

**CONSTITUTION and STANDING RULES
FOR THE
SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION
(Approved July 2009)**

Introduction and Purpose

The purpose of the Constitution and Standing Rules is to maintain a record of the organizational plan of the Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association (SWATA). The Constitution will define the elements of the SWATA; the Standing Rules will fully define the Officer's Duties, Committee Purposes and Assignments, Membership Fees, Meeting Criteria, Calendar of Events, and a Record of Action Taken by Membership and Executive Board.

The contents of the manual are set by the Executive Board and unless otherwise noted can be changed with a majority vote of the Executive Board. The Standing Rules can not be changed to conflict with the Constitution. Any changes to the constitution must be made as amendments as described in the Constitution. Each officer will receive a copy of this manual with the parliamentarian to maintain the official copy.

**THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
OF THE
SOUTHWEST ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION**
(Approved July 2009)

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association (SWATA, the Association), also known as District VI of the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA).

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

The purpose of the Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association (SWATA) shall be to enhance the quality of health care for the physically active; to promote and advance the profession of the athletic training profession; to promote a better working relationship among those who work toward the care and prevention of athletic injuries; enhance the health care of persons served by the Membership; safeguard and advance the membership; and to promote the free exchange of ideas and information within the Association. Promote, safeguard, and advance the profession of Athletic Training and its members.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership will be governed by the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA). Each member shall have the respective rights and duties as provided in the Standing Rules.
2. Membership boundaries of the Association shall be defined by the NATA.
3. All members will abide by the NATA Code of Ethics. Changes in membership status in the NATA due to violations of either the Code of Ethics or Standards of Professional Practice will automatically be reflected as the same status within the Association.

ARTICLE IV DUES

1. SWATA dues, as determined by the Executive Board, shall follow the limits set forth in the Standing Rules.
2. Dues shall be collected according to the NATA Bylaws. Determination of membership dues in arrears will be made according to the NATA Bylaws.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

1. The governing body of the SWATA is the Executive Board. The members of the Executive Board will consist of seven voting members and additional non-voting members as defined in the Standing Rules of the Association.
2. Eligibility, election procedures, order of succession, duties, and terms of service for all elected and appointed Executive Board positions will be maintained in accordance to the Standing Rules of the Association.
3. Elected officers are subject to removal by a two-thirds majority vote of the ballots cast by the voting members of the Association. Vote shall be completed in accordance to policies of the Standing Rules of the Association.
4. The election of officers shall occur by a plurality vote of the Association. All officers assume their duties at the first Executive Board meeting following the annual business meeting after the election.

ARTICLE VI MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

1. SWATA membership classification is termed in accordance with the NATA Bylaws.
2. All voting for Association matters will be conducted in accordance with Standing Rules of the Association.
3. Voting rights and privileges of each member are defined by the NATA Bylaws and the SWATA Standing Rules.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

1. The SWATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium will be held each year at a time and site determined by the Executive Board. Procedures for determining future sites, dates, fee structure, and notification to the membership will be done in accordance to policies defined in the Standing Rules of the Association.
2. The Executive Board shall meet as needed to conduct the business of the Association. Members shall be notified of Executive Board meetings at least two weeks in advance.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

Standing committees, special committees, task forces, and/or work groups shall be designated by the Executive Board as necessary to carry out the work of the Association. These will function in accordance to policies and procedures explained in the Standing Rules of the Association.

ARTICLE IX AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

1. This Constitution shall become valid and binding upon the approval of the majority of the voting members attending the 2009 annual business meeting.
2. Proposed amendments to this constitution must be submitted to the President along with the valid signatures of 5% of the voting members in good standing with the S.W.A.T.A. that support the amendment(s) no later than three months prior to the next scheduled election. Upon verification of member signatures by the President, the proposed amendment(s) will be made available in at least one Association media as directed by the Executive Board. Amendments will be voted on in the order they are received. Voting on amendments will take place in accordance with regularly scheduled Association elections or business. Amendments are approved by majority vote of the total valid ballots submitted.
3. The Standing Rules of the Association are set by the Executive Board and unless otherwise noted can be changed with a majority vote of the Executive Board.
4. Copies of the current Constitution and Standing Rules of the Association will be made available to the membership through officially accepted media as defined in the Standing Rules of the Association.

ARTICLE X GOVERNED

1. The Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association Constitution shall be governed by and conform to the Bylaws of the National Athletic Trainers' Association.
2. The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the SWATA Constitution on any special rule(s) of order the association may adopt.