

**MARYLAND BOARD OF PHYSICIANS  
ATHLETIC TRAINERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
OPEN MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, April 8, 2014, 10:00 a.m., Room 110**

**PRESENT:** John Bielawski, ATC, Chair, Lori Bristow, ATC, John Michie, D.C., Karen James, OT, Benjamin Petre, M.D., Benita Wilson, Consumer Member, Theresa Lewis, Consumer Member, Karl Bailey, ATC

**STAFF PRESENT:** Ellen Douglas Smith, Acting Deputy Director, Noreen Rubin, Board Counsel, David Finkler, Board Counsel, Phyllis Washington, Allied Health Analyst

**ABSENT:** Andrew Tucker, M.D., Rick Peret, PT, Valerie Cothran, M.D., Wynnee Hawk, R.N., J.D., Manager, Policy and Legislation

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Bielawski called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

The Committee welcomed David Finkler, Board Counsel and Benjamin Petre, M.D. Dr. Petre is filling the vacant Orthopaedic Surgeon position on the Committee.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Ms. Bristow, the Committee approved the open meeting minutes of February 11, 2014.

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

There was nothing to report.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Proposed Language for Evaluation and Treatment Protocols**

The Committee discussed proposed language to expedite the process of an athletic trainer having to wait for Board approval of their evaluation and treatment protocol before the athletic trainer can practice. Ms. Smith provided the Committee with a copy of the physician assistants (PAs) statute (Health Occupations Article, §15-302.1(a). The language in the PAs statute allows Board staff to preliminarily approve delegation agreements so that PAs do not have to wait for Board approval before they may begin practicing. She suggested to expedite the process, the Committee may want to consider recommending amending the language in the athletic trainers statute to the Board (Health Occupations Article, §14-5D-11(b)(3)) to language that is similar to the language in the PAs statute.

After discussion, the Committee agreed to move forward with language to expedite the approval process for evaluation and treatment protocols.

### **Board Presentation for April 30, 2014 Board Meeting**

Ms. Smith suggested that both athletic trainers and a physician Committee member attend the April 30, 2014 Board meeting to discuss concussion management, education, training and supervision of athletic trainers.

Mr. Bielawski will invite Donna Ritenour, Salisbury University and Mike Higgins, Towson University to the meeting to discuss the educational aspect. He suggested speaking about concussion management, differentiating between acute assessment and return to play.

### **Newsletter Articles from ATAC (Heat Exhaustion, Concussion Management)**

The Committee will submit a news article about heat exhaustion and concussion management for the Board's June 2014 newsletter. Ms. Smith informed the Committee that there is a section for athletic trainers, "Hot Topics", on the Board's website where they can post information about heat exhaustion and concussion management.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Clinical Rotation – Karl Bailey, ATC**

Mr. Bailey informed the Committee that the Health and Education Committee has assessed fees to out-of-state students who come into Maryland to get clinical and educational experience. He made telephone calls to find out about the fees, but he could not find any information. Ms. Smith will ask Ms. Hawk to look into the fees that are being assessed.

### **Inquiry from Head ATC at Frostburg**

Mr. Bielawski stated that Ms. Bristow and he received a phone call from the head athletic trainer at Frostburg State University about students who were working and representing themselves as athletic trainers. Ms. Bristow explained that Wooten Basketball Camp is being held at Frostburg. The certified athletic trainer for Wooten's has been told that the students cannot work as an athletic trainer, but they can work as first responders. The head athletic trainer at Frostburg did not take part in supervising the students.

The Committee will send a letter to Wooten's lead athletic trainer stating that any students working at the camp that are not taking part in an educational curriculum cannot refer to themselves as athletic trainers. The students may function in the capacity of first responders. Mr. Bielawski will bring this up at the Maryland Athletic Trainers Association's meeting.

**Can a certified athletic trainer from out-of-state work at a camp in Maryland for 1 or 2 weeks without obtaining a license?**

The Committee discussed whether or not a certified athletic trainer from an out-of-state entity can work in Maryland without obtaining a license and evaluation and treatment protocol. Health Occupations §14-5D-07 states:

*(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, on or after October 1, 2011, an individual shall be licensed by the Board before the individual may practice athletic training in the State.*

*(b) This section does not apply to:*

*(1) An individual employed by the federal government as an athletic trainer while the individual is practicing within the scope of that employment;*

*(2) An individual employed by or under contract with an entity located in another state who represents that entity:*

*(i) At an athletic event in the State;*

*(ii) For a period of time not to exceed 45 days within a calendar year;*

*and*

*(iii) By providing athletic training services to individuals representing the entity at the event; or*

*(3) A student enrolled in an education program that meets the criteria of § 14-5D-08(c)(2) of this subtitle while engaged in an unpaid, clinical educational experience of athletic training.*

After discussion, the Committee will further review Health Occupations §14-5D-07 to determine if additional language is needed to accommodate certified athletic trainers from out-of-state.

### **Medstar National Rehabilitation Hospital - Physical Therapy Residency Program**

Mr. Bielawski informed the Committee as FYI that Medstar National Rehab Hospital is implementing a physical therapy (PT) residency program which will allow additional education/qualifications for their PTs to become sports therapists. The program will be a 2-year program.

### **Maryland Athletic Trainers Association**

Mr. Bailey informed the Committee that the State meeting will be held on June 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at Towson University.

### **BOC Information Exchange**

Ms. Smith informed the Committee that the BOC want to exchange disciplinary information about athletic trainers with other states. The Board is looking into the exchange where they would provide information about athletic trainers that have been disciplined in Maryland.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Submitted by,

*Phyllis Washington*

Phyllis Washington

Allied Health Analyst