Instructions for Preparation and Submission of All Abstracts for EATA Free Communications:

For Either Oral or Poster Presentation

Please read all instructions before preparing and submitting the abstract. Individuals may submit only one **Original Research Abstract** or **Clinical Case Report Abstract** as the primary (presenting) author, but may submit unlimited abstracts as a secondary author. All abstracts will undergo blind review. All presentations must be of original work (not previously presented). This restriction includes any electronic/internet postings. Exceptions to this restriction are limited to state and district meetings of athletic training organizations, and the NATA Athletic Training Educators' Conference.

The **Original Research Abstract** must be written to the generally accepted scientific standards of a research area and should present findings pertaining to healthcare issues related to the athletic training profession. The **Clinical Case Report Abstract** should present a unique individual athletic injury case of general interest to the NATA membership.

1. Provide all information requested on the online Abstract Author Information Form.

2. Top, bottom, right, and left margins of the body of the abstract (in a WORD file) should be set at 1" using the standard 8.5" x 11" format. Use either Arial or Helvetica 12pt. font with single spacing. Provide the title of the paper or project starting at the left margin.

3. On the next line, indent 3 spaces and provide the names of all authors, with the author who will make the presentation listed first. Enter the last name, then initials (without periods), followed by a comma, and continue the same format for all secondary authors (if any), ending with a colon.

4. On the same line following the colon, indicate the name of the institution (including the city and state) where the research was conducted. If primary author is not at the institution where the work was completed place an * after their name and following the institution where the research was conducted the primary author can indicate there present institution (including the city and state). For collaborative projects where portions of the project were conducted at different institutions, list all authors as described above (#3), then list institutional affiliations using the following consecutive symbols (*, †, ‡, §, ‖, ¶, #, **, etc.)

5. Double space and begin entering the body of the abstract flush left in a single paragraph with no indentions. **The text of the body must be structured** (with the headings as indicated in the various formats below). Do not justify the right margin. Do not include tables or figures. The body of the abstract for **Original Research is limited to 450 words.** The body of the abstract for **Clinical Case Report is limited to 600 words.** A word count generated by MS Word must be included at the bottom of the

abstract. The word count should include the body of the abstract and structured headings.

6. The required formats for the structured abstracts are listed below. For further clarification, authors should consult the AMA Manual of Style 9th edition.

7. Abstracts fall into one of the following 5 categories; the author is responsible for determining the most applicable category for structuring their abstract: **Basic Research**, **Qualitative Research**, **Survey Research**, **Meta-Analysis Research** or **Clinical Case Report**.

Review Criteria for All Original Research Abstracts:
Basic Research, Qualitative Research, Survey Research and Meta-Analysis Research

- Completeness of requested information in each structured heading.
- Overall clarity of writing
- Originality of research
- Methods and results address the primary objective
- Consistency between data and conclusions
- Adequacy of sample size to support conclusions

Format For Basic Research Abstracts (e.g. experimental and epidemiological)
Context: Write a sentence or two summarizing the rationale for the study, providing a reason for the study question. **Objective:** State the precise objective(s) or question(s) addressed in the report, including a *priori* hypotheses if applicable. **Design:** Describe the overall study design of the project reported (e.g., randomized controlled trial, crossover trial, cohort or cross-sectional). **Setting:** Describe the environment in which the study was conducted to help readers understand the transferability of the findings, (e.g., patient clinic, research laboratory or field). **Patients or Other Participants:** Describe the underlying target population, selection procedures (e.g., population based sample, volunteer sample or convenience sample) and important aspects of the final subject pool (e.g., number, average age, weight, height and measures of variance, years of experience or gender). **Interventions:** Interventions are the independent variables in the study. Describe the essential pieces of the experimental methods, types of materials, measurements and instrumentation utilized, data analysis procedures and statistical tests employed. Provide validity and reliability information on novel instrumentation. **Main Outcome Measures:** Clearly identify primary or critical dependent variables that support the primary objective(s) of the study. **Results:** The main results of the study should be given. Comparative reports must* include descriptive data (e.g., proportions, means, rates, odds ratios or correlations), accompanying measures of dispersion (e.g., ranges, standard deviations or confidence intervals) and inferential statistical data. Results should be accompanied by the exact level of statistical significance. The *P* value should not exceed 3 digits to the right of decimal. When the exact significance is below $P < .001$, the exact significance should be reported as $P < .001$. **Conclusions:** Summarize or emphasize the new and

important findings of the study and, if possible, relate implications of the findings for clinical practice. The statement of your findings must be consistent with the results as reported and should be no more than three sentences. **Word Count:** Limited to 450 words including headings.

** The purpose of having both descriptive and inferential data is that it provides the reader with the ability to judge the concluding statements. Descriptive data provides confidence that the data are 'reliable' and provides a gauge to determine whether the inferential statistics and conclusions are meaningful. Studies reporting analysis of larger data bases with multiple variables do not need to report all descriptive data, but should provide descriptive data for those variables which the author(s) believe to be the primary outcome(s) and support the overall conclusions of the study. There may be a few reports where both descriptive and inferential data may not be required (e.g., reliability or regression analysis).*

Format For Qualitative Research Abstracts

Context: Write a sentence or two summarizing the rationale for the study, providing a reason for the study question. **Objective:** State the precise objective(s) or question(s) addressed in the report. **Design:** Describe the overall study design of the project reported (e.g., case study, phenomenology or grounded theory). **Setting:** Describe the environment in which the study was conducted to help readers understand the transferability of the findings, (e.g., patient clinic or educational institution). **Patients or Other Participants:** Describe the underlying target population, selection procedures and important aspects of the final subject pool (e.g., number, average age and measures of variance, years of experience or gender). Describe the essential pieces of the sampling methods (e.g., theoretical sampling and criterion sampling). Comment on why this number of participants was used (e.g., data saturation guided the total number of participants selected for the study). **Data Collection and Analysis:** Describe how the data were collected (e.g., interviews, observations or document analysis), managed (e.g., interviews were recorded and transcribed verbatim; identify if software was utilized) and analyzed (e.g., the interviews were analyzed using an inductive content analysis). Include intercoder agreement information if relevant to the study. Identify any strategies used to ensure trustworthiness (e.g., indicate form of triangulation, multiple interviews or peer debriefer). **Results:** The main results of the study should be given. Provide a descriptive account of the case, or your interpretation of the findings, which would include identifying and briefly explaining emergent categories of themes. **Conclusions:** Summarize or emphasize the new and important findings of the study and relate implications of the findings for future research and/or for clinical practice. The statement of your findings must be consistent with the results as reported and should be no more than five sentences. **Word Count:** Limited to 450 words including headings.

Format For Survey Research Abstracts

Context: Write a sentence or two summarizing the rationale for the study, providing a reason for the study question. **Objective:** State the precise objective(s), purpose or

question(s) addressed in the report. **Design:** Describe the overall study design of the project reported (e.g., cross sectional, case-control, longitudinal or controlled intervention trial). **Setting:** Describe the environment in which the study was conducted to help readers understand the transferability of the findings, (e.g., population-based, patient clinic, classroom or athletic event). **Patients or Other Participants:** Describe the underlying target population, sample selection procedures (e.g., population based, volunteer or convenience sample, random or systematic sample, or stratified or cluster sampling) and important aspects of the final subject pool (e.g., number, average age, years of experience or gender). Provide the final response rate. **Interventions:** Interventions are the independent variables in the study. Describe the essential pieces of the experimental methods, the mode of survey administration (e.g., in-person interview, telephone, self- administered, online or computer-assisted), details of the survey development (formative research or pre-testing for new instruments), execution and data collection process, instruments utilized, data analysis procedures and statistical tests employed. Provide validity and reliability information for all instruments. **Main Outcome Measures:** Clearly identify primary or critical dependent variables that support the primary objective(s) of the study. Describe how any data was manipulated (e.g. scoring process for scaled instruments or categorization of variables). **Results:** The main results of the study should be given. Reports must* include descriptive data (e.g., proportions, means, rates, odds ratios or correlations), accompanying measures of dispersion (e.g., ranges, standard deviations or confidence intervals) and inferential statistical data. Results should be accompanied by the exact level of statistical significance. The *P* value should not exceed 3 digits to the right of decimal. When the exact significance is below $P < .001$, the exact significance should be reported as $P < .001$. **Conclusions:** Summarize or emphasize the new and important findings of the study and relate implications of the findings for clinical practice. The statement of your findings must be consistent with the results as reported and should be no more than three sentences. **Word Count:** Limited to 450 words including headings.

** The purpose of having both descriptive and inferential data is that it provides the reader with the ability to judge the concluding statements. Descriptive data provides confidence that the data are 'reliable' and provides a gauge to determine whether the inferential statistics and conclusions are meaningful.*

Format For Meta-Analysis Research Abstracts

Context: Write a sentence or two summarizing the rationale for the study, providing a reason for the study question. **Objective:** State the precise objective(s) or question(s) addressed in the report, including a *priori* hypotheses if applicable. **Data Sources:** Identify how relevant research papers were identified - include databases and timeframe, key words and search limits. **Study Selection:** Describe the processes through which studies were selected for inclusion for further analysis. **Data Extraction:** Identify the number of investigators, the descriptive and measurement data obtained and if and how the quality of study methods was evaluated. **Data Synthesis:** Describe how the data were organized, the statistical procedures applied (during assessment of

heterogeniety) and the results (e.g., effect sizes, odds ratios and confidence intervals) of the analysis. **Conclusions:** Summarize or emphasize the new and important findings of the study and relate implications of the findings for future research and/or for clinical practice and offer an indication as to the strength of the evidence provided. The statement of your findings must be consistent with the results as reported. **Word Count:** Limited to 450 words including headings.

Review Criteria for All Clinical Case Report Abstracts:

- Completeness of requested information in each structured heading.
- Overall clarity of writing
- Originality of clinical case report
- Case managed within the standard of care

Format For Clinical Case Report Abstracts

Background: 1-2 sentences on the background for the CASE report. For a Level 1 Validation CASE Study, the authors should provide a clear description of the Previously Reported Comparison Study (well-conducted systematic review, metaanalysis, individual study) and highlight the most important findings. For Level 2 & 3 Exploration CASE Studies / CASE Series, the purpose of the exploratory case series /study is to clearly describe an alternate, unique, or irregular presentations of either common (highly prevalent) or uncommon conditions when compared to the available evidence. **Case Presentation:** Use PICO as a guide to the case presentation. **Conclusions:** Interpret the findings of the study. Interpret the findings from the current case in the context with the previously reported comparison study. How do the findings of this case contribute to what is known about a condition or treatment? **Clinical Bottom Line:** Provide an overall statement of the most important clinical point(s) that can be gleaned from the current CASE study. **Word Count:** Limited to 600 words including headings.