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

Please read all instructions before preparing and submitting your abstract. Individuals may submit only one abstract as the primary (presenting) author, but may submit unlimited abstracts as a secondary author. All abstracts will undergo a 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.

All abstracts will be submitted via Google Forms. Any forms not completed fully will be automatically rejected. It is highly recommended authors complete their abstracts in Word to ensure proper word count, because authors will have to report this count and not exceed the maximum threshold. Sections I – III of this document provide additional detail regarding category submissions. Please refer to the annual *"Call For Abstracts"*, posted on the EATA website, for the appropriate links based upon submission category. You will receive an email confirmation of your submission.

There are separate submissions for students and professionals. Students who are submitting work from their ***professional-level program*** (either bachelor or master) need to use the links under the ***STUDENT Submission*** section in *the "Call For Abstracts".*

Students enrolled in a ***post-professional graduate program*** (master or doctoral) will use the links under the ***PROFESSIONAL Submission*** section in the *"Call For Abstracts".* All ***professional Certified Athletic Trainers*** will submit under the ***PROFESSIONAL Submission*** category.

Additional Requirements for Student Submissions:

a. Faculty mentor's name and email address must be provided.
b. Faculty mentors will be contacted to verify if they have reviewed and approved the abstract.
c. Failure for the faculty mentor to review & approve the abstract will result in an automatic rejection.
d. Emails will be sent to faculty mentors shortly after the deadline for submission.

ALL Abstracts will fall into one of the following categories: Experimental Design, CASE Reports, Critically Appraised Topics (CAT).

I. Experimental Design

Research will fall into one of following sub-categories: (a) Basic Research, (b) Qualitative Research, or (c) Survey Research.

a. *Basic Research*:

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.

b. Qualitative Research:

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

c. Survey Research:

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

II. CASE Reports

a. There are 4 evidence levels for Clinical CASE Reports based upon the evidence generated and the case design. For EATA, only levels 1-3 (described below) will be considered. Levels 1-3 more broadly contribute to clinical practice. Level 4 CASE Reports, which are used to describe rare events, will not be considered. Authors will have to identify which level their CASE Report falls within.
   For a more in-depth presentation of the Clinical Case Reports, see Clinical Contributions to the Available Sources of Evidence (CASE) Reports: Executive Summary doi:10.4085/1062-6050-51.9.07
b. Level 1: The purpose of a Level 1 CASE is to test or validate the results of previously published research
c. Level 2: The purpose of a Level 2 CASE is to report on several unique cases with a similar defining feature that links the cases together.
d. Level 3: The purpose of a Level 3 CASE is to report on a unique case.

All CASE Reports will follow the below formatting:
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, meta-analysis, individual study) and highlight the most important findings. For Level 2 Exploration Case Series & Level 3 Exploration CASE Studies; 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 best available research. **Case Presentation:** Use PICO as a guide to the case presentation. **Conclusions:** Interpret the findings from the current case and compare these to more typical presentation(s) of the injury/condition as previously reported in the literature. 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

III. Critically Appraised Topic (CAT)

a. Critically Appraised Topics are brief systematic reviews of the most current and best available evidence to answer a focused clinical question related to the recognition, rehabilitation, and prevention of sport-related injuries. While large-scale systematic reviews and meta-analyses involve an exhaustive search of the literature, CATs involve similar elements but on a smaller scale (typically 3-8 sources of peer-reviewed evidence).
b. CATs will follow the below formatting:
   Focused Clinical Question: Typically, the PICO (Patient or Population of interest, Intervention, Comparison or Control group, Outcome of interest) format is used to

develop the clinical question. **Data Sources**: Identify how relevant research papers were identified – search strategy (electronic databases, hand search, etc), databases, timeframe of search, key words, and search limits. **Study Selection**: Describe the criteria for selection - the processes through which studies were selected for inclusion for further analysis. **Data Extraction**: Describe the specific outcomes that were to be gathered from the included studies. **Summary Measures**: Describe the main summary measures or analyses to be used (calculation of effect sizes, odds ratios, mean differences, etc). In other words, describe how the extracted data were organized & summarized, the statistical procedures applied, and the results (e.g., effect sizes, odds ratios and 95% confidence intervals) of the analysis. **Evidence Appraisal**: Describe the method used to appraise the quality of the evidence included, addressing issues related to the internal (the ability to determine cause and effect) and external (the ability to generalize) validity of the evidence. **Search Results**: Present the overall results of the number of studies screened vs. those included. **Data Synthesis**: For all outcomes considered, present a summary of data for each comparison, group differences, intervention, etc. For these results point estimates and measures of variability should be presented (for example, effect sizes and confidence intervals). **Evidence Quality**: Present the overall results of the Evidence Appraisal. **Conclusions**: Summarize the main findings of the study. Emphasize the "answer" to the clinical question. Interpret these findings within the context of the strengths / weaknesses / biases based on the evidence appraisal. **Word Count**: Limited to 600 words