



John L. Moyer Jr., LAT, ATC
Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society, Inc.
President

610-496-4192
president@gopats.org

1-29-15

Designating the week of February 22-28, 2015 “AED Awareness Week”

The Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATs) wholly supports Representative Brown's resolution that will be introduced in the House.

PATs represents over 3000 Athletic Trainers in the Commonwealth. Athletic Trainers work in many settings including secondary schools, collegiate and professional athletics, as physician extenders, in rehabilitation and occupational clinics and in hospitals. Athletic Trainers protect and enhance the health and welfare of our clients through the prevention, diagnosis, and intervention of emergency, acute and chronic medical conditions.

Public safety, injury and illness prevention, and early intervention are keystones to the practice of athletic training. Athletic Trainers have been involved in saving the lives of numerous individuals across the Commonwealth with the use of AEDs. Early intervention with an AED in the event of a sudden cardiac issue increases the chance of survival. The Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation reports that victims of sudden cardiac arrest can survive with the use of immediate CPR and early defibrillation, ideally within three to five minutes after collapse. Athletic Trainers are uniquely located in the traditional setting of interscholastic, collegiate and professional athletics, as well as other settings, to be able to provide early recognition of a sudden cardiac event, to activate the local emergency response system and to provide early resuscitation and defibrillation.

Information on PATs or Athletic Trainers can be found at www.gopats.org. PATs continues to be available as a resource. Any questions should be sent to president@gopats.org.

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The Keystone to a Healthy and Physically Active Life

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