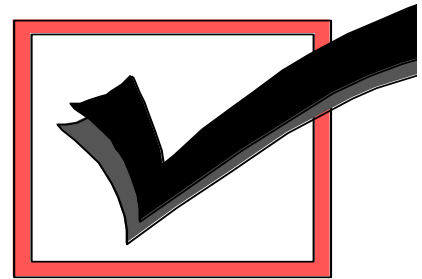


# AVA CHECKPOINT



The official voice of the American Volkssport Association  
America's premier noncompetitive sports organization!

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[www.ava.org](http://www.ava.org)

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## Convention News, Dennis Michele, Convention Committee Chair

Registration booklets with forms have been mailed to all AVA members. The Registration Booklet and Event Booklet may be downloaded and printed out from the convention website. Event books for all pre-registrants will also be placed in your registration bags for pickup at the convention hotel. Information on registration and events and the convention in general is available on the convention website <http://www.ava.org/clubs/2013Convention/2013Convention/Welcome.html>.

## IRS Exempt Organizations

Some of our clubs are receiving letters from Ipsos, e-mail address [www.ipsosresearch.com/irs](http://www.ipsosresearch.com/irs) as part of research by the IRS. Clubs will want to know if this is legitimate. This has been copied from the IRS nonprofit newsletter update:

“IRS Exempt Organizations releases survey to small tax-exempt organizations -  
IRS Exempt Organizations has sent out a questionnaire to a sample of randomly selected tax-exempt organizations asking them to evaluate one of three different methods the IRS can use to provide tax information. All are 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations with gross receipts of less than \$200,000 and assets less than \$500,000 that reported in Tax Year 2009 on Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. The sample also includes all tax-exempt organizations that filed Form 990-N (e-postcard) in Tax Year 2009.”

The selected organizations review a sample outreach web page, then complete an online survey to evaluate the method's effectiveness.

The survey is the final phase of a research project that will help IRS Exempt Organizations understand where small organizations go for information about tax compliance; what information and guidance they want the IRS to develop and how they would like to receive the information.

Organizations that received a letter to participate and have questions can e-mail the IRS at [tege.eo.ceo@irs.gov](mailto:tege.eo.ceo@irs.gov).

## Help for Clubs Stuck in Re-Instatement Process

Charlie Dasho, an AVA club treasurer in the state of Missouri has successfully worked through the re-instatement process, and has offered to share his information with you. If you are still in this process, feel free to contact Charlie by phone 314.921.2976 or by e-mail [donawbr@aol.com](mailto:donawbr@aol.com).

## Walk Directions

Effective 1 January 2013, all new walk directions must include the copyright symbol and the year © 2013 on walk directions. Example: **CASTROVILLE HISTORIC CITY WALK©2013**

### **AVA Logo with Trademark Symbol**

The official AVA logo with trademark symbol is to be used on all AVA brochures, and any AVA - related documents. The registered trademark logo can be found on the AVA website under *Publications-Forms* link, *AVA Logos/Graphics* link <http://www.ava.org/Publications/graphics.htm>.

### **Starting Point 2013**

Extra copies are now available since the preorders have been filled. If you would like to order a copy, please fill out and send in the attached multi-use order form (for clubs and/or individuals). Once these are sold there will be no reprints.

Missprints – If you receive a *Starting Point 2013* that has a missprint, return the book to this headquarters and a replacement copy will be shipped to you. We apologize for any inconvenience. Keep a copy of the return postage cost on your box, and after a sufficient time to gather all returned books, we will send a list to the printing company. A refund of your return postage cost will be forthcoming to all holders of missprinted books by the publisher. Please send books by USPS media mail which should be \$3 - \$5.

### **Special National Officer Books (S.N.O.B.)**

Remember to purchase and promote these AVA Special Program books before the 18<sup>th</sup> AVA Biennial Convention. All AVA officers will have their special IVV Certification Stamps to place in these books. A great way to support our organization and obtain this award achievement at the same time. Contact Kevin Davis at [Kevin@ava.org](mailto:Kevin@ava.org) to order these record books. Please mention S.N.O.B. in your e-mail subject line.

### **AVA Merchandise Shipping Timeline**

When you place a merchandise order or request supplies, please allow 2 to 4 weeks for your item(s) to arrive from the date you place your order. If you want overnight or next day delivery, there is an added cost for expediting your request.

### **Biennial Publicity Contest, Chuck Blische**

Contest submissions are due 1 February. Rules and Submission Category Guidelines are attached. **CORRECTION:** The contest entry submission timeline dates for all categories should read: 1 July 2011 – 31 December 2012.

### **Be In Good Standing to Vote**

Please note that all clubs must be in good standing as of midnight, 17 March 2013, to vote at the 18<sup>th</sup> AVA Biennial Convention. Voter eligibility criteria includes timely submission of reports, return of applicable IVV Certification Stamps and the settlement of all past-due balances with this headquarters.

### **Late Submission of Participation Reports**

Any club that is delinquent in submitting their first, second and third Quarterly Reports for any YREs or SEs will not receive a 2013 slug for their IVV Certification Stamp until all delinquent reports are received at this headquarters. For e-mail submissions: [events@ava.org](mailto:events@ava.org) or you can phone (210.659.2112) or fax (210.659.1212) your report to Marie Bebley.

### **IVV Newsletter, Graham Fawcett Editor (IVV Vice President)**

Please find the latest “Just One Minute” newsletter from the IVV Head Office, dated 15 November as an attachment to this issue of the *Checkpoint*.

## **TAW Deadline**

The deadline for the February/March issue of *The American Wanderer* is Tuesday, 25 December 2012. All articles, including *Tails on the Trails*, and photographs should be submitted directly to Laurel Parrott, Editor [taw@bhi.com](mailto:taw@bhi.com) or mail to: 3526 Humboldt Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55412. Be sure to include "TAW" in the subject line if e-mailing. Please keep all articles to no longer than 500 words.

## **Next NEC Meeting**

The next NEC meeting will be held on Friday and Saturday, 18 & 19 January 2013, in Schertz, TX. The meeting schedule and details will follow.

## **Canadian Festival Invitation**

The Volkssport Clubs of South Vancouver Island, members of the Canadian Volkssport Federation, extend an invitation for you to attend their Victoria Volkssport Phoenix Festival, 19-21 April 2013. More than 350 individuals attended last year. For further details go to [www.vvpf.ca](http://www.vvpf.ca); for registration guidelines [www.vvpf.ca/registration.html](http://www.vvpf.ca/registration.html); for hotel details and special rates [www.vvpf.ca/victoria.html](http://www.vvpf.ca/victoria.html) and for a 2011 festival photo album [www.vvpf.ca/photos%20of%202011.html](http://www.vvpf.ca/photos%20of%202011.html). President Dave Catrall promises a warm welcome, great social events and beautiful walks.

## **Reminders**

- ✚ 21 March – Pre-registration deadline for the 18<sup>th</sup> AVA Biennial Convention.

The staff at the AVA National Headquarters would like to wish you and yours a Happy Holiday Season.

A special thanks to our sponsor Yamax and to our two partners!



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Attachments:

Biennial Publicity Contest Rules & Submission Category Guidelines

*Starting Point* 2013 Order Form

IVV Newsletter