



# **40th Annual Conference and Business Meeting**

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**MARCH 1-2, 2026  
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ**

# Sunday, March 1st

# Student Session

10:00 am - 6:00 pm	Registration		
10:55 am - 11:00 am	Welcome - Steve Barandica   Lecture Hall - Castanet		
11:00 am - 11:55 am	<b>Considerations for Best Mental Health Screening Practices Adapted from a Studied Prevalence of Mental Health Symptoms Among Adolescent Male Student Athletes</b> Luis Torres   Lecture Hall - Castanet		
11:45 am - 11:55 am	Welcome and Introductions - JadeAnn Menear   Mambo		
12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	Keynote Address - Don Kessler   Lecture Hall - Castanet		
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	ATSNJ Annual Business Meeting - Steve Barandica   Lecture Hall - Castanet		
1:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Exhibit Hall Open		
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Buffet Lunch   Exhibitor Break		
	NJEA Q&A - Bongo 1		
1:45 pm - 2:35 pm	<b>Ace the AT Interview: A Game Plan to Get The Job!</b> JadeAnn Menear, Hector Santiago, Casey Christy   Mambo		
2:00 pm - 2:30 pm	<b>Bridging the Gap: Navigating the Return to Sport-Return to Competition Continuum</b> Chris Meny   Lecture Hall - Castanet		
2:35 pm - 3:05 pm	Management of Acute Dislocations - Dan Baer, Jason Kopec   Lecture Hall - Castanet		
2:35 pm - 2:45 pm	Exhibitor Break		
2:45 pm - 3:40 pm	<b>Managing the Diabetic Physically Active Patient</b> JadeAnn Menear, Hector Santiago, Aiden Prybicien, Michael Prybicien   Mambo		
3:10 pm - 3:40 pm	Spiraling Under Control - Veronica Dilzer   Lecture Hall - Castanet		
3:45 pm - 4:15 pm	It Looks Like Exertional Heat Stroke... Now What? - David Csillan   Castanet		
4:20 pm - 5:05 pm	Open Learning Lab		
	Chris Meny   Bongo 1	Veronica Dilzer   Bongo 2	Dan Baer, Jason Kopec Bossa Nova 2 & 3
5:10 pm - 5:55 pm	Open Learning Lab		
	Chris Meny   Bongo1	Veronica Dilzer   Bongo2	Dan Baer, Jason Kopec Bossa Nova 2 & 3
5:10 pm - 5:40 pm	ATSNJ Student Dinner & Award Presentations - Mambo		
5:40 pm - 6:30 pm	Student Quiz Bowl - JadeAnn Menear   Mambo		
6:00 pm - 6:45 pm	Open Learning Lab		
	Chris Meny   Bongo 1	Veronica Dilzer   Bongo 2	Dan Baer, Jason Kopec Bossa Nova 2 & 3
6:30 pm - 6:45 pm	Adjourn - JadeAnn Menear   Mambo		
6:45 pm - 6:50 pm	Adjourn - Steve Barandica   Lecture Hall - Castanet		

Monday, March 2nd

Student Session

7:30 am - 11:00 am	Registration
7:30 am - 2:00 pm	Exhibit Hall Opens
7:55 am - 8:00 am	<b>Welcome</b> Steve Barandica   Lecture Hall - Castanet
8:00 am - 8:55 am	<b>Expect the Unexpected: CNS Dysfunction in Exertional Heat Stroke at a Warm-Weather Road Race</b> John Jardine   Lecture Hall - Castanet
9:00 am - 9:55 am	<b>Secondary School Athletic Trainers: A Data-Centric Overview of Job Satisfaction and Strategies for Risk Reduction, Recruitment, and Retention</b> Michael Prybicien, Peter Koeniges   Lecture Hall - Castanet
9:55 am - 10:15 am	Exhibitor Break & Student Poster Presentations
10:15 am - 11:10 am	<b>Reframing Concussion Care: Science, Strategy, and Support for the Injured Brain</b> Daniel Scura   Lecture Hall - Castanet
11:15 am - 12:45 pm	<b>Annual Awards Brunch</b> Mambo
12:45 pm - 1:15 pm	Exhibit Hall Open
1:15 pm - 2:10 pm	<b>Management of Complicated Multi-Ligament Knee Injuries</b> Patrick Buckley   Lecture Hall - Castanet
1:45 pm - 2:35 pm	<b>Ace the AT Interview: A Game Plan to Get The Job!</b> JadeAnn Menear, Hector Santiago, Casey Christy   Mambo
2:10 pm - 2:15 pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b> Steve Barandica   Lecture Hall - Castanet



# 2026 Annual Conference

**Monday, March 2, 2026 | Atlantic City, NJ**

## Conference Compendium



Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey

# 40th Annual Conference and Business Meeting

## ATHLETIC ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SAFETY AWARD



**Eugene Lee**  
Montclair State University

The winner this year's Athletic Environmental Health Safety Award is Eugene Lee from Montclair State University. Eugene is from Fort Lee, New Jersey. His previous clinical experience was at Don Bosco Preparatory High School.

He is currently in the CAATE program at Montclair State University Athletic Training Program. His current clinical site is Union High School.

Eugene plays a key role as a member of the ATSNJ Student Leadership Committee and as the Conference Committee Representative.



# 40th Annual Conference and Business Meeting

## JACK WEAKLEY DISTRICT II SCHOLARSHIP



As the Director of the Sports Medicine Group for Johnson and Johnson Consumer Products Company, Jack Weakley has continuously played a major role in the NATA, the profession of athletic training and the evolution of the Athletic Trainer's Society of New Jersey. He has been instrumental in providing leadership, guidance and his support of our organization has been invaluable. The Jack Weakley District 2 Scholarship is named for an individual who is a champion of Athletic Training on a national level, and a true friend to Athletic Trainers in the state of New Jersey and honors award recipients who share Jack's motto, "Helping those who help others."

### **The recipient of the 2026 Jack Weakley District II College Scholarship is Ryan Porcelli from Kean University.**

The 2026 Jack Weakly D2 Scholarship winner is Ryan Porcelli of Kean University. The award, named in honor of the legendary leader and contributor to the athletic training community, is awarded to a deserving student enrolled in one of New Jersey's CAATE programs. Ryan, a Parsippany, New Jersey resident, is a member of his Athletic Training Club and has been a member of the Dean's List. Ryan has also been named a Kean University Association College of Health CHPHS Scholar.





Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey

# ATSNJ

## 40th Annual Conference and Business Meeting

### **RICHARD F. MALACREA COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP**



A respected member of the NATA for 27 years, "Dick" Malacrea's accomplishments have been extensive since achieving his Certificate of Physical Therapy in 1957. Hard work and sacrifice became a way of life for Dick after serving in the U.S. Army as Scout upon his graduation from West Chester State College in 1954. He then continued on with his career to become a Staff Athletic Trainer. In 1968, Dick made his final career move to Princeton University as Head Athletic Trainer. Richard F. Malacrea is a charter member of the ATSNJ, Inc. Hall of Fame. He was a founding father of the ATSNJ and one of the original authors of the New Jersey Athletic Training Practice Act in 1984. Through this society, Dick was appointed by NJ Governor Tom Kean to be Chairman of the Legislative Committee of Advisors to the Board of Medical Examiners. Malacrea was the NATA Vice President, EATA President and NATA District Two Director, as well as Chairperson of the Athletic Training Advisory Committee. He was a recipient of the "Pinky" Newell Award: ATSNJ, Inc. Distinguished Service Award and the Cramer Award. Malacrea was selected to the NATA Hall of Fame in 1992. Dick has always worked to help others achieve and to create the high standards of athletic trainers today.

### **The recipient of the 2026 Richard F. Malacrea College Scholarship is Samantha Dreissig from Kean University.**

The 2026 Richard Malacrea Scholarship winner is Kean University's Samantha Dreissig. This award, named in honor of the National Athletic Trainers' Association Hall of Famer and founding member of the Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey, Inc., is presented to an athletic training student demonstrating superior academic achievement and involvement. Samantha resides in Linden, New Jersey, and serves as the Secretary for the ATSNJ Student Leaders Committee. She has also served as a student representative to the NATA District 2.





## 40th Annual Conference and Business Meeting

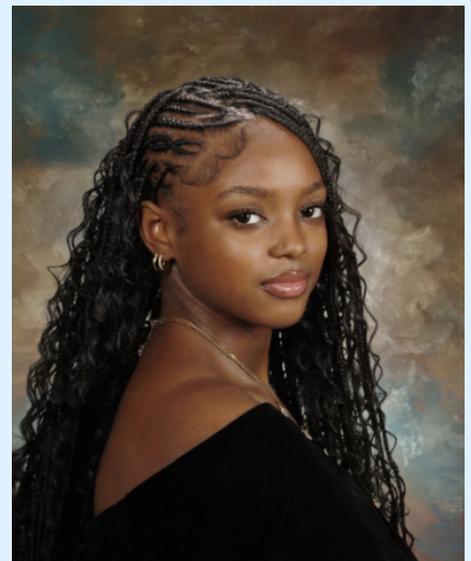
### VICTOR D. RECINE HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP



Victor “Vito” Recine was considered by many of his colleagues to be a pioneer in the field of Athletic Training and in establishing the importance of Athletic Trainers in high schools in New Jersey. His career covered over 40 years of service to athletes of New Brunswick and Sayreville High School, as well as Rutgers University. Mr. Recine served the NJSIAA as Head Athletic Trainer for all championship events, was past president of the EATA, and an original member of the National Athletic Trainers Association. He entered the NATA Hall of Fame in 1978. He also participated in U.S Olympic Festival and Pan American Games as an athletic trainer. Very important to Athletic Trainers in New Jersey, he was a driving force instrumental in the registration of Athletic Trainers and founding of the Athletic Trainers’ Society of New Jersey. Vito was loved and respected by friends, colleagues and athletes, and dedicated his life to sports, athletic competition and serving young people. He was a true champion and friend to all who knew him.

### **The recipient of the 2026 Victor D. Recine Memorial High School Scholarship is Amaya Presley from Hillside High School.**

This year’s recipient of the Victor (Vito) Recine High School Scholarship is Amaya Presley of Hillside High School. Amaya has been an athletic training student aide for three years. She has also been a member of the Football and Basketball Cheer Teams, and the Track and Field Team. Amaya has attended the ATSNJ High School Athletic Training Student Aide Workshop along with the Brain Injury Alliance Seminar. She is currently the President of the Hillside High School Athletic Training Club.





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### DR. TIMOTHY HOSEA TEAM PHYSICIAN AWARD



Dr. Hosea was a graduate of Harvard University and the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. He did his internship at Peter Brent Brigham Hospital, completed his residency at the Harvard Combined Orthopaedic Program at Massachusetts General Hospital and achieved a fellowship in sport medicine at the Brigham and Women's Hospital. As a partner at University Orthopaedic Associates, where he practiced for over 30 years, he was a pillar of professionalism and patient care. In addition, he was the orthopaedic consultant and team physician for Rutgers University football. He also served as the team physician for the USRowing national team at 12 world rowing championships and many Olympic Games. As a physician, he was a skilled healer. However, many colleagues testify that his true skill was relating to and dealing with athletes and patients on a personal level. Dr. Hosea was the utmost caring, compassionate person.

### The recipient of the 2026 Dr. Timothy Hosea Team Physician Award is Dr. Thomas S. Bottiglieri.

The 2026 Dr. Timothy Hosea Team Physician Award winner is Thomas S. Bottiglieri, DO. A 1999 graduate of Wagner College, Dr. Bottiglieri obtained his medical degree from University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine. An advocate for athletic trainers in the State of New Jersey, Dr. Bottiglieri has served as the Team Physician for numerous, professional, collegiate, and secondary school settings. He has also volunteered for many community and club related athletic events. Dr. Bottiglieri has served as a mentor to a plethora of sports medicine clinicians.





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### **MEDIA AWARD**

*To recognize persons or entities for their positive promotion or enhancement of the Athletic Training profession in New Jersey.*

Dave Kaplan is receiving the 2026 ATSNJ Media Award for his recent publication entitled “How a Jersey Athletic Trainer Helped Shape the NFL’s Concussion Protocols.”

Dave is a West Orange, New Jersey resident and a 1980 graduate of the State University of New York at Cortland. His career began with the Associated Press in 1981. Dave served as the Founding Director of the Yogi Berra Museum & Learning Center from 1998-2017. Dave now serves as a consultant to the museum along with being an Adjunct Professor at both Montclair State University and Seton Hall University.



**Dave Kaplan**



**ATSNJ**  
Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey

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### **PRESIDENTIAL AWARD**



#### **The recipient of the 2026 Presidential Award is Senator Joseph A. Lagana.**

The Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey is proud to present the President's Award to Senator Joseph Lagana in recognition of his leadership and steadfast support of athletic trainers and the patients we serve throughout New Jersey.

With Senator Lagana's instrumental support—and the dedicated work of his committee—our long-awaited update to the New Jersey Athletic Training Licensure Act was successfully guided through the legislative process, marking the first major overhaul of the law since 2007/2008. This achievement represents the culmination of several years of advocacy and collaboration aimed at modernizing our profession and improving access to healthcare across the state.

On behalf of our membership, ATSNJ extends our sincere gratitude to Senator Lagana for his leadership and unwavering support.



# 40th Annual Conference and Business Meeting

## HALL OF FAME



### **The recipient of the 2026 Hall of Fame Award is Jessica Springstead, EdD, LAT, ATC.**

Jessica Springstead, EdD, LAT, ATC is the 2026 Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey Hall of Fame Inductee. Jessica obtained his bachelor's degree from Kean University in 2002, master's degree from Salisbury University in 2004, and her Doctor of Education in Higher Education from Seton Hall University in 2015. A long-time leader in New Jersey's athletic training community, she has served a wide range of athletes in the secondary school, collegiate, and clinical setting. Jessica has served the ATSNJ as the Northern Regional Representative, President-Elect, President, and Past President. She has been a member of the Student, Conference, and Governmental Affairs Committees. She currently serves as the Annual Conference Committee Co-Chair. Jessica received the ATSNJ Distinguished Service Award in 2023.



Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey

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# 40th Annual Conference and Business Meeting

## CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

### **VICTOR D. RECINE** **MEMORIAL HIGH** **SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP**

1988 - Nicole Figard  
1989 - Greta Jansch  
1990 - Frank Merck  
1991 - Jennifer Becker  
1992 - Eric Reinhold  
1993 - Christine Flynn  
1994 - Jennifer Scull  
1995 - Danielle Graziani  
1996 - Carla Chianese  
1997 - Melissa Whitman  
1998 - James Maison  
1999 - Kelli Ann Williams  
2000 - Kathryn Elbert  
2001 - Amanda Mackel  
2003 - Lauryn Herchakowski  
2004 - Dana Winkler  
2005 - Carrie Ann Georgiadis  
2006 - Michelle Benn  
2007 - Carolyn Bogdon  
2008 - Jessica Anderson  
2009 - Melissa Walker  
2010 - John Merris  
2011 - Lindsey Davis  
2012 - Stacy Blickman  
2013 - Devin P. Dromgoole  
2014 - Caitlin Brinkman  
2016 - Katherine Godfrey  
2016 - Andrew Gansas  
2017 - LaNiece Brown  
2018 - Michelle Freitas  
2019 - KyAsia Mays  
2020 - Chinonye Igwe  
2021 - Bridget Thomas  
2023 - Aileen Forsyth  
2024 - Ava Parziale  
2026 - Amaya Presley

### **RICHARD F. MALACREA** **COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP**

1992 - Lawrence Baggitt  
1993 - Joel Destefano  
1994 - Mark Donetz  
1995 - Michele Anton  
1996 - Julie Mac Millan  
1997 - Denise Wujciak  
1998 - Jennifer Long  
1999 - Nicholas Cicarelli  
2000 - Leah Ewing  
2001 - Melissa Whitman  
2002 - Steven Viana  
2003 - Joseph Savoia  
2004 - Miyuki Hattori  
2005 - Gregory Keith  
2006 - Ryan Kardos  
2007 - Dana Winkler  
2008 - Amy O' Connor  
2009 - Colleen M. Rackett  
2010 - Jessica Schoenstein  
2011 - Justin Maher  
2012 - Sara Cline  
2013 - Stephen Dipple  
2014 - Chelsea Davis  
2015 - Megan Teller  
2016 - Haley Anderson  
2017 - Nicole Pietrapertosa  
2018 - Mary-Grace Testa  
2019 - Juliana Romero  
2020 - Nicole Thompson  
2021 - Patrick McClain  
2022 - Alicia Mitchell  
2023 - Tayler Garron  
2024 - Samantha Corallo  
2025 - Maya Jones  
2026 - Samantha Dreissig

### **JACK WEAKLEY** **DISTRICT II COLLEGE** **SCHOLARSHIP**

2001 - Keir Howland  
2002 - Jessica Springstead  
2003 - Stacy Gaven  
2004 - Vincent Leavey  
2005 - Ryan Kardos  
2006 - Meaghan Conti  
2007 - Sergiusz Monasterski  
2008 - Dana Winkler  
2009 - Matthew E. Brackney  
2010 - Victoria Stanislawski  
2011 - Nicole Morelli  
2012 - Michael Boisselle  
2013 - Steven Barandica  
2014 - Joseph Vogler  
2015 - Andrew Calore  
2016 - Sara Garn  
2017 - Kelsey Harkin  
2018 - Madalyn DiBona  
2019 - Morgan Duncan  
2020 - Sarah Unger  
2021 - Sarah Myers  
2022 - Jenna Daily  
2023 - Brooke Sachau  
2024 - Jordyn Hecker  
2025 - Kyle Grehan  
2026 - Ryan Porcelli



Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey

# ATSNJ

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### CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

#### ATSNJ PRESIDENTIAL AWARD

1996 - Jack Weakley  
1997 - Honorable John Lynch  
1997 - Honorable Robert Martin  
1998 - Timothy Hosea, MD  
1999 - Capital Public Affairs, Inc  
2000 - Ernest J. Finizio, Jr.  
2001 - Mary Lou Mattolla KZG  
2002 - Senator John H. Adler  
2002 - Assemb. J. Wisniewski  
2003 - Richard Levandowski, MD  
2004 - Harry Bade, MD Mitch Handler, Ernie Nelson  
2005 - David H. Brogan  
2006 - POA, Bill Hyncik  
2007 - Cherie Gillen, CPA, Inc  
2008 - Senator Raymond J. Lesniak  
2008 - Assemb. Wilfredo Caraballo  
2008 - Adam Kaufman, Eric Orlando  
2009 - John J. Sonzogni Jr., MD  
2010 - Assembly Patrick J. Diegnan,  
2012 - Alan Myers, Fran Raggazino  
2013 - Bill Hyncik, Bill Reger, MJ Rogers  
2014 - Lisa Quadrini  
2015 - John Galluci, Jr.  
2017 - Burlington County ATC's  
2018 - Andrew J. Smith  
2019 - Senator Patrick J Diegnan  
2020 - Mark Bramble  
2022 - Antonio Estevez  
2024 - Ronnie Barnes  
2025 - Greg Tufaro  
2026 - Senator Joseph A. Lagana

#### ATSNJ DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

1988 - Jeff Middleton  
1989 - Phillip Hossler  
1990 - Richard F. Malacrea  
1991 - William Battershall  
1992 - Joseph J. Camillone  
1993 - J. Timothy Sensor  
1995 - Donald Kessler  
1998 - Chuck Whedon  
2001 - Michael Goldenberg  
2003 - Stephen E. Bair  
2003 - Elisa Camillone  
2003 - David Csillan  
2003 - Karen Manista  
2003 - Jeffrey Ryan  
2004 - John Davis  
2005 - Mark Cherwony  
2006 - Debrah Morante  
2007 - Tanya Dargusch  
2007 - Eric Nussbaum  
2008 - Casey Christy  
2009 - Joanne Ploch  
2009 - Robb Rehberg  
2010 - Mark Bramble  
2010 - William VonLeer  
2011 - David Middlemas  
2011 - Michael Prybicien  
2014 - Christina Emrich  
2018 - Eric Schwartz  
2020- Cali Whedon  
2022 - Kevin Briles  
2023 - Jessica Springstead

#### ATSNJ HALL OF FAME

1997 - Joseph J. Camillone  
1997 - Phillip Hossler  
1997 - Richard F. Malacrea  
1997 - Victor D. Recine  
1998 - William Battershall  
1998 - Donald Kessler  
1998 - J. Timothy Sensor  
2003 - Chuck Whedon  
2004 - Stephen E. Bair  
2005 - Michael Goldenberg  
2006 - John Davis  
2007 - Karen Manista  
2008 - David Csillan  
2009 - Mark Cherwony  
2009 - Casey Christy  
2011 - Robb Rehberg  
2012 - Elisa Camillone  
2013 - Michael Prybicien  
2013 - Tanya Dargusch  
2017 - David Middlemas  
2017 - Eric Nussbaum  
2020 - Christina Emrich  
2021 - Mark Bramble  
2022 - William von Leer  
2024 - Eric Schwartz  
2025 - Kevin Briles  
2026 - Jessica Springstead



Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey

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## CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

### **PHILLIP HOSSLER** **LOYALTY AND** **COMMITMENT** **AWARD**

2018 - Suzanne Barba  
2019 - Karen Karosy  
2019 - Leeann Pearce  
2022 - Joseph Friedrich  
2024 - Carl Lange

### **ATHLETIC** **ENVIRONMENTAL** **HEALTH SAFETY**

2025 - Matthew Bryant  
2026 - Eugene Lee

### **DR. TIMOTHY M.** **HOSEA TEAM** **PHYSICIAN AWARD**

2016 - Richard Levandowski, MD  
2017 - Vincent K. McInerney, MD  
2018 - Charles A. Gatt, Jr., MD  
2019 - John P. Kripsak, DO  
2020 - Scott A. Rodeo, MD  
2024 - Stephen Rice, MD  
2025 - Dr. Harry Bade III  
2026 - Dr. Thomas S. Bottiglieri

### **ATSNJ AWARD OF** **MEDIA** **EXCELLENCE**

2003 - Wayne Richardson  
2004 - Tom McGurk  
2005 - Carol Sakowitz  
2006 - Christopher T Edwards  
2009 - Jim Salisbury  
2011 - Jackie Friedman  
2013 - David Biggy, Asbury Park Press  
2019 - Greg Tufaro  
2023 - Jerry Carino  
2025 - Elaine Quijano and Sandra Temko  
2026 - Dave Kaplan



# Pediatric Physical Therapy at NJPNI

*Partnering with Athletic Trainers & Sports Medicine Teams*



**Jhoanna Rae L. Marquez**  
**PT, DAC, INHC**

Doctor of Acupuncture  
Integrative Health Coach

- Physical Therapist for 20+ years
- Expertise in developmental and neurologic conditions
- Specialized care in Cystic Fibrosis, Cerebral Palsy, Scoliosis & more
- Integrates PT with holistic approaches (breathwork, yoga, acupuncture)
- Supports families through complex care needs



**Giana Giorello**  
**PT, DPT**

Doctor of Physical Therapy

- Award-winning research in concussion management and dysautonomia
- Experienced in pediatric care, youth fitness, and after-school programs for children with special needs
- Focuses on patient-centered care and evidence-based practice
- Committed to advancing research in neurologic rehab

## Services We Offer

- ✓ Sports injury rehabilitation
- ✓ Concussion & return-to-play progression
- ✓ Strength & mobility training
- ✓ Postural alignment & core stabilization
- ✓ Balance & coordination therapy
- ✓ Neurologic movement re-education



Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey

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## **SPEAKER GUIDE**

### **Dan Baer PhD, LAT, ATC Athletic Trainer, West Chester University**

Dan Baer has been a faculty member and athletic trainer in the West Chester University Department of Sports Medicine since 2009. In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in sports medicine, Dr. Baer is currently an athletic trainer with the WCU football team and serves as clinical education coordinator for the Master of Science in Athletic Training program. Dr. Baer has been an athletic trainer since 2007, working with a variety of patients in the collegiate setting, including football, women's rugby, and baseball. His research interests include athletic training clinical education, barriers and facilitators to concussion reporting in athletes, and inequities in athletic trainer access.

### **Steve Barandica M.Ed., ATC, LAT ATSNJ President Monroe Township High School**

Steven joined Monroe Township High School as the Director of Athletics & Co-Curricular Programs in July of 2023. Steven graduated from Kean University in 2013 where he received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Athletic Training and a minor in Health Education. He also received a Masters of Education degree in Higher Education Administration with a Sports Management Concentration from Auburn University in 2015. Steven has had the opportunity to work in several different settings. He interned for the Washington Commanders, worked with Division I Football, Tennis & Cheerleading and was also a Physician Extender for Auburn University Athletics as a graduate assistant. He previously served as the Head Athletic Trainer at Woodbridge High School for two years and Westfield High School for 6 years before becoming an athletic director. Steven has a passion for giving back to the community and the field of athletic training through involvement with ATSNJ, serving as preceptor for multiple universities and mentoring younger students. He currently serves as the ATSNJ President; he is also a member of the Fun Run Committee, ATs Care Committee, Secondary School Committee, Conference Committee & Golf Committee. Steven previously served as Treasurer & Corporate Sponsorship Chair.



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## **SPEAKER GUIDE**

### **Patrick Buckley MD Orthopaedic Surgeon University Orthopaedic Association**

Dr. Patrick S. Buckley is a board certified, fellowship trained orthopaedic surgeon at University Orthopaedic Associates (UOA). He is subspecialty certified in sports medicine from the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Dr. Buckley is a sports medicine specialist with advanced training in the treatment of knee, shoulder and hip injuries.

### **Joseph John Camillone Athletic Trainer- Retired ATSNJ Hall of Famer**

Education: Master of Science, Health and Physical Education, 1969, Eastern Michigan University; Bachelor of Science, Health and Physical Education, 1968, The University of Findlay (Formerly Findlay College)

Employment: Head Athletic Trainer 1973-2008, The College of New Jersey (Formerly Trenton State College); Health Education Teacher, Athletic Trainer 1969-1973, Cedar Ridge High School, Old Bridge, NJ

Professional Memberships, Activities and Awards: National Athletic Trainers Association Member since 1968; and more.... (see the speaker listing on the ATSNJ Conference website).

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Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey

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## SPEAKER GUIDE

### **Casey Christy DAT, ATC, CSCS** **Athletic Trainer** **Eastern High School**

Casey Christy, DAT, ATC, CSCS has been an athletic trainer at Eastern High School in Voorhees, NJ since 1994, and has served as an adjunct instructor and preceptor for Rowan University athletic training students for many years. He has served the Athletic Trainers' Society of NJ, Inc. (ATSNJ) in numerous capacities, including President from 2005-2007. He received the ATSNJ Distinguished Service Award in 2008 and was inducted into the ATSNJ Hall of Fame in 2009. Dr. Christy has presented at numerous professional meetings on various topics, from concussions to ACL prevention, and has written the concussion chapter for the Sports Emergency Care (Slack, Inc.) textbook. He received the Adam Taliaferro Foundation Magee Rehabilitation Professional Service Award, and the NATA Service Award in 2017, and the Philadelphia Sports Medicine Congress Ted Quedenfeld Award in 2018. He earned his doctorate in athletic training from Temple University with a research focus on injury documentation. Dr. Christy is a member of the Eastern High School Athletics Hall of Fame for his athletic training service and received the school's Educational Services Professional of the Year in 2024.

### **David Csillan MS, LAT, ATC** **Athletic Trainer** **The Lawrenceville School**

David Csillan earned a bachelor's degree in Health and Physical Education with an emphasis in Athletic Training from Trenton State College (now The College of New Jersey) in 1983 and his master's degree in Athletic Training from Old Dominion University in 1985. Csillan served as the athletic trainer for Ewing High School (Ewing, NJ) from 1991 – 2020. Presently, he is a staff athletic trainer at The Lawrenceville School. For 36 years, Csillan has continued to provide his services on the medical staff for both the TCS New York City Marathon and Special Olympics New Jersey. Also, he can be found busy at the heat deck in the Finish Line Triage Tent for the Boston Marathon and Falmouth Road Race. Csillan is most known for his work with the Korey Stringer Institute in exertional heat stroke education. During the year, he travels throughout the country with the KSI staff on their Team Up for Sports Safety campaign focused on making state health and safety policy changes.



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## **SPEAKER GUIDE**

### **Veronica Dilzer ATC Athletic Trainer Philadelphia Union**

Veronica Dilzer is a certified athletic trainer and performance specialist with deep experience across collegiate and professional sports. She currently serves as Head of Academy Athletic Training and Professional Development at the Philadelphia Union (MLS), where she oversees the staff of Athletic Trainers across the Academy to deliver comprehensive injury prevention, rehabilitation, and performance care for elite athletes while also serving as the Head Athletic Trainer for Union 2. Prior to joining the Union, she served as Associate Athletic Trainer with the Philadelphia Phillies and Director of Sports Medicine at Lincoln University (PA), overseeing treatment protocols and optimizing athlete readiness. Dilzer is also the owner of Revolution Fitness, a unique personal training, sports performance, and fitness facility. Her multidisciplinary background includes strength and conditioning, movement diagnostics, and return-to-play planning, with specialties in overhead athletes and ACL rehabilitation. Veronica holds a master's degree in Sports Management and is a frequent presenter at national conferences, with accepted and delivered talks on lower back injury prevention, fascial system training, and nervous system regulation for recovery. Her holistic approach draws on evidence-based modalities and advanced certifications, helping athletes perform better, recover faster, and sustain long-term physical health. Veronica continues to leverage her clinical expertise to support the development of high-performing athletes and sustainable sport environments.

### **Christina M. Emrich MS, LAT, ATC NATA District II Director Red Bank Regional High School**

Christina M. Emrich, MS, LAT, ATC has been the athletic trainer at Red Bank Regional High School in Little Silver, NJ since 1995, as well as the assistant athletic director since 2006. She received her bachelor's degree in physical education/health with a concentration in Athletic Training from Montclair State University, and her master's degree from Kean University. She entered the profession in 1992. Christina's experience includes working various events including the NYC Marathon and Falmouth Road Races. She is a member of the Korey Stringer Institute Medical and Science Advisory Board and is currently the District 2 Director.



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## **SPEAKER GUIDE**

### **John Jardine MD**

#### **Emergency Medicine Physician**

#### **Korey Stringer Institute at UCONN**

John Jardine, MD, is a board certified emergency medicine physician practicing for 25 years. His career started in EMS as a NY State EMT and paramedic. His first job out of residency brought him to Falmouth, MA, where he soon became introduced to the Falmouth Road Race. He is now the medical director for that race. In his 25 years as medical director, Dr. Jardine has treated nearly 500 cases of exertional heat stroke. He also serves as Chief Medical Officer for the Korey Stringer Institute at UCONN, with the mission to provide research and education to optimize safety and prevent sudden death in athletes, warfighters, and laborers. He has co-authored more than 30 peer-reviewed articles on the subject and has become a recognized expert in the treatment of exertional heat stroke.

### **Laura M Kehr MS, LAT, ATC, OT-SC**

#### **Clinical Coordinator**

#### **Atlantic Health System**

I currently serve as the clinical coordinator for the Athletic Training Residency in Orthopedics at Atlantic Health Systems after working for the last 2 years with an orthopedic surgeon in both clinical and surgical realms. I completed my athletic training residency in Orthopedics from St. Luke's in Pennsylvania in 2023 prior to my move to Jersey. I hold the OTC credential along with my ATC which allows me to scrub in the OR. I continue to seek out opportunities to share my expertise to help fellow athletic trainers become advanced and highly versatile healthcare providers.

### **Don Kessler**

#### **Athletic Trainer- Retired**

#### **ATSNJ & EATA Hall of Famer**

Don Kessler is a Retired Athletic Trainer after 52 years of being Certified. He began working at the Naval Academy while serving in the Navy during the Vietnam War. Later he returned to his home state serving as the first ATC at Delran HS. That was followed by 10 years at Princeton U and 18 years as the Head AT at Rutgers U. A five year stint at San Diego State was followed by 12 years as the ATC at BUD/S Navy Seals. Don was an ATSNJ President and HOF as well as the EATA.



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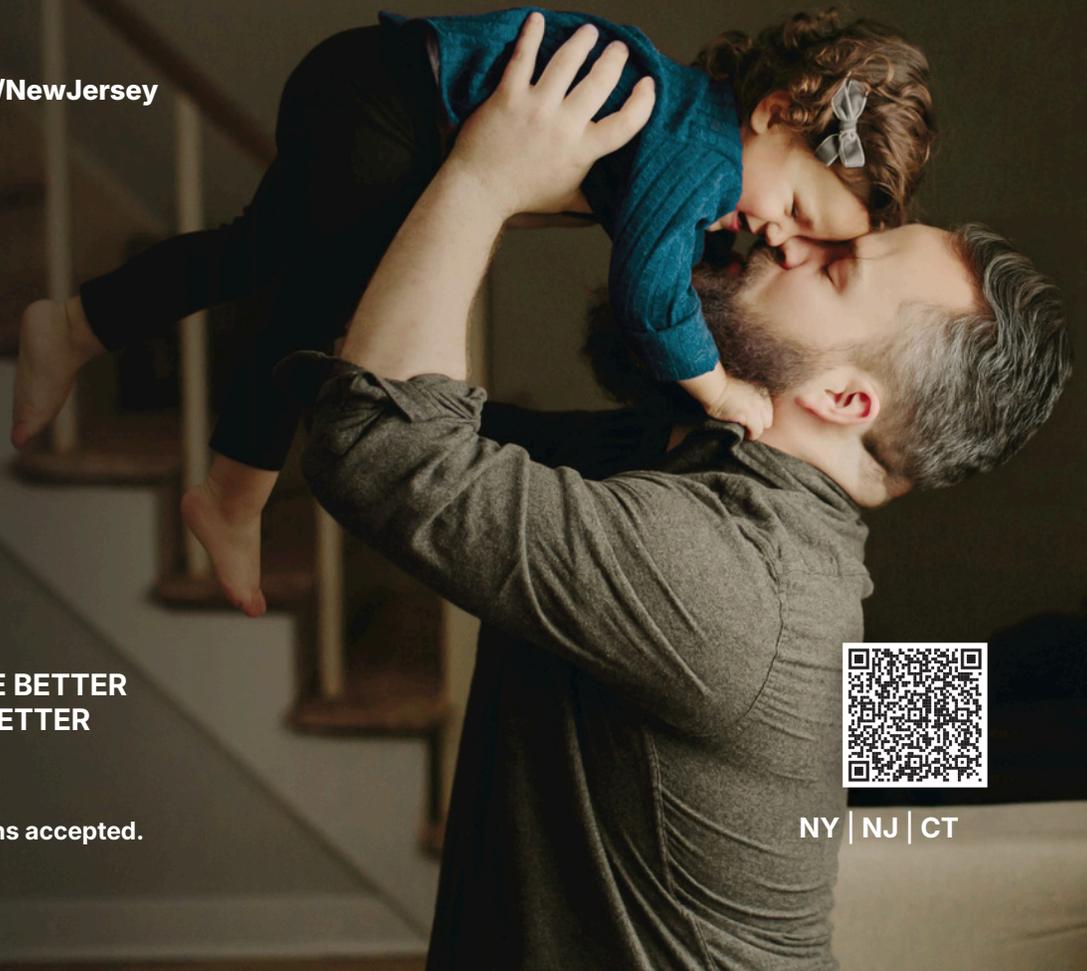
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## SPEAKER GUIDE

### **Peter Koeniges DAT, LAT, ATC** **Athletic Trainer** **Northern Highlands Regional High School**

Pete Koeniges has been the athletic trainer for Northern Highlands Regional High School (NJ) for 23 years. He is an adjunct instructor and preceptor for Montclair State University. He received his BS and M. Ed., from Springfield College and his DAT from Moravian University in December of 2021. Pete is on the ATSNJ Executive Council and is currently on the Secondary Schools Committee. He volunteers with District 2's Value Committee and the NATA Secondary School Athletic Trainers Committee. He has presented at ATSNJ, EATA and NATA conferences and has volunteered at NATA conferences as a moderator and lab assistant. He lives in River Vale, NJ with his wife, Donna, and son's Gus and Matthew.

### **Jason Kopec MS, LAT, ATC** **Athletic Trainer** **West Chester University**

Jason Kopec was raised in Gloucester Township, NJ and was a 2006 graduate of West Chester University, where he earned his bachelor's degree in Athletic Training. In 2006, Jason served as the graduate assistant to Dr. Sandra Fowkes Godek and her research centered on the evaluation, assessment and treatment of heat related illnesses before obtaining his master's degree in Kinesiology in 2008. Upon graduation, Jason served as the Head Athletic Trainer for the Camden Riversharks, a charter member of the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball League. After six years with the team, Jason made the jump to professional football and became the Head Athletic Trainer of the Philadelphia Soul of the Arena Football League. In 2019, while additionally overseeing the Sports Medicine services of the Atlantic City Blackjacks, Jason and his staff were awarded the league's top medical honors of Sports Medicine Staff of the Year. During his tenure, the team also achieved great success, including multiple division titles, 4 conference championships and three world championships. In 2022, Jason became the Head Athletic Trainer, NCAA HealthCare Administrator and Assistant Professor at West Chester University, where he works directly with the Golden Rams' football and basketball teams. He continues to serve a preceptor for the students of the university's Athletic Training Program.



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## **SPEAKER GUIDE**

### **JadeAnn Menear Student Committee Chair ATSNJ-SLC/ Seton Hall**

JadeAnn is currently a Second Year Master's student at Seton Hall University in Nutley, NJ. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology with a focus in applied exercise health from Penn State University in State College, PA. In addition to her academic responsibilities, she serves as the Chair of ATSNJ Student Leadership Committee and Secretary of the Athletic Training club at Seton Hall. JadeAnn also works in emergency medicine as an EMT with Lakewood EMS. Upon completing her graduate studies, she intends to start her career as an athletic training through a fellowship program prior to pursuing a career at the professional level.

### **Chris Meny MS ATC PES Athletic Trainer Kessler Rehabilitation**

Chris Meny, M.S., ATC Certified Athletic Trainer | Expert in Return-to-Play Protocols and Athlete Performance Chris Meny is an accomplished Certified Athletic Trainer with over 20 years of experience specializing in sports medicine, injury rehabilitation, and performance enhancement. Throughout his career, Meny has been deeply involved in developing and implementing evidence-based return-to-play (RTP) protocols that ensure athletes recover safely and effectively from injury. Currently a Certified Athletic Trainer at Kessler Rehabilitation Center in New Jersey, Meny provides comprehensive clinical care focused on facilitating safe transitions from injury to full competition. His work emphasizes the integration of functional testing, injury prevention strategies, and psychological readiness—key components in the Return to Sport—Return to Competition continuum. Meny's leadership roles, including Assistant Athletic Director for Athletic Performance at Oakland University and Senior Associate Athletic Director for Sports Medicine at Saint Peter's University, highlight his expertise in managing athlete health and guiding RTP decision-making processes across collegiate, professional US National team settings. Beyond clinical practice, Meny contributes to the athletic training community through education and mentorship, sharing best practices for RTP protocols and injury prevention. His commitment to athlete safety and optimal performance underscores his impact in advancing evidence-based return-to-play frameworks



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## **SPEAKER GUIDE**

### **Aiden Prybicien Student Athlete St. Mary High School**

Aiden Prybicien is a 17-year-old high school senior student-athlete at St Mary High School in Rutherford, NJ. He is a high honor roll student, an interscholastic athlete in cross country, a member of the drama club and a Breakthrough T1D Youth Ambassador. He enjoys playing video games, acting, caring for the family cats Mickey and Ivy, and hanging out with friends. He has a sister named Abigail. He has worked with his dad, Michael an athletic trainer, to do numerous presentations and workshops on Managing Diabetes in the Athletic Population for the athletic training education programs of Rowan University, William Paterson University and Montclair State University. Aiden plans to attend college in the Fall of 2026 and double majoring in Television and Film Production and Theatre and Arts.

### **Michael Prybicien MA, LAT, ATC, CES, PES Athletic Trainer and ATSNJ Hall of Fame Member Passaic High School**

Michael Prybicien is an athletic trainer at Passaic High School, an athletic training adjunct faculty member at William Paterson University, clinical preceptor and NFL Athletic Trainer Concussion Spotter. He is the President of Sport Safety International, a sport safety online education company, responsible for the education of parents, coaches, athletes, and health care providers on a variety of topics to promote "Play Safely". Michael is a 1993 bachelor's graduate of the Pennsylvania State University and a 1997 master's graduate of Kent State University. Michael is a recipient of the NATA's Distinguished Service and Service Award as well as the ATSNJ's Distinguished Service and Service Awards. Additionally, he has been inducted into the ATSNJ's Hall of Fame and the New Jersey State Coaches' Association Hall of Fame. Michael currently serves on the NATA's Secondary School Committee, the NATA's Association District 2 and ATSNJ's ATCares committee, the Hackensack University Medical Center, Diabetes Molly Center, Consumer Advisory Committee and the University of South Florida Educational Initiative on Sickle Cell Trait for the Athletic Population Advisory Board Member. Michael has published online education courses, book chapters, abstract articles and journal articles specializing in his areas of expertise.

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## **SPEAKER GUIDE**

**Hector Santiago**

**Student Committee Conference Chair**

**William Paterson University**

Hector is currently a Second Year Master's student at William Paterson University in Wayne, NJ. He holds two Bachelors degrees one in Sports Medicine and the other in Exercise Science for which he completed at William Paterson University. In addition to his academic responsibilities he serves as the the chair of the ATSNJ Student Leadership Committee. After completing his graduate program he intends to pursue his goal to work with a professional sports team.

**Daniel Scura FAAPMR, CAQSM, DO**

**Non-Operative Sports Medicine Physician**

**Seaview Orthopedics and Medical Associates**

Dr. Daniel Scura is a board-certified, fellowship-trained non-operative sports medicine physician specializing in the treatment of musculoskeletal injuries, concussion management, and ultrasound-guided procedures. He practices at Seaview Orthopedics in New Jersey and sees patients in both New Jersey and New York, with a particular emphasis on returning athletes—and active individuals—to the activities they love. Dr. Scura completed his residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R), followed by a sports medicine fellowship where he gained advanced training in sideline coverage, diagnostic musculoskeletal ultrasound, and interventional procedures, including genicular nerve blocks and hydrodissections. His clinical expertise spans from managing acute sports-related injuries to guiding long-term rehabilitation and performance optimization. A key area of Dr. Scura's practice is the diagnosis and management of concussions. He provides comprehensive, evidence-based care for athletes of all levels—from youth sports to professionals—focusing on individualized recovery plans, return-to-play decisions, and interdisciplinary coordination with athletic trainers, physical therapists, and primary care providers. His approach emphasizes both cognitive and physical health, ensuring safe and sustainable outcomes. Beyond clinical care, Dr. Scura is deeply committed to education and collaboration. He regularly presents to athletic trainers, coaches, and medical professionals on topics including concussion protocols, interdisciplinary care models, and the evolving role of sports medicine in supporting mental health and injury prevention. Dr. Scura is known for his clear communication, collaborative approach, and deep respect for the role of athletic trainers in the continuum of care. His work reflects a strong belief in keeping athletes—and all people—moving with purpose, precision, and resilience.



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## **SPEAKER GUIDE**

**Diana Stavrou ATC, OTC**

**Athletic Trainer**

**Atlantic Health Systems, Atlantic Sports Health**

Diana is a Certified Athletic Trainer currently working in the Primary Care Sports Medicine setting at Atlantic Sports Health in Morristown, NJ. In addition to everyday clinical responsibilities, she serves as an affiliated faculty member for the Atlantic Health Athletic Training Residency Program. She believes in assessing a patient based on a full subjective report from the patient, rather than basing a course of action solely on objective measures. She dedicates herself to the overall wellness of her patients which includes getting them back to their previous quality of life. Prior to focusing her career on working in physician practice, Diana served in a variety of roles in collegiate, high school and clinical orthopedic settings and has experience volunteering at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, NY. She completed her Athletic Training Residency at the Steadman Clinic in Vail, CO in 2009. She received her Bachelors of Science from Northeastern University in Boston, MA in 2005. She has been an active member since 2018 and now serves on the Board of Directors for the Athletic Trainers in the Physician Practice Society (ATPPS). She strives to be an advocate for Athletic Trainers in the clinical setting, especially those in the New Jersey and surrounding regions. When not working with patients, Diana enjoys road and trail running, skiing, hiking, swimming, cheering on the NY Yankees, and most importantly spending quality time with her husband Jon and young son, Tyler.

**Kenneth G Swan MD**

**Orthopaedic Surgeon**

**University Orthopaedic Association**

Dr. Kenneth G. Swan, Jr obtained his medical degree from Cornell University, where he also earned his undergraduate degree with a B.S. in Nutritional Sciences. He completed his internship and residency at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ). He subsequently did a Sports Medicine and Shoulder Surgery Fellowship at the University of Colorado.



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## **SPEAKER GUIDE**

### **Luis Torres DHSc, LAT, ATC** **Assistant Professor of Kinesiology** **Montclair State University**

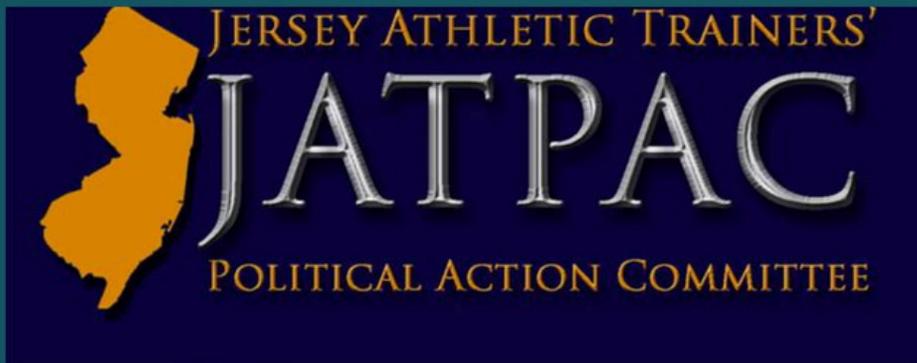
Dr. Luis Torres is an Assistant Professor and the Clinical Education Coordinator for the MS in Athletic Training program in the Department of Kinesiology at Montclair State University. He is a licensed and certified athletic trainer, as well as a certified personal trainer, behavior change specialist, performance enhancement specialist, and corrective exercise specialist through the National Academy of Sports Medicine. His primary research interests involve understanding how mental health may impact rehabilitative exercise and evaluating the use of psychosocial interventions in the athletic training profession. He also collaborates with other colleagues to improve the field of sports medicine through interdisciplinary research.

### **Katelyn Zimmerman MS, LAT, ATC** **ATSNJ President-Elect** **Ocean Township High School**

Katelyn Zimmerman, MS, LAT, ATC, is an accomplished athletic trainer and educator with more than a decade of clinical, leadership, and event-medicine experience across scholastic, collegiate, professional, and international sport settings. She currently serves as the Head Athletic Trainer at Ocean Township High School in New Jersey, where she provides comprehensive preventative care, emergency management, injury evaluation, rehabilitation, and post-surgical support for student-athletes across all sports. In addition to her clinical role, she teaches Introduction to Sports Medicine class to introduce the topic of Athletic Training and Sports Medicine to young inquiring minds. Katelyn is also deeply engaged in professional service and leadership. She currently serves on the NATA Convention Program Committee as the District 2 Representative, contributing to national education programming. Within the Athletic Trainers' Society of New Jersey (ATSNJ), she is the President Elect, Conference Chair, and a voting member of the Executive Council, previously serving as Treasurer, Central Region Representative and Young Professional Committee Chair. Her leadership has included developing statewide initiatives, planning CEU events, mentoring students, and supporting organizational operations and sponsorship engagement. Katelyn holds a Master of Science in Physical Education with a concentration in Sports Administration from the University of New Mexico and an Honors Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training from the University of Delaware. She is recognized for her commitment to athlete safety, educational excellence, and the advancement of the athletic training profession.



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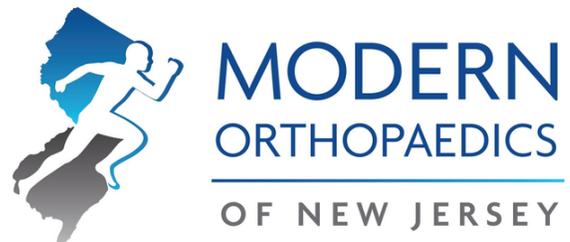
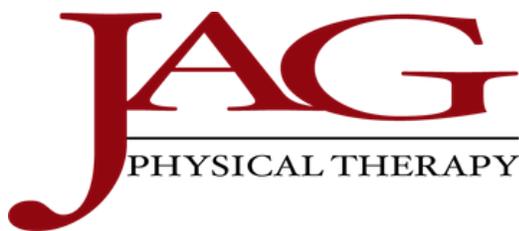
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