

AzATA Physician Direction Recommendations

The AzATA BOD, approved the following recommendations as a guide for establishing physician direction in Arizona. The AzATA provides this document to Members to assist them in identifying key considerations for establishing physician direction. Members are responsible for reviewing *Arizona Revised Statutes and Administrative Rules for the Practice of Athletic Training* and ensuring that they are in compliance with the athletic training practice act when developing their policies and procedures. These recommendations and the example of “Standing Orders & Direction of a Licensed Physician for the Athletic Trainer” are intended to be used as such; they are not intended as mandatory documents.

Recommendations

The following are considered *example best practices* for establishing physician direction for Arizona athletic trainers:

- 1. Written Standing Orders and Physician Direction signed and in place (see Appendix A for example)**
 - a. Mention provision of athletic training services as in **A.R.S. § 32-4101(4)a-g** and Educational Competencies **2020 Standards for Accreditation of Professional Athletic Trainings Programs, published by the (CAATE)** for which you will practice and participate.
 - b. Include reference to the BOC standards of practice and code of ethics for the athletic training profession.
 - c. Reference place of employment(s), and/or independent contractor status
 - d. Signed by both AT and Directing Physician.
 - e. Example of Physician Approval Statement “As the directing physician for the licensed athletic trainer(s) employed at ORGANIZATION NAME, I have reviewed and subsequently approved the post-injury and post-illness treatment guidelines contained within this document. I understand that the licensed athletic trainer will practice athletic training under my direction and within the guidelines set forth by the Arizona Revised Statutes, Arizona Administrative Codes, and approved written protocols and guidelines contained herein.”

 - 2. Additional documents that should be reviewed and discussed with your Sports Medicine Staff and your Supervising Physician, but not technically considered a portion of your Standing orders**
 - a. Emergency Action Plan
 - b. Policy & Procedure Manuals for any on-goings in your facility as they pertain to athletic healthcare
 - c. NATA Position Statements
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