

NSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee



Dr. Kody Moffatt, MD, ATC is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Creighton University School of Medicine and is the Director of Pediatric Sports Medicine at Children's Hospital and Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. Dr. Moffatt received his M.S. in Orthopaedic Surgery and his M.D. from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He completed his residency training in the Joint CU-UNMC Pediatric Residency Program and joined the Creighton University faculty in 2003. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Sports Medicine, and is board certified in Pediatrics. Dr. Moffatt was elected to the AAP's Council on Sports Medicine and Fitness Executive Committee which is the body that sets policy and practice standards for the field nationwide. He chairs the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee and serves as physician for state championships for the Nebraska School Activities Association. Dr. Moffatt has received several honors and awards and is a member of numerous professional organizations as well as being published in peer-reviewed journals and text books. His main research interests are in pediatric sports medicine and vaccine medicine.



Dr. Dennis Connolly, MD is a family practice physician licensed in Nebraska since 1980. He graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Medicine in 1977 and did his residency in Lincoln. He is on staff at Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center, Lincoln, NE and also works at Lincare Nebraska. He was awarded the NSAA Distinguished Service Award in 1997 for his years of service to high school activities.



Dr. Thomas Heiser received his B.S. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, in 1976 and his M.D. through the University of Nebraska Medical Center, in 1979. He interned in General Surgery at the University of Kansas Medical Center, from 1979-1980 and completed his residency in 1984. He completed Fellowship/Advanced Training at Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic, Inglewood, CA, in 1984-1985 followed by Sports Medicine Fellowship Training. He received his Board Certification through the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery in 1987 and specializes in Sports Medicine non-operative treatment.



Dr. David L. Priebe, M.D. is a family practice/sports medicine physician in North Platte and Lexington, Nebraska. He is from Gibbon, Nebraska originally and attended Wayne State College for undergraduate and UNMC for medical school. He completed a family practice residency and sports medicine fellowship at Moses H. Cone Hospital in Greensboro, North Carolina. He has had the opportunity to practice in several states before returning to his home state in June 2014. He is a member of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine and American College of Sports Medicine and has worked with professional athletes in the National Football League, Pro Golf Association and Major League Baseball. He has been a sideline physician for multiple colleges and high schools at all levels of competition and has a background in concussion and stinger research. He has published several articles and chapters in medical textbooks and journals. He continues to pursue research with a focus on evidence based sports medicine. He is currently active in speaking nationally for numerous conferences and his focus is to ensure safe competition and return to play for all levels of Nebraska athletics. He hopes to improve concussion education to school faculty, parents, coaches and players as well as other health care professionals. He lives in Maywood, Nebraska with his wife, Angeline and two sons Santino and AJ.



Scott Martens, ATC is a certified athletic trainer at OrthoWest. He is a member of the Nebraska State Athletic Trainers Association and was named the George F. Sullivan Athletic Trainer of the Year in 2003. Scott has served the NSAA and its member schools in a number ways. He has helped coordinate the medical coverage for NSAA state championship events in the Omaha area since 1998, and served as an athletic trainer at the NSAA Wrestling, Baseball, Tennis, Track & Field, and Soccer Championships. He also served as a member of the NSAA's Sports Medicine Advisory Committee helping to shape NSAA policies and procedures for pre-participation exams, drug testing, skin infections, and concussion awareness.



Doug Long, ATC has been working in the hospital-based clinical setting for over 20 years providing weekly school visits to eleven local high schools and one junior college. He also has responsibilities for doing re-habilitation on sports injuries in the Great Plains Sports and Therapy facility, an affiliate of Great Plains Regional Medical Center. Prior to his work there, he was the Head Athletic Trainer and physical Education Instructor at Chadron State College. He has also taught a class on the Care and Prevention of Athletic Injuries at North Platte Community College.



Rusty McKune has been a Certified Athletic Trainer for 20 years and is currently employed as the Sports Medicine Program Coordinator at The Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1994 and his master's degree from Ohio University in 1995. He spent two years in Wichita, Kansas with Via Christi Regional Medical Center. In 1997, Rusty accepted a position at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, where he spent the next 15 years. At UNO, he served as an Assistant Athletic Trainer and Instructor until 2006 when he became the Head Athletic Trainer. In 2012, Rusty left UNO to become the Sports Medicine Coordinator at The Nebraska Medical Center. Rusty is actively involved in the athletic training profession at all levels. He has been a member and chair of the NSATA Governmental Affairs Committee and served on the NSATA Executive Board as Secretary, Vice-President, President and Past-President. He was a member of the MAATA Board of Directors for 4 years. He serves as the Chair of the District V Governmental Affairs Committee. In 2013, he was elected to the BOC Board of Directors. Locally and within the state, he serves on the Omaha Public Schools Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, the NSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, is a member of the Concussion Coalition, as well as the Nebraska Cardiac Task Force. He and his wife of 17 years, Jennifer, have 3 children- Nicholas, Blake and Chase.



Sheri Chittenden has been the Secondary Principal and Activities Director at Paxton Consolidated Schools in Paxton, NE since 2004. Paxton Consolidated Schools is a K-12 school district with an enrollment of approximately 230 students. Prior to her role as a school administrator, she taught Spanish K-12 at Paxton where she began her teaching career in 1982. During her tenure at Paxton she has been an assistant volleyball, girls basketball and track coach and has sponsored many other extra-curricular activities. She coached Future Problem Solving teams in grades 5-12 for many years. One of her high school teams qualified for the International FPS Competition at the University of Connecticut in 2003. Mrs. Chittenden served on the NSAA Representative Assembly as the Speech Delegate for District IV in 2013 and 2014. She has been a member of NSIAAA and NCSA. Mrs. Chittenden received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Kearney State College with endorsements in Elementary Education, Spanish Education and Gifted Education. She obtained her Master of Arts degree from UNK in Educational Administration in 2004.



Steve Throne Assistant Principal/Activities Director at Millard South High School. Steve is originally from Lincoln, Nebraska and graduated from Lincoln High School in 1986. He attended Tarkio College then Nebraska Wesleyan University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in K-12 Physical Education. Steve received his Master's Degree from Doane College in Educational Leadership in 2010. He has served as an administrator at Sergeant Bluff-Luton High School in Sergeant Bluff, Iowa for three years. He has been in his current role at Millard South High School for the past three years. Steve's wife Patty is an Elementary Teacher at Disney Elementary in Millard. Steve and Patty have three children; son Storm and daughters Taylor and Paxton.



Lindsey Struck, ATC is a certified athletic trainer from Wadena, IA. Lindsey received her bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Iowa where she also completed her master's degree in athletic training. During her time at UNI, Lindsey was a head athletic trainer at a 1A high school in Iowa. After that, she worked at a Division III college before moving to Nebraska to work at a Class A school for three years. Currently, she serves as an outreach athletic trainer for Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center where she provides service to a variety of Class B, C and D schools.



Ron Higdon, NSAA became an Assistant Director for the Nebraska School Activities Association in June of 2011. He is the administrator for wrestling, boys & girls soccer as well as the liaison for the NSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. Ron oversees the assigning of medical personnel for all NSAA Championships. He served on the NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee as well as the NFHS Spirit of Sport and Heart of Heart Committees. Formerly the wrestling coach at the University of Nebraska Omaha for 19 years (15 as an assistant and 4 as the Associate Head Coach). In his coaching tenure at UNO, they won 6 NCAA II wrestling team titles (2004, 2005, 2006, 2009, 2010 & 2011). In 2005 they won the team title as well as the academic team title which is team with the highest combined GPA (3.28 GPA). Originally from Amarillo, Texas, he moved to Omaha in 1987 to wrestle at UNO. He was a two-time collegiate All-American in wrestling prior to coaching. Ron is married to Sandy Derby-Higdon and proud parent of Kalee (9) and Ryder (6).



Dan Masters graduated from Battle Creek High School where he participated in athletics, activities and student council. Dan attended Concordia University graduating in 2005. He spent eight years at Concordia High School as a Business and PE teacher, Head Boys Basketball Coach and FBLA Sponsor. He has served as the Activities Director and Assistant Principal at South Sioux City High School where he was overseer of event management and district music contests. He strives to create equitable visibility and opportunities for all activities. Dan joined the NSAA in July 2015.