

2025 By-Law Updated Version

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ARTICLE 1. ASSOCIATION NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Mississippi Athletic Trainers' Association, hereinafter referred to as the Association.

ARTICLE 2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. To promote, maintain, and develop high standards for the profession of Athletic Training in the State of Mississippi.
2. To promote legislation for the public good and the betterment of Athletic Training within the State of Mississippi.
3. To organize, cooperate with and aid other groups dedicated to safety in sports competition.
4. To promote the exchange of knowledge and information within the profession of Athletic Training.
5. To represent Athletic Trainers before governmental, professional, voluntary groups, agencies and the public.
6. To support the concept of interscholastic competition within the framework of the total educational concept.
7. To provide such services that will further the Association.

ARTICLE 3. MEMBERSHIP

Section 3.1 Membership Eligibility

Eligibility for membership is determined by conditions and obligations as outlined in these Bylaws. All Members will abide by the Code of Ethics of the National Athletic Trainers' Association, Incorporated, (hereafter, designated NATA, Inc) or its successor, and the Standards of Professional Practice as set forth by the Board of Certification, Incorporated, (hereafter, designated BOC, Inc.), or its successor, and any applicable state laws and/or regulations.

Section 3.2 Classes of Membership and Qualifications

Membership in the Mississippi Athletic Trainers' Association, (MATA) will mirror membership in the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) and the Southeast Athletic Trainers' Association, (hereafter, designated SEATA). Eligibility for these classifications is defined as follows:

- A. **Licensed/ Licensed Certified** : Members in this classification will be licensed by the Mississippi State Board of Health. They shall be eligible to hold office and have full voting privileges.

- B. **Associate:** An individual, not ATC credentialed or a state licensed Athletic Trainer, who is working in athletic education, research, medicine or other professions related to athletic training. Associate members may not vote on association matters. A certified member whose certification is no longer in good standing with the BOC is changed to an Associate member.
- C. **Certified:** An individual who holds the ATC (Athletic Trainer, Certified) credential and is in good standing with the BOC. Certified Professional members in good standing may vote on association matters, hold NATA office and serve on committees, workgroups, project teams and as NATA liaisons.
- D. **Student:** An individual enrolled as a full-time student in a college or university who has not fulfilled BOC requirements for certification. A total of seven years is allowed in this category. At that time, the individual is transferred to a professional member status. Students will be ineligible to hold Executive Board officer positions and will have no voting privileges.
- E. **Honorary:** Members in this classification will consist of those who have made significant contributions to athletic training, sports medicine, or athletics. Membership is obtained by a majority two-thirds vote of the entire Association's membership. They will be ineligible to vote or hold office.
- F. **Retired Certified:** A former certified member with 20 years of MATA membership who has resigned their certification with the BOC and resigned any form of state licensure or regulation is moved to a retired status. Certified Retired members may vote on association matters. A Certified Retired member must agree not to practice athletic training and cannot use the ATC credential, but may use AT Ret. A Certified Retired member receives free dues and convention registration but does not receive CEUs from the MATA convention.

Section 3.3 Active Duty Military

A Member called up for active duty may request Military Inactive membership status for a maximum of 2 years. A copy of proof of active military service must accompany the request. A member in Military Inactive status remains a member in good standing, with all the rights and privileges of a regular member, but member receives no mailings and pays no dues. Upon discharge from the military or on the 2-year anniversary of his/her request, the member will return to their pre-military membership status by notifying MATA and by paying the appropriate dues amount (from the dues schedule for new members). If the member does not contact MATA by the 2-year anniversary of his/her request, he/she will be changed to non-member status.

Section 3.4 Membership Application

An individual Member of the NATA, Inc., in good standing, shall automatically be a Member of MATA, in the same category of membership as the NATA Inc., upon payment of their annual dues through the NATA, Inc. dues renewal process. A non-NATA Member individual requesting

membership to MATA shall complete an application and submit it to the MATA Secretary. The Executive Board shall approve or reject all applications subject to the review. Any applicant shall be denied membership if the information on their application is found to be false or if the applicant fails to meet the requirements for any of the membership categories. Individuals who apply for membership into a category for which they are not eligible shall be automatically transferred by MATA to the appropriate category. Non-NATA member dues are payable by February 1st of each year to the MATA treasurer. If not received by the required date, the member's name shall be removed from the membership rolls.

Section 3.5 Membership Dues

1. **Payment.** A qualified applicant shall become a member upon the acceptance of their application for NATA, Inc. membership and payment of dues. Thereafter, dues shall be paid annually prior to January 1st. Honorary, Licensed/Certified Retired, and Mississippi Licensed Retired Members shall pay no dues. If membership is not renewed prior to January 1st, membership is terminated
2. **Amount.** The dues structure shall be at the discretion of the MATA for MATA members. Non-NATA member dues will be at the discretion of the MATA Executive Board. Dues shall be increased or decreased as deemed necessary. These updates shall be presented to the membership for a vote. Vote to change the MATA dues must pass with a two-thirds vote. Dues shall not be prorated.

Section 3.6 Denial of Membership and Removal from Membership

1. Membership will be denied if information on the application form is found to be false. Also, if the individual does not fulfill requirements for any class of membership.
2. A member may be removed from the Association if their conduct or ethical standards are found to be inconsistent with the NATA Code of Ethics or the principles upon which this Association is based. The Ethics Committee will determine whether to present the individual's removal for a vote by the Executive Board. Following a majority vote by the Executive Board, the individual's name will be removed from the Association's record.

Section 3.7 Continuing Education Requirements

Licensed/Certified members must fulfill the Continuing Education Unit (CEU) requirements as specified by the Rules and Regulations Governing Athletic Trainers, as established by the Mississippi State Department of Health.

ARTICLE 4. GOVERNANCE

Section 4.1 Nominations of Officers

Nominations for officers shall be made by a member in good standing with the Association. Nominations will be accepted by e-mail or in person prior to January 15th of each election year. Nominations should be made to and recorded by the Parliamentarian. Nominations for special elections will be taken at the time the position is vacated or the officer is terminated.

Section 4.2 Elections

A. Elections shall be by a majority vote of the valid ballots received from the voting membership of the Association. Defined as 50% +1 of the received vote.

- a. Vote shall be with the advance of applicable computer technology through means of online voting.
- b. Election results shall be tabulated by an electronic voting system utilized by the Association.
- c. Election results should be read to the Executive Board and a motion be made to accept the results.
- d. The President (or VP if President is on Ballot) will then second and declare winner(s) of the election
- e. Results should be recorded in official minutes of association business.
- f. Eligible voting members are able to cast a vote.
- g. An election shall not be held if there is only one eligible candidate on the ballot for any open MATA office.

B. Run-Offs

- a. In the event of no candidate receiving the majority vote a run-off election may be held. The run-off shall be between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of popular votes in the first round of elections. Membership will have 14 days to complete and submit their ballot.
- b. Run-off elections will be called for by the President or Vice President when the election results are read to the Executive Board and a motion made for a run-off election is to be held.
- c. No call for new nominations may be opened in a run-off election.
- d. Run-off elections will follow the tabulation and result procedures of a regular election from this point forward.
- e. Eligible voting members are able to cast a vote

C. Transition of officers

- a. New officers will be officially transitioned following the Summer MATA symposium.
- b. Newly elected officers will begin an officer-elect transition at the first Executive Board Meeting after election results are certified.

D. During the election cycle, anyone who joins the MATA membership, will not have voting rights for that election cycle.

Section 4.3 Special Elections: Vacancies and/or Removal of Executive Council Members

- A. The Vice President shall become President in the event that the office of the President becomes vacant before the end of the term for which the President was elected. In the event of the simultaneous vacating of both the President and Vice-President, a special election shall be held. Nominations are set forth in Article 4 Section 1 of these bylaws. Special Elections shall be conducted in an orderly, efficient, equitable and secure manner. A ballot shall be sent to each member entitled to vote on MATA affairs by applicable electronic technology . The election timeframe will follow Section 4.2 of these bylaws.
- B. In the event the offices of an elected official becomes vacant, (with advanced notice and desire to) continue through a replacement during their respective terms. Notifications must come in written form, via mail and/ or applicable electronic technology, to each person on the Executive Council. A special election shall be held by applicable electronic technology. Refer to section 4.1 of these Bylaws to determine the nomination terms of those elected by special elections. Special Elections shall be conducted in an orderly, efficient, equitable and secure manner. A ballot shall be sent to each member entitled to vote on MATA affairs by applicable electronic technology . The election timeframe will follow Section 4.2 of these bylaw
 - a. Newly elected officers, selected to finish out a vacated position, will begin at the following the Boards acceptance of the results from Section 4.2 A of these bylaws.
- C. In the case where an elected official will be leaving office immediately for any reason. Notifications must come in written form, via mail and/ or applicable electronic technology, to each person on the Executive Council. A special election may take place immediately. Refer to section 4.1 of these Bylaws to determine the nomination terms of those elected by special elections. Special Elections shall be conducted in an orderly, efficient, equitable and secure manner. A ballot shall be sent to each member entitled to vote on MATA affairs.
 - a. Newly elected officers, selected to finish out a vacated position, will begin following the Boards acceptance of the results from Section 4.2 A of these bylaws.

Section 4.4 Removal of Executive Council Members: Impeachment

Any Executive Council Member may be impeached and removed from office on the following grounds: embezzlement, malfeasance in office, conflict of interest with the goals of MATA or actions contrary to or in violation of the Policy and Procedures and/or these Bylaws. Before impeachment proceedings can be instituted, a brief containing the charges shall be drawn up and presented by a MATA Member in good standing to the Executive Council in person and/or applicable electronic technology to each person on the Executive Council. The aforementioned brief must then be adopted by a majority vote of the Executive Council prior to the formal presentation of the charges to the

membership. Impeachment and removal from office of any officer shall require a two-thirds vote of the voting membership of MATA via electronic vote (14 day vote). If a quorum is not present at the time of impeachment, a two-thirds majority vote of the membership shall be necessary. Ballots are cast by digital means with the advance of applicable electronic technology of the Association.

Section 4.5 Removal of Executive Council Members: Inability to Maintain or Complete Duties

- A. If any Executive Council Member is unable to maintain or complete the duties and/or responsibilities of their respective office for any reason, then a quorum of the Executive Council may call for a vote to ask for resignation of that Member and proceed with a special election to fill that vacancy as outlined in these Bylaws, Section 4.3.
- B. Any Executive Council Member shall be deemed to have resigned their office and the office shall be deemed vacant when that Member:
 - i. Resigns their membership in MATA
 - ii. Ceases to be a Certified/Licensed or Retired Member in good standing;
 - iii. Ceases to be actively involved in the profession of athletic training;
 - iv. Cessation of duties
 - v. Is deceased
- C. In the event that an officer is unable to complete the full term of the office, the President will call for nominations to elect an interim officer to fulfill the remainder of the term.
- D. The call for nominations of special elections is to be conducted within 15 days of the notification of the office vacancy. Nominations are to be made by email or in person by a licensed member in good standing with the Association to the Parliamentarian.
- E. Special elections are to be held within 30 days of the notification of the office vacancy with the newly elected officer taking office as soon as the election is validated.
- F. Members who serve a partial term (not greater than two years) due to a vacancy in their office may serve their office's term in full, in addition to the partial term.

Section 4.6 Regular Election Cycles

Elections will be held in cycles.

- a. President/Secretary/Physician Member– Every four years (2024)
- b. Vice President/ Director of Professional Improvement/ Treasurer/Member At Large - Every four years (2026).

Section 4.7 Officers Roles and Duties

A. President

Qualifications:

In order to hold the office of President, a person must be a licensed NATA member in good standing of the Association. The person must also be a licensed member in good standing in the Association for two calendar years..

Duties:

1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and the Association.
2. The President shall be an ex-officio member of the following standing committees: By-Laws, MarCom, Honors and Awards, Scholarship.
3. The President shall call special meetings of the Association when there is a need, at the request of the Executive Committee or at the written request of five licensed members.
4. The President will remove committee chairs and members for failure to perform assigned duties.
5. The President shall be the official representative of the Association before all outside groups, organizations, or agencies.
6. The President shall make a yearly report on the standing, functions, and programs of the Association for the past year. This report is to be made at the summer business meeting.
7. The President shall supervise the other officers in the performance of their duties as outlined herein.
8. The President shall also be empowered to assign other duties to officers or members for the good of the Association and to carry out the Associations' objectives.
9. The President will serve as chair to the Mississippi Department of Health Athletic Training Advisory Committee.
10. The President will serve as a voting member on the SEATA Executive Committee.

B. Vice-President

Qualifications: In order to hold the office of Vice-President, a person must be a licensed NATA member in good standing in the Association for one calendar year.

Duties:

1. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside at all meetings.
2. The Vice-President shall be an ex-officio member of the following standing committees: Bylaws, Symposium Oversight, Governmental Affair.
3. The Vice-President will be in charge of all arrangements for the Association's business meetings, to be held in conjunction with the summer symposium.
4. The Vice-President will serve as Interim President in the event the President cannot fulfill the duties of office until the next scheduled business meeting.
5. The Vice-President will chair the Symposium Oversight committee.
6. The Vice President will serve on the Mississippi Department of Health Athletic Training Advisory Committee

C. Secretary

Qualifications: In order to hold the office of Secretary, a person must be a licensed MATA member in good standing in the Association for one calendar year.

Duties:

1. The Secretary shall take charge of membership applications, classifications of membership, and membership rolls.
2. The Secretary shall twice yearly prepare membership rolls of all classification upon request by other members, outside agencies, organizations, etc.
3. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the proceedings of all meetings of the Association including the Executive Committee meeting and business meeting.
4. The Secretary shall see that copies of the meeting minutes are made available to those members who were not able to attend through digital platforms.
5. The Secretary shall send notices of the times, places, and agendas for meetings in advance to all members of the Association. Call for agenda items will be 7 days prior to meetings. Agenda items and supporting documents need to be presented and compiled 48 hours prior to meetings.
6. The Secretary shall perform all duties as assigned to him/her by the President.
7. The Secretary serves as the ex-officio member of the following standing committees: Marcom, Honors and Awards, Scholarship
8. The secretary shall assist in event registration, promotional materials, membership communication, etc.
9. The Secretary will serve on the Mississippi Department of Health Athletic Training Advisory Committee.

D. Treasurer

Qualifications: In order to hold the office of Treasurer, a person must be a licensed MATA member in good standing in the Association for one calendar year.

Duties:

1. The Treasurer shall perform all duties as assigned by the President.
2. The Treasurer shall collect all dues from the entire membership on an annual basis.
3. The Treasurer, on the request and with the assistance of the Executive Committee, will compile an annual budget for the operation of the Association.
4. The Treasurer will make all financial arrangements for all educational symposiums and meetings.
5. The Treasurer shall make an annual report to the membership of the Association at the summer meeting.
6. The Treasurer with the assistance of the Executive Committee shall oversee the MATA PAC and Research Education Foundation accounts.
7. The Treasurer will Chair the Finance Committee

8. The Treasurer will file annual income taxes with the IRS
9. The Treasurer will serve on the Mississippi Department of Health Athletic Training Advisory Committee

E. The Director of Professional Improvement

Qualifications: In order to hold office of Director of Professional Improvement, a person must be a licensed MATA member in good standing in the Association for one calendar year.

Duties:

1. The Director of Professional Improvement shall organize the agenda and conduct the symposium held at the summer meeting.
2. The DPI serves as the ex-officio member of the following standing committees: symposium oversight committee and policy & procedures committee.
3. The Director of Professional Improvement shall determine the qualifications for Continuing Education Units for Association approved symposiums, clinics and workshops related to sports medicine and held in the State of Mississippi.
4. The Director of Professional Improvement shall make efforts to see that members are used as resource personnel and speakers in as many opportunities as possible.
5. The Director of Professional Improvement shall conduct post symposium evaluations to determine quality of the presentations and educational needs of the membership.
6. The Director of Professional Improvement will serve on the Mississippi Department of Health Athletic Training Advisory Committee.

F. Physician Member

Qualifications: In order to hold the office of Physician Member, a person must be a licensed Physician in good standing in the Association of 1 year in the state of Mississippi and in the supportive role of the association and the Athletic Training Profession.

Duties:

1. The Physician Member shall advise and inform the Executive Board of medical conditions, latest treatment/evaluation process, and other news that will affect the athletic training profession and practices.
2. The Physician member serves as an advocate for the athletic training profession with other healthcare professionals and within state legislative needs
3. The Physician member will serve on the Mississippi Department of Health Athletic Training Advisory Committee.
4. The Physician member will co-chair with the MAL on the Ethics Committee.

G. Member At Large

Qualifications: In order to hold the office of Member-At Large, a person must be a licensed MATA member in good standing in the Association.

Duties:

1. The Member At-Large shall perform all duties as assigned to him/her by the President.
2. The Member At-Large shall chair the Regional Representative Committee and co-chair the Ethic Committee with the Physician Member.
3. The MAL serves as the ex-officio member of the following standing committees: policy & procedures committee.
4. The Member At Large will serve on the Mississippi Department of Health Athletic Training Advisory Committee.
5. The Member At-Large promotes the association's mission and activities to internal and external stakeholders.
6. The Member At Large acts as a liaison between the board and the membership conveying concerns and feedback.

H. Parliamentarian: Non-Voting Member

Qualifications: In order to hold the office of Parliamentarian, a person must be a licensed member in good standing in the Association for one year.

Duties:

1. The Parliamentarian shall have a thorough knowledge of parliamentary procedure and an understanding of Robert's Rules of Order.
2. The Parliamentarian shall be in charge of keeping the Executive Board and annual business meetings operating under parliamentary procedure as prescribed by the Robert's Rules of Order.
3. The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for oversight of elections, gathering of nominations for office, and the receipt, tabulation and verification of votes cast for the election of officers.

I. Student Member: Non-Voting Member

Qualifications: In order to hold the office of Student Member, a person must be a student member in good standing in the Association. The student member must put in an application and go through a process of selection through SEATA.

Duties:

1. The Student member shall serve as a liaison to the student members of the Association.
2. The Student member shall serve MATA in the role as rep to the SEATA Student Leadership Committee.
3. The Student Member shall carry out other duties as assigned by the President.

ARTICLE 5. MEETINGS

Section 5.1 Robert's Rules of Order

All business meetings in person, phone or virtual will follow Robert's Rule of Order and Standard Parliamentary Procedure.

Section 5.2 Annual Business Meetings

- A. All business meetings will be publicized and made known to the membership for at least 14 days prior.
- B. All business meetings will be public for all members to attend.
- C. Winter Executive Board Meeting will be held annually in conjunction with the MSDH Advisory Board Meeting.
- D. Summer Business meeting and second MSDH Advisory Board meeting will be held annually in conjunction with the MATA Clinical Symposium and Member's Meeting.
- E. All minutes will be kept and published for all association members

Section 5.3 Executive Board Meetings

- A. The Executive Board will meet bi-monthly.
 - a. All minutes will be kept and published for all association members
 - b. Any new agenda item is due to the Secretary in writing or by email, by noon the Wednesday prior to each meeting.
- B. Meetings will be open to the public, unless the Board calls to go into a closed session.
 - a. Closed session minutes will be kept confidential to Executive Board members only.
 - b. No votes that affect the membership may take place during closed sessions.

Section 5.4 Emergency Meetings

The President may call for an emergency meeting when needed at the request of another Executive Board Member or by the written request of 5 members in good standing.

ARTICLE 6. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 6.1 Executive Board

The Executive Board is composed of 7 voting members and 2 non-voting members. Term time frames and limits are listed below for each member.

Section 6.2 Executive Board Privileges, Terms, and Limits

A. **President:**

1. Voting Member
2. 4 Year Term
3. 2 Term Limit

B. **Vice President:**

1. Voting Member
2. 4 Year Term
3. 2 Term Limit

C. **Secretary:**

1. Voting Member
2. 4 Year Term
3. 2 Term Limit

D. **Treasurer:**

1. Voting Member
2. 4 Year Term
3. 3 Term Limit

E. **Director of Professional Improvement:**

1. Voting Member
2. 4 Year Term
3. 3 Term Limit

F. **Physician Member:**

1. Voting Member
2. 4 Year Term
3. 2 Term Limit

G. **Member At Large:**

1. Voting Member
2. 4 Year Term
3. 2 Term Limit

H. **Parliamentarian:**

1. Non-Voting Member
2. Appointed by President, with a majority vote of the Executive Board, for each election cycle
3. No Term Limit

I. Student Member:

1. Non-Voting Member
2. Appointed by SEATA
3. 2 Year Term Limit

ARTICLE 7. COMMITTEES

Section 7.1 Standing Committees

The following standing committees shall be composed of a Chairmen and an amount of committee members that each Chairmen will determine. Chairmen for each committee will be appointed by majority vote of the Executive Board, committee members may be selected by the Chairmen with the approval of the Executive Board. All committee chairmen and members must be current MATA members and in good standing. Additionally, chairperson's who are appointed by the executive board are proposed to the SEATA Executive Board for approval to serve on the SEATA committee for district level collaboration.

A. By-Laws Committee:

The purpose of the By-Laws Committee is to update and assist in amendments to the Association's By-Laws. The Secretary will chair this committee along with the The President and Vice President will also be a part of this committee.

B. Symposium Oversight Committee:

This committee will be chaired by the Vice President, with the DPI being an ex-officio member. The purpose of this committee will be to coordinate development, delivery and evaluation of professional development offered by the association. They will also develop content and identify speakers for professional development events, such as the MATA Conference.

C. Ethics Committee:

The purpose of the Ethics Committee shall be to advise the President and the general membership in obtaining the highest professional standards and ethics possible for the Association. It shall be the responsibility of the Ethics Committee to recommend the sanctions to the Executive Committee, up to and including removal from the rolls, for violation of ethics by officers or members of the Association. The MAL and Physician member will co-chair this committee.

D. Policy and Procedure Committee

This committee will be co-chaired by the DPI and the Member at Large. The purpose of the Policy and Procedure committee is to capture existing policies and procedures of

MATA, its Executive Board, and organizational committee structure in an effort to guide the membership in all MATA related matters.

E. Regional Reps Committee:

The purpose of the Regional Reps Committee will be to have representation from each area of the state and have relevant issues from the members brought to the attention of the Executive Board and association in a timely manner. The 3 regions will be north, south and central. The Member At Large will chair this committee.

F. Finance Committee:

Chaired by the MATA Treasurer the Finance committee will serve as an oversight and budgetary committee for the association. They will serve the purpose to develop a yearly budget and make recommendations to the Executive Board in purchases or expenditures in expenses over \$2000.00.

G. Honors and Awards Committee:

This committee is represented by 1(one) committee chair and either 2(two) or 4(four) additional committee members. This committee is intended to develop, supervise and evaluate the Associations' Honors and Awards, as well as the Association's Hall of Fame. They will establish nomination submission deadlines and time schedules. They will recommend to the MATA Executive Board candidates for honors and awards, as well as Hall of Fame, for board approval. President and Secretary will be the ex-officios for this committee.

H. Scholarship Committee:

This committee shall oversee and administer the Association's scholarship program. They will develop, supervise, and evaluate the Association's scholarship program. They will participate in the application, submission and selection process. They will recommend to the MATA Executive Board the recipients for the scholarship awards, for board approval. The President and Secretary will be the ex-officio for this committee.

I. Chairperson's of these committees serve as a state representative to its correlating SEATA Committee. This person is appointed by the MATA Executive Board and voted to be accepted by the SEATA Executive Board. As a state representative, at the SEATA level, he or she will serve as a voice for state members that are represented in the category as well as a messenger to the states categorized membership to boost representation or activities.

a. Early Professionals/Career Advancement Committee:

The Early Professionals committee will be chaired by 1(one) Athletic Trainer under the certification of 6 years. The Career Advancement Committee will be chaired by 1(one) Athletic Trainer over the certification of 6 years but under 12 years. Both will be allowed to select committee members. Both committee's purpose is to develop strategies to

increase recruitment, retention, and volunteer involvement. They will provide programs, activities, and educational opportunities to promote professional socialization of their respective young professionals.

b. History and Archives:

The purpose of the History and Archives committee is to collect, maintain, preserve, and disseminate the historical records of MATA. The committee will archive and catalogue the historical records of the Association. They will make historical documents available to advance the purpose and conduct activities to promote an appreciation by the membership of the history and past leadership.

c. Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee

To identify and address issues relevant to ethnic and culturally diverse members. Additionally, address health care concerns affecting physically active individuals in these ethnic groups. Advocate sensitivity and understanding toward ethnic and cultural diversity throughout the profession and the association

d. LGBTQ+ Committee:

The mission of the MATA LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee falls in line with the mission of the NATA committee, which is: to advocate for an environment of inclusion, respect, equity and appreciation of differences in both athletic trainers (ATs) and their diverse patient populations. The MATA committee would also identify, explore, address and provide educational resources regarding emerging topics and concerns relevant to diverse sexualities, gender identities and gender expressions within the profession and healthcare topics affecting patients in the State of Mississippi LGBTQ+ community.

e. AT Cares Committee:

Serve as a professional resource relative to Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) for the district and state level, designed to help assist athletic trainers and athletic training students in the state of Mississippi in the aftermath of a critical incident by utilizing a peer-to-peer system to assist, monitor and encourage these individuals to seek initial support through the district ATs Care team.

f. MarCom Committee:

The purpose of the MarCom Committee is to be the administrators for the associations, website, social media, and App platforms. To collaborate and assist SEATA and each State Association with NATA-led strategies and initiatives that enhance awareness and perception of the profession as well as causes championed by Athletic Trainers. The secretary will be an ex-officio member of this committee.

g. Governmental Affairs Committee

The purpose of the Legislative Committee is to organize and lobby for legislation in the best interest of the profession of Athletic Training. The Vice President will be an ex-officio member of this committee.

ARTICLE 8. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.

Section 8.1 Order of Proceedings

The order of all official MATA business meetings will be as follows:

A quorum for an Executive Board Meeting shall be four of the voting members.

- a. Roll Call
- b. Presentation or Disposal of any Unapproved Minutes
- c. Committee Reports
- d. Reports of Officers
- e. Old Business
- f. New Business
- g. Adjournment

Robert's Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Order will govern all parliamentary procedures and matters not included in these bylaws.

ARTICLE 9. AMENDING PROCESS.

Proposed amendment(s) to the By-Laws shall be submitted to the Secretary in writing at least sixty (60) days prior to the Summer Business Meeting in order to be discussed by the Executive Committee. Passage of proposed amendment(s) will be by applicable computer technology and will require a two-thirds majority vote of the valid votes received by the eligible voting membership of the Association.