



**CONSTITUTION OF THE
FAR WEST ATHLETIC TRAINERS ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE I NAME

SECTION I NAME

1.0.0 The name of this organization shall be Far West Athletic Trainers Association (FWATA) and shall be referred to by the National Trainers Association, Inc. as District 8 of the NATA, Inc.

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVE

SECTION 1 THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS ASSOCIATION

- 1.0.0 To advance, encourage and improve the athletic training profession in all its phases.
- 1.2.0 To promote better working relationships among those persons interested in and involved with the problem inherent in caring for the health and well being of the athletes.
- 1.3.0 To enhance the professional capabilities of each of its members.
- 1.4.0 To serve the common interest of the membership by encouraging and providing the opportunity for the free exchange of ideas among members of the athletic training profession.
- 1.5.0 To meet the specific professional needs of the NATA, Inc. members in California, Hawaii, Nevada and Guam.
- 1.6.0 This association shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities that are not in furtherance of the primary purposes of the Association.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1 CLASSIFICATIONS

- 1.0.0 There shall be four (4) classes of membership in accordance with the guidelines described in the Bylaws, Article XII. The classes are:
 - 1.1.0 Certified
 - 1.2.0 Associate
 - 1.3.0 Student
 - 1.4.0 International
- 2.0.0 No individual shall be eligible for more than one (1) class of membership at any one time.

SECTION 2 QUALIFICATIONS

- 1.0.0 Qualifications for each class of membership and the rights, privileges, and obligations of each member are provided for in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND APPROVAL

Any individual applying for any class of membership in the NATA, shall by submitting an application, state a desire to become a member of both the FWATA and the NATA, Inc., to advance the interest of FWATA and the NATA, Inc., and to abide by their respective Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE V DUES

The dues for all membership classes are described in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VI SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 1.0.0 Membership cancellation may be recommended by any member of the Association for a cause and in compliance with the methods described in the Bylaws.
- 1.2.0 Membership cancellation shall be automatic for non-payment of dues as set forth in the Bylaws.
- 1.3.0 Membership cancellation in the FWATA shall be automatic with membership cancellation by the NATA, Inc.
- 1.4.0 Any member whose membership has been revoked shall have the right to appeal, as set forth in the Bylaws, and may be reinstated.

ARTICLE VII VOTING POWERS

- 1.0.0 All certified members shall be entitled to one (1) vote upon questions submitted to the Association for decision.

ARTICLE VIII ORGANIZATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICES

SECTION 1 GOVERNING BODY

- 1.0.0 The governing body of this Association shall be the Managing Board.

SECTION 2 MANAGING BOARD

- 1.0.0 The Managing Board shall consist of the District Director, District Secretary, District Treasurer and one delegate from each of the three (3) states of the District.
- 1.1.0 The District Director shall chair the Managing Board.
- 1.1.1 The state representatives shall be the president of the State Association unless otherwise designated by State Constitution providing that the person so designated is a certified member, in good standing, of the NATA, Inc.
- 1.1.4 The District Director, District Secretary and District Treasurer shall not serve simultaneously as FWATA officers and as the representative for their respective state.

SECTION 3 STATE ASSOCIATIONS OF FWATA

- 1.0.0 Each State Athletic Trainers' Association will be self-governing as per its own specific Constitution and Bylaws. Nothing in a State Constitution shall be contrary to the NATA, Inc. or FWATA Constitution and Bylaws.
- 1.1.0 For the purpose of facilitating the work of the Far West Athletic Trainers' Association, the district shall be divided into three (3) geographic areas with each state having jurisdiction over itself.
- 1.1.1 Members of the Far West Athletic Trainers Association are the states of California, Hawaii, Nevada and the territory of Guam.

- 1.1.2 Each state shall elect a representative who must be a certified member of the NATA, Inc. and act with full authority for the state in carrying out the functions and responsibilities of the Managing Board.

SECTION 4

TERMS OF OFFICE

- 1.0.0 All officers serving the Association must be certified members of the National Athletic Trainers Association. The officers, and terms of office shall be as follows:
- 2.0.0 District Director
- 2.1.0 The District Director shall have previously served as a District Managing Board member or as a chair either a state, district, or national committee for a period of not less than two (2) years. The term shall have been served within the previous ten (10) years.
- 2.1.1 Eligible candidates desiring to run for office District Director must submit an application with vitae to the District Secretary or designee three week prior to the District Annual Business Meeting, one (1) year prior to the end of the existing term of office.
- 2.1.2 All candidates shall present their platform to the membership at the District Annual Business Meeting in the year prior to the end of the existing term. Should a nominee run unopposed a vote by the general membership will not be required. However their platform will still be presented at the District Annual Business Meeting at the FWATA Convention.
- 2.1.3 Primary ballots will be mailed and/or electronically distributed to the voting membership no later than one month after presentation of the platforms. Ballots must be returned to the District Secretary or designee, no later than four (4) weeks following mailing.
- 2.1.4 Two candidates receiving the majority of votes shall be placed on a ballot for the General Election.
- 2.1.5 Said ballot shall be mailed and/or electronically distributed to the voting membership no later than three (3) months following the presentation of platforms. Ballot of the general Election must be returned to the District Secretary or designee, no later than four (4) week following the second mailing.
- 2.1.6 The incoming District Director shall assume the new duties during the NATA, Inc. Annual Business Meeting.
- 2.1.7 The term of office for District Director shall be three (3) years, with no more than two (2) consecutive terms.
- 2.1.8 Should the newly elected District Director be unable to assume their duties or to continue in office, the duties shall be assumed by the District Secretary if the remaining term is for one (1) year or less, or such times as an Interim District Director is elected.
- 2.1.9 If the remaining term is longer than one (1) year, a new election for Interim District Director is elected.
- 2.2.0 If the interim term is for one (1) year or less, that term shall not count as one (1) of (2) consecutive terms.
- 2.2.1 If the interim is more than one (1) year, the term shall count as one (1) of the two (2) consecutive years.
- 2.2.2 In the event that there are no applications from interested or available pool of candidates, a nominating committee made up of three (3) State Representatives and three (3) additional members appointed by the ongoing District Director shall nominate at least two (2) people from outside the available pool of candidates as defined in Article VIII, Section 4, 2.1.0.
- 2.2.3 In this situation, the platforms will only be presented in the subsequent newsletter and the election will then proceed as specified in the Article VIII, Section VI, 2.1.5 & 2.1.6 of the FWATA Constitution.
- 3.0.0 District Secretary
- 3.1.0 The District Secretary shall be elected by the district members at the same time and under the same guidelines as for District Director as defined in Article VIII, Section 4, and 2.1.1 through 2.1.5.
- 3.1.1 This District Secretary shall have previously served as a State or District Officer or as Chairperson of either a state, district, or national committee or subcommittee for a period

- of not less than two (2) years. They shall have served that term within the previous ten (10) years.
- 3.1.2 The term of office shall be for three (3) years, with no more than two (2) consecutive terms.
- 3.1.3 The District Secretary or designee, shall accept application and vitae from the candidates, three (3) weeks prior to the District Annual Business Meeting at the FWATA Convention, one year prior to the end of the existing term.
- 3.1.4 A platform of each candidate will be printed and accompany distributed with the Primary ballot mailing or will be published in the district newsletter prior to the Primary election. Should a nominee run unopposed a vote by the general membership will not be required. However, their platform will still be published for informational purposes.
- 3.1.5 The existing guidelines for the Primary and General Elections for the District Director shall also apply to the District Secretary.
- 3.1.6 In the event that the District Secretary is running for re-election, an election committee shall be created by the Managing Board to handle the election process.
- 3.1.7 Should the newly elected District Secretary be unable to assume their duties or continue in office, the duties shall be assumed by the District Treasurer if the remaining term is for one (1) year or less, or until such time as an Interim District Secretary is elected.
- 3.1.8 If the remaining term is longer than one (1) year, a new election for Interim District Secretary will be held.
- 3.1.9 If the interim term is for one (1) year or less, the term shall not count as one (1) of the two (2) consecutive terms.
- 3.2.0 If the interim term is more than one (1) year, the term shall count as one (1) of the two (2) consecutive terms.
- 3.2.1 In the event that there are no applications from interested or available pool of candidates, a nominating committee made up of three (3) State Representative and three (3) additional members appointed by the District Director shall nominate at least two (2) people from outside the available pool of candidates as defined in ARTICLE VIII, Section 4, 3.1.1.
- 3.2.2 The incoming District Secretary shall assume the new duties during NATA, Inc. Annual District Secretaries/Treasurers Committee Meeting at the national convention.
- 4.0.0 District Treasurer
- 4.1.0 The District Treasurer shall be elected by the district members at the same time and under and under the same guidelines as for District Director as defined in ARTICLE VIII, Section 4, 2.1.1 to 2.1.5.
- 4.1.1 The District Treasurer shall have previously served as a state or district officer, or as a chair of either a state, district, or national committee or subcommittee for a period of not less than two (2) years. Then term shall have been served within the pervious ten (10) years.
- 4.1.2 The term of office for District Treasurer shall be for three (3) years, with no more that two (2) consecutive terms.
- 4.1.3 The District Secretary or designee, shall accept application and vitae from candidates, three (3) weeks prior to the District Annual Business Meeting at the FWATA Convention, one year prior to the end of the existing term of office.
- 4.1.4 A platform of each candidate will be printed and accompany distributed with the Primary ballot mailing or will be published in the district newsletter prior to the Primary election. Should a nominee run unopposed a vote by the general membership will not be required. However, their platform will still be published for informational purposes.
- 4.1.5 Should the newly elected district Treasurer be unable to assume their duties or to continue in office, the duties shall be assumed by the District Secretary until such time as a Interim District Treasurer is elected.
- 4.1.6 If the remaining term is longer than one (1) year, a new election for District Treasurer will be held.
- 4.1.7 If the interim term is for one (1) year or less, the term shall not count as one (1) of the two (2) consecutive terms.

ARTICLE XI

GOVERNMENT

SECTION 1

ADMINISTRATION

- 1.0.0 The administration of the Far West Athletic Trainers' Association shall be entrusted to the Managing Board.

SECTION 2

STRUCTURE OF MANAGING BOARD

- 1.0.0 The Managing Board shall meet in Executive Session two (2) times a year and may meet when deemed necessary.
- 1.1.0 A quorum for a Managing Board meeting shall be three (3).
- 1.1.1 The District Director may submit items of appropriate business to the Managing Board for a vote by email, fax, or mail.
- 1.2.1 For such a voting procedure, the District Director shall first secure a "second" to the proposal and then to each member of the Board, email, fax, or mail the proposal with a request to return a "yes" or "no" vote on the proposal by a definite date no sooner than ten (10) days after distributing of the proposal.
- 1.2.2 Board approval of items submitted shall require a "yes" vote by at least three (3) members of the Board.
- 1.3.0 The District Director may also submit items of association business that are appropriate for Board action to the Managing Board for a vote by telephone.
- 1.3.1 For such a voting procedure, the District Director shall first secure a "second" to the proposal and then call each member of the Board for their vote on the proposal.
- 1.3.2 Board approval of items so submitted shall require a "yes" vote by at least three (3) members of the Board.
- 1.3.3 Each member of the Board shall verify their vote by confirmation to the District Director.

SECTION 3

MANAGING BOARD VOTING

- 1.0.0 Voting members of the Managing Board are the District Secretary, District Treasurer, and each of the States Representatives.
- 1.1.0 The District Director only votes in the event of a tie.

SECTION 4

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETINGS

- 1.0.0 A business meeting with the membership present shall be held at the FWATA & NATA, Inc. Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposiums.
- 1.1.0 The meeting shall be for the District Director to present information discussed by the FWATA and the NATA, Inc. Board Meeting, respectively, and to allow membership to question any items which needs clarification.
- 1.1.1 A quorum at the business meetings shall be a simple majority of the voting membership present.

SECTION 5

MEMBERSHIP VOTING

- 1.0.0 The Managing Board may submit items of FWATA business to the voting membership for a vote by mail or email.
- 1.1.0 Approval of item/s so submitted shall require a "yes" majority of the respondents.

SECTION 6

PROXUS

- 1.0.0 There shall be no voting by proxy for a Managing Board member or general member.

SECTION 7

SELF-GOVERNING BODY

- 1.0.0 The Far West Athletic Trainers Association shall be self-governing in all areas not covered by the Constitution and Bylaws of the NATA, Inc.

ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1 PROCESS

- 1.0.0 All proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the District Director at least six (6) weeks prior to the Annual Business meetings of the FWATA. Submitted items must receive approval of the Managing Board.
- 1.1.0 The District Director or designee shall distribute copies of the proposal to all voting members at least three (3) weeks prior to the Annual Business meetings of the FWATA.
- 1.2.0 A proposed amendment to the Constitution that has been properly submitted shall be read at the Annual Business meetings of the FWATA and a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the voting membership present shall be necessary for the adoption of the said amendment.

SECTION 2 CONFLICTS

- 1.0.0 The FWATA Constitution shall not conflict with the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures of the NATA, Inc.
- 1.1.0 Should the NATA, Inc Bylaws and Policies and Procedures be amended or changed such that the FWATA Constitution is in direct conflict, the NATA, Inc. Bylaws and Polices and Procedures Manual shall prevail.
- 1.1.1 The FWATA Constitution shall then be amended to resolve the conflict.

ARTICLE III AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

SECTION 1 PROCESS

- 1.0.0 The Bylaws may be amended at any official meeting of the Managing Board by a majority vote.
- 1.1.0 An official meeting constitutes either meeting in person or by a conference telephone call with all the Managing Board included.
- 1.1.1 The Bylaws may not be added to, deleted or amended by mail.

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