

Iota Tau Alpha

Athletic Training Education Honor Society

"We heal those contending for the prize"

Constitution

Article I – Name

The name of this society shall be Iota Tau Alpha Athletic Training Education Honor Society.

Article II – Purpose

The Purpose of Iota Tau Alpha Athletic Training Education Honor Society is the promotion and encouragement of scholarly activity in athletic training and the recognition of outstanding achievement among students enrolled in athletic training education programs. Iota Tau Alpha activities shall be designed to stimulate interest, scholarly attainment, and investigation in Athletic Training Education, and to promote the dissemination of information among students of Athletic Training Education.

Article III – Insignia

Section 1.

The official emblem of the Society shall consist of a statue of Nike encircled by a wreath and the three Latin initials of the organization underneath.

Section 2.

The coat of arms shall be that officially adopted by the founder – 2004.

Section 3.

The pattern copies of the emblem shall be the coat of arms maintained in the national archives official design.

Section 4.

The colors of the Iota Tau Alpha Society shall be red, yellow and blue.

Section 5.

The flower of the Iota Tau Alpha Society shall be a red rose of the type commonly referred to as The American Beauty.

Article IV – Membership

Section 1.

The membership shall be divided into six classes: regular, associate, graduate, honorary, alumna/us and corporate. Iota Tau Alpha is a non-discriminating organization that does not consider age, race, color, creed, sex, national origin or sexual preference.

Section 2.

Regular members shall:

- a) be students enrolled in Athletic Training Education at an institution where a chapter of Iota Tau Alpha is located,

- b) have completed at least 3 semesters of academic work toward the athletic training degree,
 - c) have completed at least three term courses in Athletic Training Education (one must be above introductory level) with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5,
 - d) rank no lower than the highest 35% of their class in cumulative grade point average,
 - e) be in good standing according to their program retention criteria.
- Only regular members may hold the constitutionally specified chapter offices, vote on chapter membership, and represent the chapter or vote at national conventions.

Section 3.

Graduate members shall:

- a) be a graduate student currently enrolled at an institution where there is a chapter or,
- b) a faculty members actively serving in Athletic Training Education.

Graduate members may participate in the local activities of any chapter except for the holding of constitutionally specified chapter offices and voting on chapter membership and national matters. Graduate members may attend state district or national conventions, and, upon special designation, represent their original chapter at a national convention. Graduate members shall not be eligible for undergraduate awards.

Section 4.

Associate members shall be those undergraduate students whose interests include Athletic Training Education in some significant way but who are ineligible for regular membership. Associate members shall be eligible to participate in all local, state, district, and national activities except those specifically reserved to regular members by this constitution.

Section 5.

Chapter honorary members may be elected by any Iota Tau Alpha Chapter in recognition of significant accomplishment as an athletic trainer, or outstanding service to the chapter.

Section 6.

Athletic Training Education majors who meet the criteria for regular membership and have graduated from an institution at which an Iota Tau Alpha Chapter is later granted may become alumna/us members of the new chapter. Regular members who have become inactive may become alumna/us members with payment of the appropriate fees.

Section 7.

Corporate members shall be corporations, institutions or other organizations which support education in Athletic Training Education. A corporation may be elected to membership by a majority of the National Executive Committee. Corporate members will receive a membership certificate for display. Also, each corporate member will also have the privilege of providing a display at the national, district, or state conventions.

Section 8.

National honorary members may be elected by the biennial convention on nomination by national officers. (Any member or chapter may propose prospective

nominees.) Such membership shall be reserved for persons of outstanding accomplishment and stature in the field of Athletic Training or Athletic Training Education or persons rendering outstanding service to Iota Tau Alpha.

Section 9.

Regular, graduate, and honorary members may wear the official insignia and shall remain members for life unless removed under the provisions of Section 13. Associate members who are affiliated with the local chapter may not wear the official insignia. Regular, graduate, and honorary members that do not meet membership qualifications for regular membership shall automatically terminate membership.

Section 10.

Members shall be nominated to various categories by a committee that includes both regular members and faculty. Election shall be by at least a majority vote of the regular members present at a regular meeting.

Section 11.

A regular member transferring from one institution to another shall be automatically eligible for membership in an Iota Tau Alpha Chapter in another institution unless the regular members do not qualify under the normally prescribed requirements of their new chapter.

Section 12.

Each chapter shall adopt specific membership requirements which are not in conflict with the requirements outlined in Section 2 and which are meaningful in the specific local situation. It is presumed that local chapters will require high standards of conduct in nominees and members. No person shall be refused nomination on any basis other than failure to meet requirements in this constitution or in chapter by-laws.

Section 13.

A regular member of an Iota Tau Alpha chapter may be removed from membership only for just cause by a vote of three-fourths of the entire voting membership. Any such removal must be approved by the chapter advisor (counselor) and is subject to appeal to the National Executive Committee.

Section 14.

Stated local membership requirements shall be submitted to the chapter advisor and the District Director for approval. In case of disagreement or conflict between local requirements or local action and this constitution, the matter shall be referred to the National President for Adjudication subject to final appeal to the National Executive Committee.

Section 15.

The National Executive Committee shall, from time to time, adopt by-laws, regulations and definitions as are necessary to accomplish the equitable and reasonable application of these provisions.

Article V – National Officers

Section 1.

The national officers shall be the President, Vice President, a Director for each District of the National Athletic Trainers' Association, and a Secretary-Treasurer. The President, Vice President, the last two Past Presidents, and the Secretary-Treasurer (Section 6) shall constitute the National Executive Committee.

Section 2.

Election of Officers will take place in September of each year. Each District Director will nominate one regular student member for election as an officer. The National Executive Committee will select six students to run in a national election conducted electronically through the NATA web site (www.nata.org). The top three students receiving votes will become, in order, the President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 3.

The President shall lead all activities of the Society. He/She shall preside at the convention and meetings of the Executive Committee and shall perform all other duties customarily associated with the office of President.

Section 4.

In case of absence, disability, or resignation of the President, the Vice President shall lead all activities of the Society. In the case of absence, disability, or resignation of the Vice President, the Executive Committee shall elect one of the Directors to fill the unexpired portion of the President's or Vice President's term in office.

Section 5.

The District Director position is filled by the District Director or their appointed designee for each District of the NATA.

Section 6.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for all record keeping of the Society. Records of the Society shall be kept at the national office of the NATA.

Article VI – Chapter Officers

Section 1.

Each chapter shall elect a president, a vice president, a secretary, a treasurer, and an historian from among its regular members.

Section 2.

The duties of these chapter officers shall be normally assigned through process of election and be delineated in chapter by-laws.

Section 3.

These officers should hold office for one year. The time of election and the time for assumption of duties shall be specified in the chapter by-laws.

Section 4.

An Iota Tau Alpha chapter shall at the same time it elects officers, elect a chapter advisor (counselor) from among the Athletic Training Education faculty. The advisor shall be, or shall become by this election, a graduate member. An advisor shall serve for a term of not more than three years but, may be re-elected. The prospective regular members of a new Iota Tau Alpha chapter shall elect the first advisor (counselor) prior to the installation of the chapter.

Section 5.

The chapter advisor (counselor) shall assist and advise the Iota Tau Alpha chapter and especially its officers in carrying out the chapter programs and aid in developing new policies and programs that contribute to its local effectiveness. He/She shall serve as permanent custodian of chapter records and funds in order that chapter records are maintained in good order and that each successive group of chapter officers is

informed of their responsibilities. He/She may delegate duties during the academic year but shall check and reclaim all records and funds at the close of each academic year.

Section 6.

Iota Tau Alpha Chapter officers are responsible for submitting promptly and in correct form such reports as are requested by the national and district officers. Chapter advisors shall review reports for accuracy prior to submission.

Article VII – Conventions

Section 1.

The Society shall hold a national convention annually at a place and time to be chosen by the preceding convention. This national convention may be a part of the annual meeting of a more inclusive regional or national group, or it may be held separately. The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for convention arrangements, agenda and programs.

Section 2.

The authorized delegates duly assembled in convention constitute the highest governing and legislative body of the Society subject to provisions of this constitution requiring or permitting a poll of the chapters.

Section 3.

Each Iota Tau Alpha chapter shall be entitled to three voting delegates. If a Iota Tau Alpha chapter has more than twenty-five regular members, the chapter may designate one additional delegate for each added ten regular members. If present at the convention the faculty advisor may be one of the delegates. The other designated delegates shall be regular members if possible but a chapter may designate graduate members as delegates if no regular members will be in attendance.

Section 4.

Each validated delegate shall have one vote on all motions put to the convention. Neither proxy voting or weighted voting shall be allowed.

Section 5.

Rather than making a final decision, a convention may pass on making a final decision and conduct polling of chapters which shall be conducted by the Executive Committee and the NATA. Similarly, the National Executive Committee may require that a substantive action be confirmed by a chapter poll.

Section 6.

Each district shall be expected to hold one or more district conventions each year. The District Director shall be responsible for insuring that such conventions occur at a suitable time and place. The primary purpose of such conventions shall be to offer an opportunity for members to present the results of their research activities to other members. Each district may organize its program and activities in such a way that facilitates its purpose.

Article VIII – Dissolution

Section 1.

In the event of the dissolution of Iota Tau Alpha Honor Society, the assets, if any, will be distributed to an organization that is exempt from Federal Income Tax or an organization described in 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, contributions to which

are deductible, or to the Federal Government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose.

Section 2.

Each chapter of Iota Tau Alpha Honor Society shall include a provision identical with Section 1 of these article VIII by-laws.

Article IX – By-Laws

The National Executive Committee shall, from time to time, adopt such by-laws as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this constitution. It shall be the purpose of the by-laws to state the specific procedures and practices in effect at that given time.

Article X – Amendments

Section 1.

Amendments of this constitution may be proposed by the National Executive Committee, any national officer or District Director, any chapter advisor, or any regular member in good standing. Any proposed amendment shall be submitted to the National President who shall submit the amendment to the next meeting of the National Executive Committee. The Committee shall report to the next national convention with its recommendations.

Section 2.

If a proposed amendment is approved by the majority of the validated delegates at the national convention, the amendment shall be submitted by the National Secretary to a poll of the individual chapters active as of the date of the convention. The amendment shall become effective if it is approved by two-thirds of those chapters.

Section 3.

A reply period of not less than sixty days nor more than ninety days shall be specified in the request for approval. The ballot shall be declared closed at the end of the specified time. The timing shall be such that any poll will be completed within the same academic year in which it is initiated.