

Founded in 1954

AMERICAN COLLEGE of SPORTS MEDICINE®

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**ACSM Conference on
Integrative Physiology of Exercise**
September 22-25, 2010
Miami Beach, Florida

International Team Physician Course
December 3-5, 2010
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Advanced Team Physician Course
December 9-12, 2010
Washington, DC

ACSM Team PhysicianSM Course, Part II
February 9-13, 2011
San Diego, California

**ACSM's 15th Health & Fitness
Summit & Exposition**
April 13-16, 2011
Anaheim, California

ACSM's 58th Annual Meeting
June 1-4, 2011
Denver, Colorado

Mission Statement: The American College of Sports Medicine advances and integrates scientific research to provide educational and practical applications of exercise science and sports medicine.

March 3, 2011

Eve Becker-Doyle
Youth Sports Safety Alliance
National Athletic Trainers' Association
2952 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, TX 75247

Dear Eve,

On behalf of the more than 40,000 members and certified professionals of the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM), I would like to lend our collective support to the Youth Sports Safety Alliance. ACSM is proud to join the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) and other leading health care and sports organizations in this significant endeavor.

ACSM is the largest sports medicine and exercise science organization in the world. Our members have applied their knowledge, training and dedication in exercise science and sports medicine to investigate the key issues surrounding youth sports participation and to promote healthier lifestyles for people around the globe.

For years, ACSM has led the call for increased safety in youth sports, spearheading the strategic Pre-Participation Physical Examination Coalition and National Coalition for Youth Sport Concussion, among others.

ACSM has also compiled and disseminated the latest science-based evidence and clinical consensus to support initiatives and goals pertaining to the health and safety of children and adolescents involved in youth sports. We take seriously the charge to identify opportunities to educate and inform the public and policy makers about issues surrounding our nation's youth.

ACSM stands ready to work alongside the alliance to fulfill this commitment to the health and safety of youth athletes. We fully support the key calls to action of this important initiative, which include ensuring the health and safety of youth athletes by giving them access to qualified health care professionals; educating parents, athletes, coaches, teachers and others about the signs and symptoms of sports injuries and conditions; insisting that research into youth sports injuries be taken seriously and supported by tax dollars; and ensuring that both general and sport-specific safety education be a priority for every administrator, coach, parent and player.

We thank you for your leadership on this issue, and we look forward to working with you to ensure that healthy lifestyles, including increased safety in youth sports, play a much more prominent role in the future than it has in the past.

Sincerely,



Jim Whitehead
Executive Vice President
American College of Sports Medicine



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