



Greetings Friends of the Arizona Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association:

Happy September! The Arizona Chapter is excited about cooling temperatures and all our events coming this Fall. I want to personally thank our Executive Director, Christa Lombardo-Ploof, and all the sponsors and participants who made our 3rd Annual APTA Golf Tournament a tremendous success. Please check out our social media and direct current newsletters to see pictures of all the fun!

Please allow me to thank our nominating committee and all the outstanding candidates who are running for Board positions. Elections will be held electronically, and ballots will be distributed via email on September 5th. Submit your ballots early as voting will close three hours prior to our Annual Meeting which will be held Thursday, October 5th at 6 PM.

Save the Date for the Annual Business Meeting which will be free of charge to all members and held electronically to increase member participation. We have two Bylaw changes to present and need a quorum of 70 members, which we were unable to accomplish last year. Proposed Bylaw changes would allow both members and non-members to attend Business meetings in hopes of promoting the professional development and participation of all Physical Therapists and Physical Therapists Assistants in Board activities. In addition, we are proposing a Bylaw change that would allow Physical Therapist Assistant members to run for Board positions of District Representative, Secretary, and Treasurer in future Board elections. We support the inclusion and participation of our PTA colleagues and hope these important Bylaw changes will pass this Fall.

I encourage everyone to attend our Fall Conference. The Conference will be held at Gateway Community College on Saturday, October 21st and includes some great continuing education and the return of research/platform presentations. Thank you to all who submitted research and we look forward to increased member participation in our Fall Conference. A special thanks to Adi Halili and Tarang Jain for leading the effort on the return of the poster and platform presentations. Check out our website at www.aptaaz.org to view the Conference schedule, speaker information, and Conference content.

APTA Arizona will award 3 PT student scholarships and 2 PTA student scholarships at our Fall Conference. The 2023 Annual Scholarships are made possible by the generous donations of the PT/PTA Director's Group! Please consider attending their upcoming Continuing Education offerings which are advertised in our Direct Current newsletter. There will be two courses offered, October 19th and November 16th, and the proceeds will benefit future student scholarships!

I wish you all the best on behalf of the Arizona Chapter. Thank you for all you do on behalf of the Profession and please do not hesitate to reach out if there is anything the Chapter can do on your behalf.

With Gratitude,

Brian Schmitz PT, DPT

President, Arizona Physical Therapy Association