SYMPOSIUM AND BUSINESS MEETING: The 1995 RMATA Annual Clinical Symposium and Business Meeting will be held in Denver, Colorado on March 17, 18, 19. Other details will be forthcoming.

10. NOMINATIONS FOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR/PRESIDENT AND DISTRICT SECRETARY: Nominations will be accepted for the elected positions of District Director/President and District Secretary. Nominations will be open from this time until the close of business at the Business Meeting in Dallas. Nominations from the floor will be accepted tonight and at the Business Meeting in Dallas. Written nominations will be accepted from the open of nominations until the close of business at the Business Meeting in Dallas.

Nominations do not require a second. Nominees have 10 days to accept or decline the nomination. Ballots will be sent out by September 1, 1994. Completed ballots must be returned and postmarked by October 1, 1994:

Qualifications: The District Director/President and Secretary shall have been Certified members of the NATA for a period of not less than five (5) years immediately prior to their nomination, and shall have resided and practiced professionally within the geographic area encompassed by the Association for a period of not less than two (2) years immediately prior to their nomination. Terms of Office: The term of office of the President and Secretary shall be three (3) years, commencing at the annual business meeting of the Association next following their election and continuing until the annual business meeting of the Association three years later. The term of office of the District Director shall be three (3) years, commencing at the annual meeting of the NATA next following the election, and continuing until the annual meeting of the NATA three (3) years later. The same person may be elected to not more than two (2) successive terms of the same office.

Bill Lyons and Scott Linaker are available to run for another term as district Director/President and District Secretary respectively.

Nominations are open for the elected position of District Director/ President and District Secretary.

NOMINATION: Bill Lyons for District Director/President  
NOMINATION: Scott Linaker for District Secretary  
Nomination by Mike Nesbitt.

MOTION: For a vote of confidence for the nominations of Bill Lyons and Scott Linaker.

MOTION BY: Mike Nesbitt

SECOND: Leah Putman

11. RMATA NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Bill announced the appointment of Jack Ransone as the new Newsletter Editor. We hope to expand publication of our newsletter from twice per year to three times per year.
12. RMATA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL: The RMATA Board of Directors has been working on the Policies and Procedures Manual and, if time permits, would like to have the document finalized by next March when we meet in Denver.
13. NATA BUSINESS:
  - A. NATA HALL OF FAME: The NATA Hall of Fame will have a permanent site located in the office area at the national office. This reception area will house the awards and plaques of the NATA Hall of Fame Members. There will be an opening reception held at the national office for the NATA Hall of Fame Members in June, after which the Hall of Fame will be open for the general membership to view.
  - B. EXPANSION OF NATIONAL OFFICE SPACE: The office space in the national office has been expanded. There are still plans to rent the lower portion of the building in the near future. It is believed that with further expansion, the building will meet our needs for the next twenty years.
  - C. NATA/APTA JOINT SEMINAR: The NATA and the APTA have been working for about a year on a joint seminar. A program is in the works and it is hoped that a joint seminar will be available by January or February of 1995. The exact dates and sites are not available at this time. Any profits from these seminars will be shared between the NATA and the APTA. Enrollment will be limited to 500 attendees, as they are not going to make huge meetings out of these seminars.
  - D. COLLEGE ATHLETIC TRAINERS' TASK FORCE: In June the NATA Board of Directors formed a College Athletic Trainers' Task Force with the charge of looking at the potential for forming a College Athletic Trainers' Committee to address issues that would be expressed by those in this practice setting. This Task Force presented their proposal to the NATA Board and the Board decided to form the College Athletic Trainers' Committee. Fred Hoover, who was the Chair of the Task Force, was asked to Chair this new committee and he accepted. The other members of this Task Force were also asked to be members of this new committee. The RMATA Representative, Dianne Goodridge, is to be commended for the tremendous job she did representing our district.
  - E. PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE: The PEC is downsizing and there will also be some changes regarding the direction of accrediting programs. Effective August of 1996, there will no longer be a graduate route to certification. It is felt that one should have the necessary credentials for certification before getting to graduate school. This does not mean that there will not be graduate athletic training programs, but certification will not be an issue for those particular programs.
  - F. OUT GOES CAHEA AND IN COMES CAAHEP: The American Medical Association is disbanding its Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation (CAHEA) as of June 30, 1994. CAHEA has been responsible for accrediting our undergraduate programs. Beginning July 1, 1994 a new allied health professions educational accrediting body to be known as the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Educational Programs

(CAAHEP), will be accrediting its first review committee recommendations for program accreditation in the Fall of 1994. The NATA will have two seats on this committee with opportunity for more voice. At the program level, nothing will change.

G. CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP: The NATA has taken a long, hard look at its corporate sponsorship philosophy and have developed a solid, strong philosophy to enter into corporate sponsor agreements. This reorganization has led to the development of three levels of sponsorship participation, which are as follows:

Official Sponsor : the highest level, includes national brands like Gatorade, Johnson & Johnson and Tinactin.

Official Supplier: manufacturers of athletic training supplies and equipment not sold to the general public... for example whirlpools, ankle braces and training tables.

Convention Partner: exhibitors at the Annual Meeting who want to support the NATA and participate in convention events.

H. FINANCES: The NATA financial situation undergone some improvements over the past years. A little over a years ago there was a dues increase, corporate money has been moved out of the operating budget, the legal defense fund has been established and money has been put into it with the intention to not spend it except for necessary legal actions. (An initial deposit of \$200,000.00 has been placed into this account and it is hoped that this can be duplicated each year). The national office has done an excellent job of financial management, money is not being wasted, we are getting our money's worth, they are doing things that are very valuable for us. Corporate funding that has been regained is being put into nonbudgeted, non-operating expenses, such as a new PR campaign, while a portion of this corporate funding is going to each District.

I. FUTURE NATA ANNUAL MEETINGS: The schedule for future Annual Meeting is as follows:

1994 in Dallas, Texas

1995 in Indianapolis, Indiana

1996 in Orlando, Florida

1997 in Salt Lake City, Utah

1998 in Baltimore, Maryland

1999 in Kansas City, Missouri

J. NATA COMMITTEE TERMS LIMITED: In the past it was possible for one to be appointed to a committee and die on a committee. One could be on a particular committee forever, sometimes that was very beneficial and sometime not. The NATA Board would like to get more members involved and thus have instituted a term limit on NATA committees. This policy applies to Committee Chairs as well as Committee Members. Beginning in 1995 term limits for Committee Members will be three (3) years, with the option of serving two (2) terms. The term limits for Committee Chairs will be four (4) years, with the option of serving two (2) terms.

K. AMERICAN ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION (AATA): The legal battle with AATA continues. A little over one year ago the courts ruled in favor of the NATA with regard to trademark infringement, as well as a variety of other issues. However, in spite of the court ruling, the AATA has continued to bombard a variety of people which is in contempt of the court order. At the beginning of February we were back in court to ask for a contempt of court citation, which the NATA won. AATA will be responsible for paying

the court costs (well above \$50,000), as well as a yet undecided monetary award to the NATA.

Up until this last court appearance, the NATA was not sure how many individuals we involved with the AATA. As it turns out, the court records indicate that there are a little over 450 people in the entire organization.

The NATA Board and the NATA Legal Counsel have fought very hard in dealing with this issue and would like to commend the membership for informing your District Director when coming in contact with AATA. The network and communication have worked extremely well.

L. **SURVEYS:** In the near future, surveys will be sent out from the Clinical/Industrial/Corporate Athletic Trainers' Committee and the Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee. They are attempting to send out very sound surveys in an attempt gather information dealing with each respective practice setting.

M. **SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETIC TRAINERS' COMMITTEE POSITION STATEMENT:** The NATA Board has accepted the following position statement from the Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee:

The National Athletic Trainers' Association, Inc., as a leader in health care for the physically active believe that the prevention and treatment of injuries to student-athletes are a priority. The recognition and treatment of injuries to student-athletes must be immediate. The medical delivery system for injured studentathletes needs a coordinator within the local school community who will facilitate the prevention, recognition, treatment and reconditioning of sports related injuries. Therefore, it is the position of the National Athletic Trainers' Association, Inc., that all high schools should provide the services of a Certified Athletic Trainer (A.T.,C.) to student-athletes.

The Secondary School Athletic Trainers' Committee is to be commended for their work and progress they have made.

N. **GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE:** Bill introduced Governance Task Force Member, Bill Chambers to conduct the explanation and discussion focusing on the proposed by-law changes for the NATA.

The reason the NATA needs to change the current governance document is because they are very out dated. They were good in their day, but as the years have gone by and we have grown, new procedures needed to be implemented. The mission of the Governance Task Force is to put into place current and up to date Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, and Policies and Procedures Manual. (The by-laws will take the place of the current constitution, and the policies and procedures will take the place of the current bylaws. This is necessary due to the incorporated status of the NATA.) Communication is very important in dealing with these proposed changes as the procedures in these new By-Laws call for two way communication in various areas to keep the membership apprised of matters that directly affect them and to also allow the membership the opportunity for input through their respective District Director. The attempt is to make the NATA a more democratic organization, not less democratic. In doing so, all key business decisions will be presented to the membership of each district where key discussion occurs.

The Governance Task Force was established in 1992, in Denver, with the time table of completing these revision in one years. That time table has been revised and it is hoped by

January 1, 1995 the new By-Laws will be in place. These proposed By-Laws change the concept of governance by trying to make the decision making flow from the grass root level (district membership) up to the District Director level. By-Laws are to contain only the central, critical provisions and procedures. In an attempt to keep the members informed, the Governance Task Force sent out a survey to selected members to try to get a feel of what the members wanted to do. The second step was to have the Town Hall Meeting last year in Kansas City, along with a meeting with all the State Presidents. The purpose of these meetings was to make the membership aware of what was going on and to ask for feedback concerning the proposed governance changes. The third step was to send a Governance Task Force Representative to each District Meeting to present the findings of the surveys to the district membership. And this year a Governance Task Force Representative will attend each district meeting to present and discuss the proposed By-Law changes. Everything that will be presented concerning the proposed By-law changes can be found in the February 1994 Issue of the NATA Mews. Each District received the exact same information (Governance Task Force action plan and summary, current Constitution, proposed By-Law changes, and a explanation of the proposed changes), so that all the information being presented would be the same across the board. There will be another Town Hall Meeting this June in Dallas to give the membership another opportunity to discuss this issue further. Once all the details have been worked out and the proposed By-law changes have been accepted, the plan of action is as follows. First, the NATA will "unincorporated" in the state of North Carolina and then incorporate in the state of Texas. Once this incorporation becomes effective, the current Constitution will be out dated and the new proposed By-Laws will become the governance document of the Association. The current By-Laws will then become the basis for the Policies and Procedures Manual. The subsequent explanation and discussion focused on the proposed By-Laws found in the NATA News February 1994.

After having read through this proposed document, as an active Member of RMATA, Inc. and NATA District 7, please feel free to contact Bill Lyons, Scott Linaker or your State President to voice your opinions and concerns.

Questions from the floor concerning the proposed By-Laws.

Q: You say you have to consult with the membership before things can be changed. Consult, doesn't mean that we have to agree.

Q: If one Board member asked one of his members, "What do you think about this?", and gets an opinion, is that considered consulting?

A: On something like that, when we say consult, we are not saying consult with one or two people. What we want to do is to have communication at the grass roots level, at a district meeting or through a newsletter. Membership means multiple members.

Q: Could these more specific things be taken care of in the policies and procedures?

A: They could be, yes.

As most of these issues do, they go right back to the district level in an attempt to make it

more democratic process. Consult might not be a good word to use.

What we did was to get the governance documents from all the districts and taken the better parts from the various districts and put them in this document (proposed by-laws). And hopefully none of the districts governance documents will conflict with this one, legally they are not suppose to.

With no further questions or concerns, it was determined through an active vote of confidence, that the voting members of the RMATA and NATA District 7 in attendance support these proposed By-Laws.

O. OTHER BUSINESS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR:

Q: There are some members in our district that would certainly like to have some clarification on the internship versus the curriculum route, and how long this situation is going to last, and is there going to be any input on that?

A: There have been ongoing discussion between some of the Board members and other Boards regarding numbers, quality of individuals that are exiting (not distinguishing between internship and curriculum, but the profession as a whole), and where we need to be headed with those types of issues. By June, we hope to develop a body of people to address those kinds of issues, drawing from our membership, the NATA Board, the Board of Certification and the PEC.

Q: Will there be some internship people involved with that and not just all PEC?

A: Absolutely.

Q: Where does the Board stand, what is the Boards understanding of the internship programs right now? We have heard a lot of rumors that our internship programs are in trouble.

A: No, there has been no discussion one way or the other. There is no Board opinion. There has not been an agenda item concerning this issue outside the fact that we have a variety of people in our association who are concerned about this issue.

Q: Was this discussed in Chicago?

A: Yes. What we decided as a Board was that there was enough concern about those issues that they needed to be looked at. There is a need to look at these issues because there were some statistics coming from the Board of Certification about concerns that both routes were having regarding their individual educational settings. Therefore there is a move forward with that task force concept to look at this sort of thing. As far as a Board opinion, there is none. We have an opinion that we need to look at it and address it because it is an issue. It's an issue of numbers, it's an issue with the quality of people who are educated in our programs.

Q: Will we have a chance to respond to this?

A: Absolutely.

A: The Board of Directors and your President do not have a concrete opinion and we have not discussed specifics other than the fact that there are issues and concerns which need to be discussed. There is an indication that these concerns can certainly be answered and dealt with without dramatically wiping out half of the student trainer population for example.

Response from Bruce Kola: From a BOC Task Force perspective, there is not enough data yet to get excited about much of anything. The only thing I would ask of our Director is that when the data is presented, that it be presented in a way that is supplementary correct so that people have not in any way, shape or form manipulated the numbers, the ends they are using or the data base they are using and be crystal clear before any decision is made.

Q: Has there been a question brought up by our accreditation agency, the AMA or any other association.

A: No. There are challenges periodically, from other associations that would question the strength of some of our credentialing. Not somebody like our accreditation agency, CAHEA or those kinds of people. Any perceived changes that may need to be made will not be made quickly. If there are perceived changes necessary, then we need to come back to the membership, explain them and get input.

Q: If there is an accreditation problem, can they drop our internship program?

A: From Dan Libera: From an accreditation standpoint, whether it be with CAHEA or other accrediting agencies that accredit health professions, there is zero problem, in fact the accrediting agencies like health professions that have alternate routes to certification. So right now we are in full compliance. There is no accrediting body saying that you only should have one route to certification. The whole idea of internship as we all know, we hear this every year for the last umpteen years that the internship is being dropped, but with regard to the Board of Certification, NATA Board and CAHEA, other than looking at thing like we have to do to keep up with the times, we are just looking what the situation is right now. There are no plans to eliminate that route. There is no problem with our accrediting bodies what so ever.

Q: Is there an established fee schedule with the sponsorship structure or will that be determined individually by the national association?

A: There is a sponsorship range, but we have been asked to not go public with that information, because it affects their bargaining power, for example if the sponsor knows that they got this for this amount, then it may change what you can do with some other entity. It is in line with the recommended guidelines the task force established when they study what we could get for a variety of option.

**THE LINES OF COMMUNICATION ARE ALWAYS OPEN, LET THE RMATA BOARD KNOW ABOUT YOUR CONCERNS. GIVE THEM A CALL OR WRITE THEM A LETTER. MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!**

P. Meeting adjourned.