



## **NATA Statement April 2026**

The National Athletic Trainers' Association is aware of the unfortunate situation involving athletic training services at a secondary school sporting event.

While we do not have visibility into the full details, situations like this highlight an ongoing challenge in secondary school athletics: ensuring student-athletes are supported by consistent, well-structured health care systems.

Athletic trainers are highly trained health care professionals who play a critical role in planning and overseeing injury prevention, emergency response and ongoing care. However, effective care depends on appropriate planning, training and adherence to clear policies, and administrative support.

Student-athlete safety cannot rely on isolated event coverage alone. It requires comprehensive systems that support both the patient and the provider.

NATA remains committed to advancing policies and practices that strengthen these systems and support the athletic trainers who lead them.