

**FINAL APPROVED**

**ADVISORY BOARD ON ATHLETIC TRAINING  
MINUTES**

**October 4, 2018**

The Advisory Board on Athletic Training met on Thursday, October 4, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sara Whiteside, AT, Chair  
Michael Puglia, AT  
Jeffrey Roberts, MD

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Deborah B. Corbatto, AT, Vice-Chair  
Trilizsa Trent

**STAFF PRESENT:** William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director  
Colanthia Morton Opher, Deputy for Administration  
Elaine Yeatts, DHP Senior Policy Analyst

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Scott Powers, VATA  
Chris Young, VATA  
Tanner Howell, VUU/VATA  
Kristian Hill, VATA  
Chris Jones  
Caitlin Carnell, MD, PGY-4

**CALL TO ORDER**

Sara Whiteside called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

**EMERGENCY EGRESS PROCEDURES**

Dr. Harp announced the Emergency Egress Instructions.

**ROLL CALL**

Colanthia Opher called the roll, and a quorum was declared.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 7, 2018**

Mr. Puglia moved to approve the minutes of June 7, 2018 as presented. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

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### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Puglia asked that the agenda be amended to include a discussion of the CDC Recommendations from the 2018 Guidelines on the Diagnosis and Management of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Among Children. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

All comments received were from VATA members requesting clarity on the definition of direction by a physician of an athletic trainer.

Ms. Yeatts stated that there is language in the regulation that provides direction to students, but no definitive definition of what the physician, the athletic trainer and the patient can expect in terms of “direction.”

It was noted that there has been some difficulty with third party reimbursement. Some payers view the AT practice act to be too vague with medical direction poorly defined, and do not see AT services as being medically supported.

Dr. Harp stated that there are advantages to the scope of practice being vague; making it too specific could have unintended consequences.

After discussion, Ms. Yeatts stated that the fact that there is no language to define “direction” is problematic. She suggested that during the review of the regulations, the Advisory Board should recommend language to address this issue, and as long as the definition does not restrict the practice and would protect the public, it should be able to be added. She also noted that once the proposal has been adopted by the Board of Medicine, it may help the AT community with their issue.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Periodic review of regulations**

Ms. Yeatts advised that the Board is required to review the regulations every 4 years. Notice of the review was posted, and one comment was received. However, it was noted that the comment was not in direct relation to the periodic review, but a concern about oversight of AT’s that travel with teams.

After a brief discussion, Ms. Yeatts walked the members through each section of the regulations and the following notations were made:

**18VAC85-120-30. Current name and address.**

Ms. Yeatts advised that to permit the Board of send an electronic renewal notice to the licensee, the word “mailed” would be changed to “sent”.

**18VAC85-120-35. Fees.**

Ms. Yeatts stated that due to a significant surplus held by the Board of Medicine, the upcoming renewal fees for the next biennium have been reduced.

**18VAC85-120-10. Definitions.**

Ms. Yeatts suggested that the definition of direction be included as **noted** below:

“Practice of athletic training” means the prevention, recognition, evaluation, and treatment of injuries or conditions related to athletic, recreational or occupational activity that requires physical skill and utilizes strength, power, endurance, speed, flexibility, range of motion or agility immediately upon the onset of such injury or condition; and subsequent treatment and rehabilitation of such injuries or conditions **under the direction of the patient’s physician or under the direction of any doctor of medicine, osteopathy, chiropractic, podiatry, or dentistry**, while using heat, light, sound, cold, electricity, exercise or mechanical or other devices.

Mr. Puglia moved that the above language be submitted to the full Board of Medicine for approval. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**There were no additional proposed amendments to the regulations.**

**2. Board Member Badges**

Dr. Harp announced that badges will no longer be issued to Board members. Members will be provided a badge to use while they are onsite and will turn them in prior to leaving the building.

**3. 2019 Meeting Calendar**

Ms. Opher asked that any conflicts be given to her as soon as possible so she can find an alternate date.

**4. Election of Officers**

Ms. Whiteside nominated Mr. Puglia for Chair; the nomination was seconded and carried unanimously. Mr. Puglia nominated Ms. Corbatta as Vice-Chair; the nomination was seconded and carried unanimously.

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**5. CDC Recommendation from 2018 Guidelines on the Diagnosis and Management of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Among Children**

Mr. Puglia advised that the recommendations follow what athletic trainers already know. The one change was in the language. It was decided that the word “concussion” be replaced with the term “mild traumatic brain injury” across the board.

This topic was for informational purposes only and did not require any action.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Opher provided the license count for ATs.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

January 24, 2019 at 10 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

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Sara Whiteside, AT, Chair

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William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director

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Colanthia M. Opher, Recording Secretary