

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
**Conference Call Rules Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, December 17, 2012**  
**Professional Licensing Boards**  
**237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA**  
**4:00 p.m.**

**Board Members Present:**

Bo Hamil, President  
Charlene Portee  
Dorothy Gaskin  
Monty Strickland

**Staff Present:**

Tanja Battle, Executive Director  
Tamara Elliott, Board Support Specialist

**Open Session**

Dr. Portee established a quorum of the committee and called the meeting to order at 4:05.

President Hamil received two questions from practicing Physical Therapists in the state asking guidance from the Board on aspects of the Physical Therapist in the fitness and wellness area. Both questions centered on the utilization of extenders in the fitness arena. One questioned the ability to utilize an extender to assist or perform functional or likewise screens/tests on athletes to determine if the athlete may be a candidate for further therapist skills in a formal fitness program. The other question centered on the ability to have an extender lead fitness classes such as Pilates or Yoga offered in the PT clinic.

President Hamil posed the following to the committee: How do we perceive our role in a fitness and wellness center?

Dr. Portee indicated that she did not believe this to be in a physical therapy setting. She further stated that she believed that APTA guidelines on physical fitness were clear regarding treating someone as a physical therapy patient.

Monty Strickland asked if those in question are certified in any way. President Hamil indicated that he did not have information regarding such. Mr. Strickland stated that he believed the issue should be brought before the full board. The Committee concurred.

Dorothy Gaskin indicated said she is encountering physical trainers being referred to as Physical Therapists and Mr. Strickland stated that the term "Athletic Therapist" appeared to be trending.

Dr. Portee suggested waiting to see what the APTA task force concludes regarding this matter. President Hamil indicated that he would contact APTA regarding such.

In closing, President Hamil wanted to make the Committee aware that PTAG is going to make a presentation to the Board regarding an alternative to the jurisprudence requirement.

Committee adjourned at 4:26 p.m.