

NATIONAL ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.
Board of Directors Web Conference Meeting Minutes
12:00 p.m. Central Time
August 24, 2026

Board

A.J. Duffy III, MS, ATC, PT, President - *absent*
David Gallegos, MA, ATC, Cert. MDT, President-elect
Ryan Wilkinson, EdD, ATC, CAE, Vice President
Rusty McKune, MS, ATC, Secretary/Treasurer
Vicky Graham, DAT, LAT, ATC
Christina Emrich, MS, LAT, ATC
Ray Davis, Jr., MSS, LAT, ATC
Scott Lawrance, DHSc, LAT, ATC
Lorna Strong, EdD, LAT, ATC
Valerie Herzog, EdD, LAT, ATC
Cindy Clivio, M.Ed, ATC
Chris King, LAT, ATC
Kasee Hildenbrand, PhD, LAT, ATC

Staff

Mollie Pillman, MS, MBA, CAE
Jerry Albano
Drew Caffey
Karly Foster, M.Ed.
Deanna Kuykendall
Lori Marker, CMP, CEM
Dylan Orrell
Jess Price
Katie Scott, MS, ATC, CAE
Tricia Sutherland
Jessica Porter

Incoming Directors

Jenni Wheeler-Johnson, MS, LAT, ATC
Sam Johnson, PhD, ATC
Michael Moll, MEd, LAT, ATC

Guests

Jen Sturtevant, MBA, LAT, ATC, Chair, DEIA Council
Lynne Young, MEd, LAT, ATC, BOC Liaison
Gary Hanna, MS, LAT, ATC, CAATE Liaison
Michael Goldenberg, MS, LAT, ATC, Vice President, NATA Foundation
Doug Casa, PhD, ATC, KSI
Ty Hopkins, PhD, ATC, JAT
Stephanie Singe, PhD, ATC, FNATA, ATEJ/JAT-EP

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CALL TO ORDER

President Duffy could not attend; therefore, Vice President Wilkinson conducted the meeting. Vice President Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Eleven of the eleven voting members were present. The requirements for a quorum were met. Vice President Wilkinson recused himself from the board votes conducted during the meeting.

OPENING REMARKS

Vice President welcomed the Board, representatives of the AT Alliance, and guests to the call. The Board expressed its appreciation to Dylan Orrell, director of marketing, for his years of dedicated service to NATA and wished him continued success in his future endeavors.

PRIDE POINTS

Vice President Wilkinson opened the floor for the board and guests to share their recent highlights.

CONSENT AGENDA

Appropriate information on the following items were provided to the Board through background materials, e-ballots or previous discussions. With no objections raised, the consent agenda was approved. It included:

- **APPROVE JUNE 2026 BOARD MEETING MINUTES (ALL)**
 - **APPROVE ALYSON HANSBARGER (D2) AS ATHLETIC TRAINING AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MEMBER EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**
 - **APPROVE FRANCESCA PRESTIA (D9) AS COPA COMMUNITY OUTREACH PANEL CHAIR EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**
 - **APPROVE BLAISE KRILEY (D5) AS GAC CHAIR EFFECTIVE JUNE 2027.**
 - **APPROVE STEVE STAAB (D11) AS ICSM DIII PANEL CHAIR EFFECTIVE JUNE 2027**
- MOTION, SECOND, PASSED (10-0-1) (ABSTAIN = D11)**

AT ALLIANCE PARTNER UPDATES

AT Alliance Partners submitted a written report, which was provided in the Dropbox ahead of the meeting, allowing for questions to be answered.

KOREY STRINGER INSTITUTE (KSI) REPORT

Doug Casa, CEO, presented a comprehensive update on KSI's work, highlighting the completion of Tuffs 1.0 which resulted in 463 policy changes across 51 states, with every state except two having at least one policy change. He outlined Tuffs 2.0, a six-pronged initiative to ensure policy implementation through education courses, implementation toolkits, and emergency planning resources. Casa also provided updates on KSI's Innovate project, which has received \$6 million in funding to bring athletic training services to underserved communities, and announced new partnerships including a satellite facility at the University of North Florida and a partnership with The Hartford for workers' compensation services.

NATA JOURNAL UPDATE

Journal of Athletic Training (JAT) Report

Ty Hopkins, editor-in-chief, provided a brief update on the JAT, noting significant changes ahead with a new publisher model.

Journal of Athletic Training Education and Practice (ATEJ/JAT-EP) Report

Stephanie Singe, editor-in-chief, reported positive developments with the ATEJ/JAT-EP, including CINAHL indexing and increased submissions following a name change.

Following a closed session, Vice President Wilkinson adjourned the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

Submitted by:


Rusty McKune, Secretary/Treasurer
NATA Board of Directors