

“...Be an example YOU would be proud of.”
-unknown

I am sitting composing this letter and it is 60 degrees outside, although I realize the warmth will not last long since we are in the middle of December. By the time this letter reaches all of you, the new year will be upon us and we will be saying “where did 2011 go?” The weather will be drastically different and many of us will have made New Year resolutions. I hope the best for all of you in 2012.



John Locke, LAT, ATC

Many questions have been addressed by the membership concerning the concussion law passed at the last legislative session. The implications of this law from the state (Department of Education) have been questioned as they draft educational material for the schools and parents. These documents are focused to the secondary school population but can be extrapolated to all populations in Indiana. I would like to shed some light on this topic as the IATA has been in close contact with the DOE as they drafted the information. First and foremost, the IATA has the best interest of the licensed athletic trainer in mind when this information is disseminated. Legally, our scope of practice describes that we, as licensed athletic trainers are under the direction of a physician. With this in mind, all of our duties revolve around the physician and his/her orders. Granted, we do not call a physician for every ice bag, hot pack or taping /bracing we perform in the everyday operations of our athletic training rooms. However, the physician is bound legally to those decisions we make daily. As we look at the concussion law and the DOE fact sheet to be released in May, the first question deals with who can disqualify a student athlete for a possible head injury and the relationship the licensed athletic trainer can play in this process. An excerpt from the DOE fact sheet explains these points.

1. Can an athletic trainer do an initial assessment of a student athlete that has had a bump, blow or jolt to the head or body?

Yes, if a student athlete has had a bump, blow or jolt to the head or body, the student may be assessed by an athletic trainer, if available. The athletic trainer can make a first assessment of the student athlete at the time of injury. If the student exhibits any of the danger signs associated with head concussion, the student athlete should receive immediate medical attention.

If during this initial assessment, the student athlete does not exhibit any of the danger signs associated with head concussion, but does exhibit any (even one) of the signs or symptoms of a head concussion, a head concussion is suspected. At that time, the student

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Indiana Athletic Trainers Association

WWW.IATA-USA.ORG

The IATA is recognized by the Indiana State Medical Association Commission on Sports Medicine and the Governor's Council for Physical Fitness and Sports Medicine.

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Upcoming Issue

Content Due	Newsletter Out
February 15	March 1
<i>Date Subject to Change</i>	

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For information covered in this electronic newsletter or to submit articles or ideas, please contact the IATA Communications Chair:

Betsy Halwes
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Memorials

Please forward all notices of memorials to:

Jeff Stein, LAT, ATC, DPT
jstein@purdue.edu

athlete should be removed from play, the athlete's parents should be notified, and the athlete should not return to play until he/she is evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and head injuries, and the "Head Concussion Evaluation and Release to Play Form for Licensed Health Care Providers" is completed.

The second point stipulates that an EMT cannot be the evaluator but only the transporter of the student athlete that has a suspected concussion.

2. Can EMS personnel do an initial assessment for a student athlete that has had a bump, blow or jolt to the head or body?

No, if EMS personnel are called to the scene, they will document the observed and reported signs and symptoms of the student athlete and provide care following the protocols established by their medical director. If called to the scene, EMS personnel will not determine whether a student athlete may return to play, but will transport a student athlete who is suspected of having a concussion or head injury to the nearest hospital.

The third point is the most confusing in the material that will be distributed. The physician is the health care provider as stated in the legal code. Licensed Athletic Trainers are health care professionals. Many of us think (and I am one of them) that we are experienced enough to make a "return to play" decision for a student athlete that has been diagnosed with a head injury/concussion. However, under our practice act; we are still under the supervision of a physician. The physician who has been trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and head injuries has the authority to clear the student athlete to the "return to play" status. We as licensed athletic trainers will put the athlete through a series of sport specific tests, drills and protocols to determine if the student athlete can return safely. With this information and the clearance (in writing on the appropriate form) from the designated physician, the student athlete will be able to return to play. I think those who have questioned this document have valid points. However, the wordage of the legal system and our practice act in accordance with our scope of practice states we are under the direct supervision of a physician. With this in mind, the licensed athletic trainer is the conduit for the assessment of a head related injury AND the final piece in the "return to play" guidelines as directed from the appropriate physician.

3. Are there important legal considerations for the phrase – "licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and head injuries"?

Yes, there are three distinct criteria a person must meet in order to qualify under this definition:

- Must have a license given by a governmental agency that regulates a specific profession
- Must be listed in Indiana Code as a health care provider
- Must have training in the evaluation and management of concussions and head injuries

By law, for a person to be able to sign a written clearance in order for the athlete to return to play after a suspected head concussion, the person must meet all three of the above criteria.

All this being said... any other concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me.

As President, it has always been my goal to continue to increase the strong commitment of our members and add additional energetic athletic trainers from all parts of the state to assist the ongoing leadership activities we have in place and yet to come. If any of you have the desire to help in any way, please contact me (jlocke4@indy.rr.com). Opportunities are many. If you are interested in serving on a committee (listed on the web site, www.iata-usa.org), helping organize an event, or learning how our organization works; there are spots for you in our association. We are a volunteer organization and your participation is very important to our success.

Now it is time to start thinking about nominees for the IATA awards presented in October at the Fall Meeting. Please visit the website (www.iata-usa.org) to review the criteria for the awards and nominate deserving IATA members for the appropriate awards.

The Executive Board values your opinions and we would like to hear about any new ideas, concerns, or comments from our members. You can reach any of the Executive Board members by email or by phone. (www.iata-usa.org) Please keep in mind the importance of acting professional in our daily duties, giving the best care possible, and having a passion for our profession as representatives from our Association. We are recognized by our personal approach to people and our commitment to our profession.

As always, follow your heart and be of great service to others.

*John Locke, EdD, LAT, ATC
jlocke4@indy.rr.com
President, IATA*



National Athletic Training Month:

March is fast approaching! Don't forget about National Athletic Training Month and this year's theme: "Athletic Trainers Save Lives." Make sure you report any NATM events to Communications Chair, Betsy Halwes. Please send a synopsis of your event and any pictures you have. Watch for more information about NATM events sponsored by the IATA!



GLATA Updates:

SAVE the date! The GLATA Winter Meeting will be held at the Westin Chicago North Shore in Wheeling, IL on March 15th-17th. Check the GLATA website for more information.

GLATA Election results have been announced. In case you missed it: Craig Voll, President-Elect and Laura Harris, Secretary.



Hit the Hill:

Capitol Hill Day 2012 is Thursday, February 23rd and Friday, February 24th. See the NATA website for further information and registration.

IATA

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Indiana Athletic Trainers Association

From the History and Archives Committee:

Thanks to the nudging of Roger Kalisiak, former GLATA Hx and Archives Chair, and the help of Denny Miller and Larry Leverenz....our own Pinky Newell, Denny Miller and Larry Leverenz have a place in a history showcase in the newly renovated Mackey Arena on Purdue University's campus.

Pinky is mentioned that he is known as "The Father of Modern Athletic Training" along with Denny Miller being noted as an NATA President (1995-97) and Larry Leverenz is noted as President of CAAHEP (1999-2002) and World Federation of Athletic Training and Therapy (2011-17). (see photo).



PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

While this building has been the home for some incredible basketball over its history, it has also provided a home base for some exceptional leadership in various areas of intercollegiate athletics. Purdue staff members with office space in Mackey have provided national leadership in several different areas.

Long-time Purdue athletic trainer William "Pinky" Newell is considered the "Father of Modern Athletic Training," serving as executive secretary for the NATA (National Athletic Trainers Association), essentially running the one-man operation out of his Purdue office for 13 years. The organization now has an administrative staff of 40 people in Dallas, servicing 30,000-plus members, who provide athletic training expertise at all levels of competition worldwide.

At least six Purdue staff members with offices in Mackey Arena have served as presidents of their respective national organizations:

- Gene Keady, President of NABC (National Association of Basketball Coaches) in 2000-01
- George King, President of NACDA (National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics) in 1982-83
- Larry Leverenz, President of CAAHEP (Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Program) in 1999-2002 and President of World Federation of Athletic Training & Therapy in 2011-2017
- Denny Miller, President of NATA (National Athletic Trainers Association) in 1995-97
- Terry Schlatter, President of AEMA (Athletic Equipment Managers Association) in 1994-2000
- Jim Vrugink, President of CUSIDA (Collegiate Sports Information Directors of America) in 1996-97

Several other staff members with offices in Mackey Arena have served in leadership roles in professional organizations at the regional, state, and community levels, usually as add-ons to the Purdue duties and without additional compensation.



IATA Executive Committee Election Results

The IATA recently concluded a very successful election period for the executive committee offices of president-elect, secretary, and treasurer. A total of 11 candidates were nominated and sought election into the three offices. The voting period was open December 1 through 31 with a total of 27% of eligible IATA members voting. The newly elected officers are:

President-Elect: Brad Gerig, MS, LAT, ATC
Secretary: Christine Lauber, EdD, LAT, ATC
Treasurer: Jennifer Brennan, LAT, ATC

Brad Gerig currently works as a clinical athletic trainer and physician extender with Methodist Sports Medicine Center/The Orthopedic Specialist where he has employed since 1988. Brad has experience working with all levels of athletes and was the Head Athletic Trainer for the Indiana Firebirds of the Arena Football League from 2001-2003. He has been involved previously within the IATA as a member of the Revenue Committee. Brad received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Athletic Training and Business Management from Anderson University and a Master of Arts degree in Physical Education/Sports Medicine from Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Dr. Christine Lauber is an associate professor and is the clinical education coordinator at the University of Indianapolis where she has been since 2001. Dr. Lauber also serves as an assistant athletic trainer for the University working with the track and field team. She has been the IATA Scholarship Committee Chair since 2006. Dr. Lauber received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Athletic Training and Health from Ohio Northern University, a Master of Arts degree in Exercise Science from Central Michigan University, her Educational Specialist degree in Higher Education Leadership from Marshall University, and a Doctor of Education degree in Educational Administration from West Virginia University.

Jennifer Brennan is currently employed by St. Vincent Sports Performance and works as an athletic trainer at Pike High School in Indianapolis. Additionally, she works as an assistant athletic trainer for the Indiana Fever. Jennifer has served as a NATA Home Study reviewer since 2010 and is a graduate of the University of Indianapolis.

The newly elected officers will assume their duties with the IATA in April 2012 and each serve a two-year term. Thank you to all the candidates who participated in the election and thank you to all the members who took the time to vote.



Join us for a Night at the Ice to Celebrate National Athletic Training Month!

Saturday, March 31st

Pepsi Coliseum

7:05 PM Game Time

Harris Bank Suite

Be sure to arrive early for dinner and to watch our special guests Drop the Puck!

Charges: \$15 for a member and \$25 for non-members

Watch for more information to come through E-blasts



CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SPORTS MEDICINE

PRESENTED BY ST. VINCENT SPORTS PERFORMANCE AND ÖSSUR AMERICAS

Please join Össur Americas and St. Vincent Sports Performance for a dinner event! This event is designed for Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, and Pediatric physicians, and Athletic Trainers.

AGENDA:

- 5:30 – 6:00** Registration and Cocktail Hour
- 6:00 – 6:15** Welcome
Ralph Reiff, MEd, ATC, LAT
Executive Director, St. Vincent Sports Performance
Marje Albohm, MS, ATC
President NATA, Director Clinical Research & Fellowships, Össur Americas
- 6:15 – 7:00** Dinner
- 7:00 – 7:20** Managing Concussions
Pat Kersey, MD
- 7:20 – 7:40** PRP – What do we know?
David Harsha, MD
- 7:40 – 8:00** Product Review
- 8:00 – 8:20** Psychological Issues with Athletic Injuries
Chris Carr, PhD, HSPP
- 8:20 – 8:40** Assessing Movement for Injury Prevention
Todd Arnold, MD
- 8:40 – 8:55** Ankle Taping vs Bracing; What Research is Saying and Value Analysis
Jon Grant, MS, ATC, LAT
- 8:55 – 9:00** Question & Answer

FACULTY:

Pat Kersey, MD
Performance Medicine Specialist

David Harsha, MD
Medical Director
St Vincent Sports Performance

Todd Arnold, MD
Performance Medicine Specialist

Jon Grant, MS, ATC, LAT
Manager of Athletic Training Outreach

Chris Carr, PhD, HSPP
Sport & Performance Psychologist

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2012

5:30PM – 9:00PM

**THE MARTEN HOUSE HOTEL
AND LILLY CONFERENCE CENTER**

1801 W. 86TH STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46260

Please RSVP to jbrooks@ossur.com by February 15, 2012



Össur is recognized by the Board of Certification, Inc. to offer continuing education for Certified Athletic Trainers. This program has been approved for a maximum of 2 hours of Category A continuing education. Certified Athletic Trainers are responsible for claiming only those hours actually spent participating in the CE activity.

BOC Approved Provider Number: P3843
Number of hours actually participated: 2



Life Without Limitations®

In the News

Athletic Trainers: Every School Should Have One (MomsTeam.com article)

Access the accompanying video:

<http://www.momsteam.com/atc/certified-athletic-trainers-every-school-should-have-one>

MomsTeam has long advocated that parents have the right to expect that a certified athletic trainer (AT) is on staff. An AT is so important that he or she should be the next hire after the head coach. According to a 2010 University of Michigan poll, two thirds of parents surveyed agree, supporting a requirement that high schools have an AT onsite for practices and games.

The ongoing incidence of youth sports injuries and catastrophic events resulting in death has highlighted a need for immediate and improved injury prevention and treatment at the high school level. Supported by 66 sports and health organizations, including MomsTeam.com, the Youth Sports Safety Alliance, formed by the National Athletic Trainers' Association, recently hosted, and MomsTeam attended (both as a member of the media and as a longtime youth sports safety advocate), the Third Annual Youth Sports Safety Summit on Capitol Hill.

The summit featured presentations by leading experts on preventing and managing catastrophic injuries in sport. Topics included concussions and catastrophic brain injuries, exertional heat stroke, exertional sickling, sudden cardiac arrest, asthma and, the important topic of emergency preparation and planning to ensure that a plan is in place if and when these events occur. The mission of the alliance is to raise awareness among the public, parents, coaches, legislators and media on the unacceptable number of catastrophic injuries occurring among this population, and to advocate for having a certified athletic trainer at every U.S. high school.

The reason is simple: an AT is the first line of defense against catastrophic injury or death in youth sports.

Read more:

<http://www.momsteam.com/atc/certified-athletic-trainers-every-school-should-have-one#ixzzliUvmxCWw>



Volunteer Opportunity

NCAA Division 3 Swimming and Diving Championships

March 19-24, 2012

Held at the IUPUI Natatorium.

Shifts available, please contact John Locke at jlocke4@indy.rr.com or 317-441-2788 for additional information and registration packets.