



District Council Conference Call Minutes
October 28, 2025
11:00am

I. Call to Order

- President Gage called the meeting to order at approximately 11:00am

II. Roll Call:

- **Members Present:**
 - Matt Gage – District President
 - Ray Davis – District Director
 - Ashley Thrasher – District Vice President
 - Erin Cash – District Secretary
 - Mat Lyden – District Treasurer
 - Nina Walker – President, NCATA
 - Will Christman – President, SCATA
 - Mike Kotelnicki – President, VATA
 - Suzy Konz – President, WVATA
- **Guests Present:**
 - Andy Massey – District Parliamentarian
 - Katie Walsh Flanagan – Past District Director
 - Xavion Santiago – President-Elect, DCATA
 - Nancy Groh – President-Elect, NCATA
 - Kirk Armstrong – President-Elect, VATA
 - Erin Moore – Student Senate Faculty Advisor
 - Peter Kotz – NATA Research & Foundation
 - Julie Cavallario – MAATA Constitution & Bylaws Task Force
 - Brandi Anderson – MAATA COPA Task Force
 - Renae Bomar & Tom Campbell – MAATA Free Communications
- **Members Absent:**
 - Penny Lynch – President, DCATA
 - Rachel Moore – President, MATA

III. District Secretary – Erin Cash

- a. Approval of minutes of previous District Council Meeting – (8/26/2025)
 - a. Motion to approve – Will Christman
 - 1. 2nd – Ray Davis
 - 2. No Discussion
 - b. Passed unanimously
- b. Approval of minutes of previous District Council Meeting – (9/30/2025)
 - a. Motion to approve – Ray Davis
 - 1. 2nd – Nina Walker
 - 2. No Discussion
 - b. Passed unanimously

IV. NATA Research & Education Foundation Committee – Peter Kotz

- a. Requesting an Annual line item of about \$2,500-\$3,000 to donate back to the Foundation
- b. Silent Auction is running right now
- c. Thinking of a few other Fundraising ideas
- d. Next year will be 35 years!

V. MAATA Constitution & Bylaws Task Force – Julie Cavallario

- a. Thank you to the Task Force
- b. Working to mimic NATA structure of having a singular Bylaw document
- c. Next will work on Policy and Procedure manual
- d. Hope is to be done May 2026
- e. Working to clear up the Bylaws by using a P&P manual

VI. MAATA COPA Task Force – Brandi Anderson

- a. Task Force to determine if a MAATA COPA Committee is needed
- b. Would this Committee increase communication between members in the COPA setting and MAATA
- c. Can MAATA facilitate additional CEU opportunities
- d. MAATA has a large number of COPA members
- e. November goal is to send a survey out to hopefully get a high response rate, compile by January, send to DC in February

VII. MAATA Free Communications – Renae Bomar & Tom Campbell

- a. Document sent to the DC requesting that Free Communications becomes a stand-alone committee

VIII. Student Senate/Student Education Program – Erin Moore

- a. Finished 1st year Senator interviews, should send that out by the end of October
- b. Once full group, will meet to discuss MAATA Symposium plans

IX. District Vice-President – Ashley Thrasher

- a. 2026 Annual Meeting Update
 - a. 11 proposals for talks right now, deadline is November 15th
- b. Business Meeting CEU Speaker
 - a. Looking into a speaker for the December Business Meeting, looking into logistics, how long of a talk, etc
- c. Annual Symposium Site Selection Update for 2027 and 2028
 - a. Will do a 2 year cycle for better rates, negotiating power, not having to look into a new location every year
 - b. 4 potential sites working with Helms Brisco

X. District Treasurer – Mat Lyden

- a. MAATA Financial Assets Update
- b. 2026 Budget Update

XI. District Secretary – Erin Cash

- a. Please Send Me Your Agenda Items Before, During or After the Zoom
- b. National membership at a glance
- c. District membership at a glance
- d. Website activity at a glance
- e. Publication Dates
- f. Member Lists into Dropbox
- g. Monthly E-Blast Due Dates – Please keep short and sweet
 - a. December 8, 2025

XII. District President – Matt Gage

- a. Approval of JC Hollowell (NC) to join the Education Committee
 - a. Motion to approve – Ashley Thrasher
 - 1. 2nd – Nina Walker
 - 2. No Discussion
 - b. Passed unanimously
- b. Approval of Liaison appointments
 - a. Motion to approve – Will Christman
 - 1. 2nd – Erin Cash
 - 2. No Discussion
 - b. Passed unanimously
- c. Free communication application update

XIII. District Director – Ray Davis

a. Inter-association Student-Athlete Health Statement

- a. The board approved an updated inter-association consensus statement on recognizing and referring student-athletes at the collegiate level. The 180-page document, which includes 417 citations and 12 tables, expands on topics such as biopsychosocial elements, social determinants of health and substance abuse, and provides guidance for athletic trainers and counseling departments. The statement has received endorsements from several associations and is awaiting final approvals from Mental Health America, ASWIS, and CCSPA. The board's approval will allow the document to be distributed to member institutions.

b. Early Professionals' White Paper: Compensation Guide for Athletic Trainers

- a. The NATA Early Professionals' Committee presented on their comprehensive compensation guide for early professionals in athletic training, covering employer types, salary structures, benefits and negotiation strategies. They highlighted key concepts like understanding job titles, evaluating evaluation frequencies and leveraging benefits like CEUs and health insurance. The document aims to empower early professionals to advocate for themselves during compensation negotiations. MARCOM will work with the group to disseminate the white paper into other resources for members.

c. PNC Updates

- a. Tim announced that three candidates have formally completed the declaration process for running in the upcoming presidential election, which activates the PNC to convene in-person and review their presentations during NATA's Joint Committee Meeting in January 2026. The committee aims to be fair and methodical in the process, with proxy submissions due by November 10. The task force will continue to meet through the election and into the following fall to review policies and procedures, with their findings to be presented to the board.

d. Board Approves Preceptor Development Study

- a. The board approved a research project from the ECE to study preceptor development, which will involve surveying NATA members who identify as preceptors and conducting interviews with both preceptors and clinical education coordinators.

e. Salary Survey

- a. The board approved to reinstate the salary survey project, enlisting the help of long-time partner McKinley Research & Advisors with the scope of work. The first phase of the project will begin November 2025 and members can expect to take the survey in January 2026. The project will deliver several resources in spring 2026, including a white paper, executive summary, online database and detailed subsections report, including DEIA-focused data insights.

f. Membership Renewal Has Begun!

- a. The NATA membership renewal period opened Oct. 1 and runs through 11:59 p.m. Dec. 31. All unpaid members who are not enrolled in an active payment plan (auto-renewal, installment or one-time) with NATA by the deadline will lose access to their benefits beginning Jan. 1. Renewing ensures uninterrupted access to the resources that support your professional growth and connection to the athletic training community—including member resources on the NATA website, free CE courses through NATA EducATE, the NATA Career Center, subscriptions to NATA News, Range of Motion and NATA Beat, and the ability to collaborate with peers in our exclusive online community, Gather. Don't let your benefits lapse! Renew your NATA membership today and remain part of the network that advances, supports and champions athletic trainers everywhere

XIV. State Presidents Reports:

a. District of Columbia – Penny Lynch

- a. Joint meeting with Maryland in January
- b. Working with COPA rep to help with some wording on the DC licensure

b. South Carolina – Will Christman

- a. No updates

c. Virginia – Mike Kotelnicki

- a. Getting ready for January meeting

d. West Virginia – Suzy Konz

- a. Meeting with lobbyists tomorrow to renegotiate their contract
- b. If MAATA Annual Symposium ends up being in WV, started discussions on combining with the WVATA state meeting

XV. Adjournment of meeting

- a. Seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 12:52pm