

**New Member Form**

The data provided below will be used in the members’ only NFLPS Directory and in a

password protected section of nflps.org

You may return this form to Jaime Glover Falgout, Administrative Assistant

by fax: **(317)947-0777** or e-mail: **glover@nflps.org**or questions by phone: (317) 287-9016

***Please type or print***

**Physician’s name**:

**NFL Club**:

**Office mailing address:**

**Office phone:**

**Direct office phone (private line):**

**Office fax:**

**Home phone**:

**Cell phone:**

**Email:**

**Email 2 (home, secretary, etc.):**

**Practice name: Practice Website:**

**Medical Specialty:** Orthopaedic Internal Medicine Family Practice General Surgery Other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Training**

**Medical School:**

**Year Graduated:**

**Internship:**

**Residency:**

**Fellowship:**

**Board Certification & Dates, CAQ & Dates**:

**Current University Affiliation**:



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MISSION STATEMENT

The NFL Physicians Society (NFLPS) was founded in 1966. Its mission is to provide excellence in the medical and surgical care of the athletes in the National Football League and to provide direction and support for the trainers in charge of the care for these athletes.

# **The History of the National Football League Physicians Society**

In January 1966 (a year before Super Bowl I), several members of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons met at the Palmer House in Chicago. The purpose of their informal meeting was to discuss challenges in professional football that these team physicians were facing and to develop better communications among the teams. Drs. Fred Reynolds (St. Louis Cardinals), Clint Compere, Edmond McDonald (Baltimore Colts), Joseph Godfrey (Buffalo Bills) and James Nicholas (New York Jets) were at the first meeting.

The Academy’s Sports Medicine Committee, at that time chaired by sports medicine pioneer Dr. Jack Hughston, established a liaison with this group. In February 1967, the National Academy of Science sponsored the first workshop on professional football injuries.

Dr. James Nicholas was made the first President of the AFL-NFL Professional Football Trainers and Physicians in 1967. Dr. Fred Reynolds, who was president of the Academy, was made the second president in 1968, followed by Dr. Joseph Godfrey in 1969, and Dr. Edmond McDonald in 1970. Additional team physicians who joined at that time were Drs. Jim Funk (Atlanta Falcons), Kenneth Saer (New Orleans Saints), and Herbert Virgin (Miami Dolphins).

In those days, the main problem the group faced was the difficulty of transferring information from club to club, particularly the medical records of traded players. They wanted to ensure that the best medical treatment would always be available to players, and the best way was to form an institution for doctors to communicate and work together.

In the formation of the Professional Football Physicians Association, two Academy presidents, Drs. Reynolds and Compere, and an Academy vice-president, Dr. Godfrey, were directly involved in the care of players and with establishing the Sports Medicine Society and the Professional Football Physicians Association in 1972. It was through the efforts of these men, as well as those of Dr. John Hinchey, another Academy president, that the Committee on Sports Medicine got its start.

In 1970, the New York Jets instituted a procedure to bring NFL draft choices to their club facilities for physical examination during the winter, starting with 40 players. This quickly caught on with other teams in the league and ultimately led to the combined physicals, better known as the NFL Combine, of the last decade. The exams are held each year in Indianapolis, with team physicians examining about 325 players in preparation for the NFL Draft.

The Society flourished as other teams were added, and currently the NFLPS has over 170 members, representing 32 teams. These members are best-in-class leaders in the field of sports medicine and are academically affiliated, contributors to the literature regarding injuries in athletics, and involved in the education of fellows and residents in the field of sports medicine.

During Combine week, the NFLPS also holds its Annual Business and Scientific meetings, where team doctors meet to share and present information on injuries and medical issues common to professional football players. At this annual meeting, the NFLPS addresses the key issues common to the membership: protecting players’ health and safety, sharing best practices, and establishing open dialogue on key issues with the NFL team owners and league office.

The two essential goals of the NFLPS are simple: to continue improving the care of professional football players and to prevent and treat injuries.