Chapter AT 1

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

AT 1.01 Authority. The rules in chs. AT 1 to 5 are adopted pursuant to ss. 15.085 (5) (b), 227.11 (2), 448.9525 (1) and (2), 448.954 (2), 448.9545 (2) (a), 448.955, 448.956 (1) and 448.957 (2), Stats.

AT 1.02 Definitions. In chs. AT 1 to 5:

1. “Board” means the affiliated credentialing board.

2. “Department” means the department of safety and professional services.

3. “License” means a license as an athletic trainer issued by the board.

4. “Licensee” means a person who is licensed as an athletic trainer under s. 448.953, Stats.

5. “NATABOC” means the national athletic trainers association board of certification.

6. “Protocol” means a precise and detailed written plan for the evaluation and treatment of an athletic injury or an injury that is identical to an athletic injury and that has resulted from an occupational activity.

7. “Trainer” means a person engaged in athletic training who is not licensed as an athletic trainer under s. 448.953, Stats.

AT 1.03 Use of restricted title. A trainer may engage in the practice of athletic training provided that the trainer does not use a title or designation in violation of s. 448.951, Stats.

AT 1.04 Surety bond or liability insurance coverage. As a precondition to the granting or renewal of a license, an applicant or licensee must submit a certificate of insurance, declarations page, policy binder or other evidence satisfactory to the department that he or she has in effect a surety bond in the amount of $1,000,000, or malpractice liability insurance coverage in an amount that is not less than $1,000,000 per occurrence and $1,000,000 for all occurrences in one year. No licensee shall engage in athletic training unless the licensee has in effect the insurance required by this section.

AT 1.05 Required examinations. For purposes of satisfying the examination requirement of ss. 448.953 (1) (f) and (h) and 448.954, Stats., the board accepts the results of a credentialing examination administered by the NATABOC.

AT 1.06 Change of address. A licensee shall notify the board of a change of address as required under s. 448.11, Stats.

AT 1.07 Change of consulting physician. A licensee shall only have one consulting physician at any time. A licensee shall notify the board within 5 days following a change in the licensee's consulting physician. The notification shall include a statement, signed and dated by the licensee and the licensee's new consulting physician, that a current copy of the protocol required under s. 448.956 (1), Stats., is on file at the place of employment of the licensee, and of the new consulting physician.

Chapter AT 2

ATHLETIC TRAINER LICENSE
AT 2.01 Applications. An applicant for a license shall file an application and must pay the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1), Stats. An applicant for a license who does not comply with a request for information related to the application within one year from the date of the request shall file a new application and pay the fee specified in s. 440.05 (1), Stats.

AT 2.02 Application contents. In addition to satisfying the requirement of s. 448.953, Stats., an application for licensure shall include the following:

(1) Official undergraduate transcripts properly attested to by the degree granting institution and submitted by the institution directly to the board establishing that the applicant has been granted a bachelor's degree by a college or university accredited by a regional accrediting agency approved by the state board of education in the state in which the college or university is located or a regional or national accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. department of education or accredited by a Canadian accrediting agency satisfactory to the board.

(2) Unless applying for a temporary license under s. 448.953 (4) (a), Stats., official certification attested to and submitted directly to the board by NATABOC that the applicant has met the requirements for certification of the NATABOC and has passed the certification examination administered by the NATABOC.

AT 2.03 Two-year temporary license application. In addition to satisfying the requirements of s. 448.953 (4) (a), Stats., an applicant for a 2 year temporary license shall include a chronological history by the applicant stating that he or she has engaged in athletic training during each of the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding November 1, 2000.

AT 2.04 Temporary license renewal application. In addition to satisfying the requirements of s. 448.953 (4) (a), Stats., a temporary license renewal application by an applicant under s. 448.953 (4) (a), Stats., shall set forth a chronological history by the applicant demonstrating the significant progress that he or she has made toward satisfying the requirement under s. 448.953 (1) (f), Stats. To be deemed significant progress for purposes of renewal of a temporary license under s. 448.953 (4) (a), Stats., the chronological history shall include a history outlining that he or she has engaged in athletic training for not less than 18 of the previous 24 months, and that he or she has made a minimum of one attempt to successfully take the NATABOC certification examination and the score received on each attempt.

AT 2.05 Temporary license renewal. A temporary license shall not be renewed if an applicant does not satisfy the requirement of showing significant progress toward satisfying the requirement under s. 448.953 (1) (f), Stats.

Chapter AT 3

CONTINUING EDUCATION

AT 3.01 Approved courses. For purposes of satisfying the continuing education requirement of s. 448.9545, Stats., a course of study approved by the board is a course that has been approved for continuing education credit by NATABOC.
AT 3.02 Certification of compliance. A licensee shall, at the time of making application for renewal of a license under s. 440.08 (2) (a), Stats., sign a statement on the application for renewal certifying that the licensee has satisfied the 30 hour continuing education requirement of s. 448.9545, Stats. This section does not apply to an application for renewal of a license that expires on the first renewal date after the date on which the board initially granted the license.

AT 3.03 Evidence of compliance. For the renewal of any license granted under subch. VI of ch. 448, Stats., the board will accept as evidence of compliance with this chapter certification by the NATABOC that the licensee has attended and completed continuing education programs approved under the provisions of s. AT 3.01.

AT 3.04 Retention requirement. The licensee shall retain evidence of compliance for 3 years following the renewal date for the biennium for which 30 hours of credit are required for renewal of a license.

AT 3.05 Audit. The board may require any licensee to submit his or her evidence of compliance with the continuing education requirements to audit compliance.

Chapter AT 4

EVALUATION AND TREATMENT PROTOCOL

AT 4.01 Protocol evaluation and treatment procedures. A protocol established by the licensee and approved by the consulting physician shall be in writing and may include any of the following evaluation and treatment procedures when authorized by the consulting physician:

(1) Authorization for taking a basic medical history when necessary for evaluation and treatment of an athletic injury that may include any of the following:

(a) Previous medical history.
(b) Previous surgical history.
(c) Pertinent family medical history.
(d) Current medication history including known drug allergies.
(e) Relevant social history.
(f) Chief medical complaint.
(g) History of the present injury or illness for which the person to be treated is seeking evaluation and treatment.

(2) Authorization to evaluate the athletic injury utilizing any of the following procedures:

(a) Palpation.
(b) General observation.
(c) Motion assessment.
(d) Muscle strength tests.
(e) Endurance tests.
(f) Neurological assessment.
(g) Joint play assessment.
(h) Functional evaluation.
(i) Objective physical measurement.
(j) Circulatory assessment.

(3) Authorization to utilize treatment procedures to treat an athletic injury including any of the following:

(a) Emergency care.
(b) Ultrasound.
(c) Phonophoresis.
(d) Electrical nerve stimulation.
(e) Iontophoresis.
(f) Specified diathermy.
(g) Intermittent compression.
(h) Traction.
(i) Therapeutic massage.
(j) Moist heat.
(k) Paraffin baths.
(l) Cryotherapy.

(4) Authorization to utilize rehabilitation procedures to rehabilitate an athletic injury including any of the following:

(a) Progressive resistance exercise.
(b) Range of motion exercise.
(c) Trigger point therapy.
(d) Joint mobilization for range of motion only.
(e) Proprioceptive neuromuscular facilitation.
(f) Functional exercise.
(g) Cardiovascular exercise.
(h) Aquatic exercise.

(i) Taping, bracing and splinting.

(j) Isokinetic exercise.

(k) Isometric exercise.

(l) Isotonic exercise.

(5) Authorization to administer specifically enumerated drugs.

Note: A licensed athletic trainer may accept referrals from licensed chiropractors to engage in athletic training in accordance with an evaluation and treatment protocol approved by the consulting physician under this chapter.

AT 4.02 Mandatory protocol requirements. A protocol must contain all of the following:

(1) The requirement that the licensee notify the consulting physician as soon as possible if a person being treated by the athletic trainer sustains new injuries.

(2) The requirement that if a licensee or the consulting physician of the licensee determines that a patient's medical condition is beyond the scope of practice of the licensee, the licensee shall, in accordance with the protocol, refer the patient to a health care practitioner who is licensed under ch. 446 or 447, Stats., or subch. II, III or IV of ch. 448, Stats., and who can provide appropriate treatment to the patient.

(3) The requirement that a licensee shall modify or terminate treatment of a patient that is not beneficial to a patient or that the patient cannot tolerate.

(4) The name, signature and date of signature of the consulting physician and the licensee.

Chapter AT 5

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

AT 5.01 Definition. In this section and for purposes of s. 448.957 (2) (f), Stats., “unprofessional conduct” means any practice or behavior which violates the minimum standards for the profession necessary for the protection of the health, safety or welfare of an athlete or the public, and includes, but is not limited to, the following or aiding or abetting the same:

(1) Knowingly making or presenting or causing to be made or presented any false, fraudulent, or forged statement, writing, certificate, diploma, in connection with any application for a license.

(2) Making a material misstatement in an application for a license or for renewal of a license.

(3) In sitting for any licensure examination, soliciting or knowingly disclosing examination content.

(4) Failing to cooperate with the board in an investigation under this section.
(5) Practicing or attempting to practice under any license when unable to do so with reasonable skill and safety to any person.

(6) Engaging in any athletic trainer practice which constitutes a danger to the health, welfare, or safety of a patient or the public, including but not limited to, practicing in a manner which substantially departs from the standard of care ordinarily exercised by an athletic trainer which harmed or could have harmed a patient.

(7) Subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322 and 111.335, Stats., practicing as an athletic trainer when the person's ability to engage in the practice was impaired by alcohol or other drugs.

(8) Having been adjudicated mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(9) Subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322 and 111.335, Stats., having violated federal or state laws, local ordinances or administrative rules the circumstances of which substantially relate to the practice of athletic trainers.

(10) Engaging in conduct which evidences a lack of trustworthiness to transact the business required by the profession.

(11) Misrepresenting professional qualifications such as education, specialized training or experience.

(12) Offering to perform or performing services which the licensee is not qualified to perform by education or experience without retaining the services of another who is qualified.

(13) Using false, fraudulent or deceptive advertising or publicity; or practicing or attempting to practice under another's name.

(14) Falsely representing that the licensee is engaged in a partnership or association with another unless there exists in fact a partnership or association, or practicing under a firm name that misrepresents the identity of those practicing in the firm or misrepresents the type of services which the firm is authorized and qualified to perform.

(15) Violating the confidences of a patient except as otherwise required by law.

(16) Violating or attempting to violate any provision or term of ch. 448, Stats., or of any valid rule of the board.

(17) Violating or attempting to violate any term, provision or condition of any order of the board.

(18) Falsifying patient records.

(19) Having a license, certificate, permit, registration, or other practice credential granted by another state or by any agency of the federal government to practice as an athletic trainer, which becomes limited, restricted, suspended, or revoked, or having been subject to other adverse action by the state licensing authority or by any agency of the federal government, including but not limited to, the denial or limitation of an original credential, or the surrender of a credential, whether or not accompanied by findings of negligence or unprofessional conduct.
Engaging in inappropriate sexual contact, exposure, gratification or other sexual behavior with or in the presence of a patient.