

**ANIMAL PHYSICAL THERAPIST SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (APTSIG)**  
**Orthopaedic Section Board Liaison – Joe Godges, Treasurer**

**Members:** President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Nominating Committee Chairperson. All 3 year terms and elected by the APTSIG membership. Liaison Coordinator, PTA Representative, Practicing Committee Chairperson, Educational Committee Chairperson, International Liaison Coordinator. All three year terms and appointed by the APTSIG Board of Directors.

**Meetings:** One meeting annually at the APTA Combined Sections Meeting. Additional teleconference meetings and face-to-face meetings as needed.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Animal Physical Therapist Special Interest Group of the Orthopaedic Section of the APTA is to provide a forum in which physical therapists and physical therapist assistants may discuss, learn, and promote the field of physical rehabilitation for animals.

**Tasks:**

1. Promote the field of physical therapy for animals.
2. Share information with physical therapists, physical therapist assistants and veterinarians.
3. Collaborate and establish collegial relationships with veterinarians and veterinarian assistants.
4. Develop educational programs on physical therapy for animals, animal assisted therapies, and injuries sustained by companion animals.
5. Foster research with the collaboration of veterinarians on the topic of physical rehabilitation for animals.
6. Create guidelines for the practice of animals.
7. Encourage appropriate legislative changes for the growth and advancement of physical rehabilitation for animals in collaboration with veterinarians.
8. Establish a national network for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants working with or interested in working with animals.
9. Protect the professional practice of physical rehabilitation on animals.

**Work other than at meetings:** On as-needed basis.

**Qualifications:** A member of the APTA and Orthopaedic Section and an active interest and/or work in the area of animal rehabilitation.

**Conflict of Interest:** A conflict of interest can arise when conditions or circumstances preclude or interfere with an individual's capacity to make the objective, detached decisions required in Board of Director meetings. Conditions or circumstances which may create a conflict of interest include but are not limited to those cases in which the Board of Director member, Committee member, or SIG member: 1) has a personal, professional, or financial interest in, or relationship with, the entity in question; 2) has or is perceived as having, for any reason, a preconceived bias for or against the entity in question. Board of Director members, Committee members, and SIG members shall excuse themselves from such participation in any case where a conflict of interest arises, where a potential conflict of interest may arise, or where there may be a perceived appearance of conflict.