BYLAWS OF THE NEBRASKA PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION STUDENT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (NSSIG)

ARTICLE I. NAME AND TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION

Section 1.

The name of this organization is the Nebraska Student Special Interest Group under the jurisdiction of the Nebraska Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association (NPTA).

Section 2.

The territorial jurisdiction of the special interest group (SIG) includes education programs providing degrees in Physical Therapy and Physical Therapist Assistant in the State of Nebraska.

ARTICLE II. OBJECT and PURPOSE

Section 1. Object

The object of the SIG is to respond and act as a liaison for the students to the NPTA.

Section 2. Purpose

The purpose of the student special interest group is to increase the student participation in the American Physical Therapy Association and its components.

ARTICLE III. FUNCTIONS

Section 1.

The functions of the SIG shall be to promote interaction between PT and PTA students and promote leadership of these students in the NPTA and APTA.

Section 2.

The SIG shall host one NPTA-PAC educational fundraiser and complete one philanthropy project per year to help encourage student participation.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Categories and Qualifications of Members

The SIG membership categories and qualifications for Student Physical Therapist and Student Physical Therapist Assistant shall be the same as those of the NPTA.

Section 2. Admission to Membership

Admission to SIG membership requires membership in APTA and NPTA as a student member and current enrollment in a PT or PTA program in the state of Nebraska.

Section 3. Good Standing

A member is in good standing within the meaning of these bylaws if that member is in good standing in the APTA and NPTA and is a current student in a PT or PTA program within the state of Nebraska.

Section 4. Ethics and Discipline

Any member of the SIG who is suspended by the APTA shall have his or her membership privileges suspended. Any member who is expelled from membership in the APTA shall be expelled from SIG membership.

ARTICLE V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Composition

The SIG Executive Committee shall consist of 4 officers, as well as two representatives from each physical therapy program and one representative from each physical therapist assistant program.

Section 2. Qualifications

Only such members of the SIG who have consented to serve shall be eligible for election to office. Students running for office must belong to the APTA, NPTA and be enrolled in a current PT or PTA program in the state of Nebraska.

Section 3. Terms and Vacancies

A. Officers shall be elected for a term of one year or until their successors are elected. Officers may not serve in the same position for two consecutive terms, but may serve two consecutive years as an officer.

B. Vacancies

1. If before the expiration of term for which the President was elected, the President moves from the state, is removed from office, resigns or becomes disqualified, the Vice President will succeed the vacated office of the President.
2. If before the expiration of term for Vice President, the Vice President moves from the state, is removed from office, resigns, or becomes disqualified for office or replaces the President, a temporary Vice President shall be appointed by the Executive Committee for the period until the next Chapter meeting at which time a Vice President will be elected by the SIG to finish the remainder of the term of Vice President.
3. If any other elected officer resigns, moves out of the state, is removed from office, or becomes disqualified, a replacement for the office shall be appointed from the membership by the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Officers

Respective responsibilities:

A. The President shall:

1. Preside at all meetings.
2. Prepare agendas for all meetings.
3. Act as liaison with the NPTA and act as the spokesperson of the Executive Committee/NSSIG.
4. Appoint committees as needed
5. Serve as an ex-officio member of the NPTA board of directors.

B. The Vice President shall:

1. Assume the duties of the President in the President's absence.
2. Preside over established committees.
3. Update and maintain a current copy of NSSIG by-laws.
4. Assign duties of updating the website and correspondence with the state and national associations.

C. The Secretary shall:
1. Be responsible for keeping and reporting minutes for each meeting.
2. Maintain records of all official actions of the Executive Committee/NSSIG and Executive Committee officers.

D. The Treasurer shall:
1. Be responsible for reporting on the financial status of the NSSIG.
2. Receive and distribute all monies.
3. Be responsible for developing and presenting a budget.
4. Provide a review of accounts at each meeting.

E. School Representatives shall
1. Be responsible for presenting student concerns and ideas to the officers.
2. Report pertinent information from the meetings to their student body.
3. Report information to their respective student organizations.
4. Act as a liaison between the SIG and their respective student organizations.
5. Election of student representatives will be conducted by the student body of the representative's school.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1.

A. Election for the Chapter President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be held each year during the fall semester. Nominations from the floor will be accepted immediately prior to the election.

B. Voting for officers shall be by written and secret ballot. The ballots will be tallied by the outgoing President and Vice President and the majority vote will decide the winner. In the event of a tie vote, reballoting shall be held as needed to determine the election.

C. There may only be a total of two officers from any one school. If two officers have already been elected from one school another student from that school may not run for election. At least one position will be held by a PT student member and one by a PTA student member. This will allow for diverse representation and multiple school involvement on the Executive committee.

D. After voting takes place the Executive Committee will transfer all materials and documents of NSSIG to the new officers.

ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES

Section 1.

The President shall appoint committees as needed and the Vice President will preside over these committees.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

A. Annual and Regular Meetings: The SIG shall hold a minimum of one regular meeting for the conduct of business during the fiscal year. The attendance shall be limited to SIG members and invited guests approved by the SIG officers.

B. The SIG may present a program or may hold a business meeting at any scheduled meeting. The SIG may also hold additional meetings during the course of any calendar year.

C. The Executive Committee of the SIG shall have a minimum of two meetings during the fiscal year for the conduct of business.

Article IX. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section1. Reference

Reference should be made to the American Physical Therapy Association and the parent component for any point of order not clarified in the SIG Bylaws.

Section 2. Rules of Order

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the SIG in all cases to which they are applicable and consistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the SIG may adopt.

ARTICLE X. ASSOCIATION AS HIGHER AUTHORITY

Section 1.

In addition to these Bylaws the SIG is governed by the Chapter Bylaws and by the Association Bylaws and Standing Rules, and by Associate Policies.

ARTICLE XI. AUTHORITY FOR FORMATION

Section 1. NPTA Bylaws

See ARTICLE V. of the NPTA Bylaws. The Chapter may create districts, special interest groups, and assembly groups within its territorial jurisdiction.
See ARTICLE V. Section 2. Special Interest Groups

Section 2. APTA Guidelines

See Procedure I. of the Guidelines for the Formation of Special Interest Groups on the Component Level (AABod-CC-07-93-02).

ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Dissolution Procédures

1. The SIG may be dissolved by a ballot vote of two-thirds (2/3) of a quorum consisting of at least 24 members.
2. In the event of dissolution of the SIG, any record shall be disposed of at the discretion of the Executive Board of the Chapter.
3. The parent component's Board of Directors can vote to dissolve the SIG if they fail to meet obligations by the component's Board of Directors.

Revised 12/17/99
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Proposed Amendments (10/26/2003)
Proposed Amendments (07/24/2008)
Proposed Amendments (09/08/08)
Proposed Amendments (02/02/09)

Addendum: NSSIG Mission Statement and Logo



The mission of the Nebraska Student Special Interest Group (NSSIG), a student-led group representing the Physical Therapy and Physical Therapist Assistant students of Nebraska, is to promote the profession of Physical Therapy and act as a liaison between students and the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association (NPTA), while facilitating student leadership, advocacy, and excellence.

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