

# Who is protecting your school's student-athletes?

Ohio Athletic Trainers' Association  
High School Committee

Congratulations to the following model high school athletic training programs in Ohio. The High School Committee solicited nominations of these programs from their statewide members. Governor Bob Taft urged all Ohioans to become involved in the programs and activities sponsored by the Ohio Athletic Trainers' Association in order to become more educated about the benefits of athletic training.

The National Athletic Trainers' Association, as a leader in health care for the physically active, believes that the prevention and treatment of injuries to student-athletes are a priority. The recognition and treatment of injuries to student-athletes must be immediate. The medical delivery system for injured student-athletes needs a coordinator within the local school community who will facilitate the prevention, recognition, treatment and reconditioning of sports related injuries. Therefore, it is the position of the National Athletic Trainers' Association that all secondary schools should provide the services of a full time, on-site, certified athletic trainer (ATC) to student-athletes.

The American Medical Association in June of 1998 adopted a policy calling for NATABOC athletic trainers in all high schools that have athletic programs, signaling a continuing commitment to youth sports safety and a confidence in ATCs. "The AMA statement is good news for high school athletes," said NATA President Kent Falb, ATC, PT. "This recommendation has, without question, enhanced the quality of healthcare to the secondary school athlete. It helps ensure that the young men and women of this country have safer competitive facilities and conditioning programs. Support like this from the AMA speaks to the professional credibility of certified athletic trainers. The recommendation reflects a growing public awareness of the value of certified athletic trainers in all settings for physically active people."

This list will serve as a resource for school administrators, athletic departments, and physicians desiring to enhance or implement a school based athletic training program. Please note the variations in job responsibilities, program size, equipment, and personnel. Customizing a program to the unique features and resources of a school district has been a tradition among athletic training programs. Feel free to contact any of the listed athletic trainers, committee members or OATA officers should you have any questions. School based certified athletic trainers are 100% dedicated, 100% of the time. Thank you for your interest and support of safety in quality athletic programs.