



CHECKPOINT

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

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Notes from Executive Director Stephanie S. Sinclair

Thank you to our Volkssporters across the country for extending a warm welcome to me. I appreciate your kind words and great ideas. Your thoughts are important to me, yet since we at headquarters have a tremendous amount of work to be done to support all the great work our Clubs are doing, I am not able to respond to all emails received every day. To ensure that your ideas and Club issues are carefully reviewed, please be sure to email your ideas and comments to your area's Regional Director. That will help us provide you all with solid customer care by helping us hear your concerns and suggestions. If you are on Facebook, please connect with us to see our latest news by Liking our page at www.facebook.com/AmericanVolkssportAssociation

Call for Agenda items for Next NEC Meeting: June 13-15, Indianapolis

Clubs should submit items for the next meeting of the National Executive Council by submitting an [Agenda Item form](#) to your Regional Director no later than April 14, 2014.

Nationwide Public Relations Campaign Underway

We are spreading the good news across the country that Stephanie S. Sinclair has been selected as our executive director. We are working with public relations firm, Aguillon & Associates based in San Antonio, Texas, to lead this campaign to generative positive news coverage for AVA and its member Clubs across the country. It is possible, that members of the local media will reach out to your Club leadership.

What to do if you receive a phone call from a member of the media—

- **Thank them for their call and ask them to contact Aguillon & Associates directly by contacting Melissa Aguillon at (210) 254-9160 or Melissa@aguillon-associates.com**

AVA Bylaws Amendment Form

[Click here](#) to view the form for use by club members in requesting an amendment to the AVA Bylaws. After the amendment proposal screening process is completed by the Bylaws Committee and the NEC, those that are recommended for approval will be voted on at the General Membership meeting during the 2015 AVA Biennial Convention.

Recognition Awards Committee

It is time to start thinking about those people who deserve to be nominated for recognition awards. When you are honoring a fellow volunteer worker, you are letting them know just how much you appreciate them, and how much their work means to you, their club, and our national organization.

Send your nominations for recognition awards to your Regional Director, with the exception of the President's Award, which should be sent to the AVA President. The nomination guide on how to complete the forms can be found on the AVA web site under:

[Administrative – General Admin -- Publications / Policies – AVA Recognition Awards program - Guide for nominations](#). You will need to use one form for each person nominated. The award is based on what is written on the form, so please be thorough. The more detailed information you can give will help the committee review each nomination. The following are forms to be used:

[Form 302](#) - Hall of Fame, Distinguished Achievement, Trailblazer, and Ted Ballman Memorial Youth Award (Submit to Regional Director for submission to Awards committee)

[Form 303](#) - Certificate of Service, Meritorious Service and Certificate of Appreciation (Submit to Regional Director)

[Form 303 PA](#) - President's Award (Submit directly to AVA President)

IMPORTANT—Accident Notification Information

Changes made to “Emergency Notification Information”—the August 2011 tragedy in the NE Region which prompted the NEC remedy to such events has changed to provide that the word “emergency” be changed to “accident.”

The now, “Accident Notification” information should include the POC's cell number and also that of the RD. AVA headquarters has included this “Accident Notification Box” on the website under the [Administrative tab—General Admin—Graphics & Logos](#), available for download as a .pdf or .jpg file, in which contact information can be added and then inserted into event materials.

When preparing walk instructions for “traditional events,” clubs should always determine and include in the instructions which Emergency Services are available, as “911” does not always work in all communities where we schedule walk/sporting activities.

These procedures will be added to Standards and Procedures Manual once they are finalized.

These procedures do not replace the incident report that must be sent to HQ.

Multi-Event Calendar Updates

Thank you for contacting AVA about updating the (Events main menu tab) [Multi-Event Calendar](#) web page. Many wonderful AVA folks have asked how the revisions are made to this webpage. Please make note that when the information changes for the next conference, simply press the [Contact Us](#) button on the AVA Home web page, or send it directly to this email address avawebmaster@ava.org

Slugs

Clubs wanting "20" slugs to go with the "14" date slug, should send an email to walkfriend@wildblue.net, while the supply lasts.

IVV World Walking Day—Thursday May 8, 2014

Scheduled for May 8, 2014, walks are held by International Association of Popular Sports (IVV) associated clubs worldwide. **AVAHQ requests that AVA clubs provide to their Regional Director, no later than March 12, 2014, the number of achievement certificates needed to support your walking events for this activity.** Walks may be hosted beginning May 3 through May 10. Participating walkers will receive a certificate, if ordered from AVA. These certificates are free from AVA.

National Physical Fitness & Sports Month—May 2014

May is National Physical Fitness & Sports Month. The 2014 patches, designed by Dorman Batson of the Northwest Region, are available for order from AVA HQ for \$2.50 each. Please click here to access the [2014 NPFSM patch Club Order Form](#). Please note, Clubs may also order remaining supplies of the 2012 and 2013 NPFSM patches for use as B awards at the discounted price of \$1.50 each on the order form linked above.

Save the Date 12-13-14

Regional Directors are seeking buy-in from their respective clubs to conduct an AVA national day of volkssporting at 10:11 a.m. on December 13, 2014. Events that day would take advantage of a special date configuration that won't happen again for another five decades (10, 11, 12, 13, 14). The NEC is asking clubs to check their event schedules for December 13. There has been discussion about creating a national participation patch and a special event slug. More information to follow.

2014 Certificate of Liability Insurance

This document is posted on the AVA website, www.ava.org, under the Administrative menu tab—Clubs Only—AVA Club Forms web page. [Click here](#) to view a copy of the form for your convenience. Please note that the insurance application for additional insured now has the added words “property owners only—no co-sponsors.” This should assist with any confusion on who can be added as an additional insured.

AVA Awards

Click to view the charts for [AVA Award Processing](#) and [Ten Events](#) comparison.

Items Due Report

All items listed on [this report](#) are past due. A spreadsheet containing information on submissions of e-postcard filings, officer information, and the two-page Financial Report and Worksheet was sent to Regional Directors. If you feel you are incorrectly on the list, contact your RD.

The American Volkssport Association

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