



WAREHOUSE EMPLOYEES UNION

LOCAL NO. 730

AFFILIATED WITH INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS,
JOINT COUNCIL NO. 55, NATIONAL WAREHOUSE DIVISION
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THE METROPOLITAN AREA OF WASHINGTON DC AND VICINITY

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An Athletic Trainer's principal training and focus on the Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation of athletic injuries allows for a very effective translation to the industrial setting. Athletic Trainers work with employees, or industrial athletes, to teach them about their bodies, how to condition, maintain, treat and when needed to help recover from physical stress on the body.

The industrial athletic trainer uses their sideline coverage approach to be out on the work floor to be on the frontline in the industrial athlete's world so they may gain a comprehensive understanding of the stresses the industrial athlete faces. Applying knowledge of bio-mechanics, kinesiology and additional ergonomic training, Athletic Trainers often are able to recommend either improved work practices, or improved work station set up, or both. This allows Athletic Trainers to often prevent injury before it even occurs, perhaps even more of a preventative impact than in the traditional setting.

If a work place injury does occur, Athletic Trainers apply their extensive background in orthopedic based injuries to perform initial assessment and triage of the injury and in conjunction with the injured employee, their management and also their overseeing physician, develop a care plan that is comprehensive and practical, focused on getting the employee the highest level of care possible.

This combination of prevention and early intervention has helped employees and employers in the industrial setting to see a significant reduction in the number of injuries per year, the number of serious injuries per year, achieve faster recovery from minor injuries for the employee, and a comprehensive care team for more significant ones. Employees are often able to resume their pre-injured life style much faster with the increase attention to their care.

This model duplicated, refined, and grown over the last decade has gained national attention for creating employment opportunities for Athletic Trainers that allow them the personal satisfaction of overall professional impact, while also maintaining sustainability through achievement a more positive work-life balance. These industrial Athletic Trainers often become woven into the fabric of the sites they serve and become an integral part of the site safety team. This program has only created positive results on all levels of its delivery including injury care, ergonomics and wellness.

Teamsters Local 730 supports HB 576 and SB 732 the legislation before the Maryland General Assembly to update the Maryland Athletic Trainers Practice Act.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ritchie Brooks".

Ritchie Brooks, President/ Business Agent