

Insight into the

# NATA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

With 2023 being an election year, learn more about how the presidential candidates are selected

By NATA Presidential Election Oversight Commission

## TAKING PLACE EVERY THREE YEARS, 2023 IS A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEAR FOR THE NATA MEMBERSHIP

The 2023 presidential election cycle began in November 2022, with a memo sent to all eligible candidates requesting declarations of candidacy. According to the NATA Bylaws, to be eligible to run for president, an individual must be a certified member and must be a sitting district director or immediate past district director.

After completing the declaration of candidacy and nominating process, A.J. Duffy III, MS, ATC, PT, is NATA's new president-elect. In the coming months, members will have the opportunity to get to know Duffy and learn more about his platform.

To ensure members understand the election process and the steps that are taken to ensure a fair and equitable election, this article outlines how the candidates are selected each election cycle.

### Creating a Fair and Equitable Election

Before the start of the 2020 presidential election cycle, the NATA Presidential Election Procedures Workgroup was formed to improve the procedures around the NATA presidential election.

Composed of current and former NATA district directors, the workgroup examined the entire election process – from application review to campaigning – to see what was working and what could be improved to enhance member engagement while maintaining fairness and consistency.

At the workgroup's recommendation, the NATA Board of Directors moved the election cycle from June through September to January through July. After six months of campaigning and getting to know the candidates, 24.9% of eligible members voted in the 2020 presidential election, an increase from 21.9% during the 2017 election. Also, as a result, the NATA

Board of Directors approved sticking to this extended timeframe and turning the workgroup into the NATA Presidential Election Oversight Commission.

"We see voting in July becoming a special event month similar to National Athletic Training Month in March," said Tim Weston, MEd, ATC, chair of the 2020 workgroup and the new oversight commission. "We want all members to know that every three years, July is the time to vote for our next president and make your voice heard."

With the formation of the official presidential election oversight commission, the goal is to ensure a fair and equitable election process for all NATA presidential candidates. This starts with the presidential nomination process.

### Selecting the Two Candidates

While each election cycle begins with NATA sending a memo requesting declaration of candidacy from those who are

eligible, the next steps in the selection process depend on how many candidates declare candidacy:

- If more than two candidates declare, the NATA Presidential Nominating Committee will be convened and, with the candidates, attend the NATA Joint Committee Meeting in January for the next steps of the process.
- If only two candidates declare, the nominating committee will not be convened and the candidates will attend JCM to introduce themselves to the NATA leadership, kicking off their campaigns.
- If only one candidate declares, there won't be an election – they will be named the president-elect and start the shadowing process.

Although the new president-elect has already been identified, the following information outlines what happens if more than two

candidates declare and the NATA Presidential Nominating Committee is convened.

The NATA Presidential Nominating Committee would include the current and most immediate past director for each district. A district can appoint a proxy/proxies, if needed. It should be noted that individuals who declare candidacy can't serve on the NATA Presidential Nominating Committee.

During JCM, each candidate would address the NATA Presidential Nominating Committee during an open meeting chaired by the current NATA president.

During the meeting, each candidate has up to 10 minutes to outline why they are seeking nomination, what their vision would be as president and, ultimately, why they should be nominated. At the end, candidates would also be asked to answer the same set of questions.

After the presentations, the meeting moves into closed session and the candidates remain sequestered in private as the NATA Presidential Nominating Committee votes. Each

representative on the committee would rank the candidates in numerical order, with No. 1 representing the candidate they feel is most qualified. The current president also fills out a ballot, which is sealed and opened in the case of a tie.

The NATA executive director collects the ballots and takes them into another room to be tabulated with the assistance of NATA's accounting firm.

After the votes have been tabulated and verified, the NATA president notifies all candidates as well as the nominating committee of the results. NATA then notifies the membership of the final two candidates on its communication channels.

### Stay Tuned For More Information

More information about Duffy will be shared with members in the coming months.

Stay tuned to NATA's communication channels to learn more. 

## The NATA Presidential Election Oversight Commission

- Tim Weston, MEd, ATC, Chair
- Tony Fitzpatrick, MA, LAT, ATC
- MaryBeth Horodyski, EdD, LAT, ATC, FNATA
- Lyn Nakagawa, MS, ATC, CSCS
- Cari Wood, LAT, ATC

## Manual Therapy Training for Sports-Related Injuries



### UPLEDGER'S IN-PERSON CLASSES:

#### CranioSacral Therapy I (CSI)

*\*This is a Lab Class. Prerequisite is a 2-Day CSI-VC (CranioSacral Therapy I: Lecture Content; Distance Instruction).*

Bozeman, MT	Feb 9 - 12, 2023
Baltimore, MD	Feb 9 - 12, 2023
Los Angeles, CA*	Feb 11 - 12, 2023
Montreal, QC*	Feb 11 - 12, 2023
Denver, CO	Feb 23 - 26, 2023
Calgary, AB	Mar 9 - 12, 2023
Fresno, CA	Mar 9 - 12, 2023
Des Moines, IA*	Mar 11 - 12, 2023
Houston, TX	Mar 16 - 19, 2023
Detroit, MI	Mar 16 - 19, 2023
Portland, ME	Mar 23 - 26, 2023
Salt Lake City, UT	Mar 23 - 26, 2023
Albany, NY	Mar 23 - 26, 2023
Asheville, NC	Mar 30 - Apr 2, 2023

### BARRAL'S IN-PERSON CLASSES:

#### Visceral Manipulation: Abdomen I (VMI)

Bozeman, MT	Feb 2 - 5, 2023
Palm Beach, FL	Feb 16 - 19, 2023
St. Louis, MO	Feb 16 - 19, 2023
Big Sur, CA	Mar 5 - 10, 2023
Chicago, IL	Mar 30 - Apr 2, 2023
Tucson, AZ	Apr 13 - 16, 2023
Ann Arbor, MI	Jun 1 - 4, 2023
Eugene, OR	Jun 8 - 11, 2023
Philadelphia, PA	Jun 8 - 11, 2023

#### Neuromeningeal Manipulation: An Integrative Approach to Trauma (NMI)

Toronto, ON	Feb 10 - 12, 2023
Boston, MA	Feb 17 - 19, 2023
Denver, CO	Mar 10 - 12, 2023
New York, NY	Mar 24 - 26, 2023

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